

# THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL FACULTIES

## WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH PHARMACY?\*

BY FREDERICK J. WULLING.

The question embodying the title of this brief paper is being frequently asked. Many diverse answers have been given. Obviously they cannot all be correct. This paper is my humble contribution to the solution of the problem.

News dispatches bring the information that Johns Hopkins proposes to abandon its undergraduate courses and to discontinue the granting of the bachelor's degree, in order to devote its facilities and resources to graduate and research work.

It is reported that the University of Chicago "contemplates the establishment of extraordinary professorships carrying salaries of \$10,000 a year and open only to men of distinction who shall devote themselves to research and do a minimum of teaching."

Simon Guggenheim, in creating his three million dollar educational foundation, noted that "the educational system of Europe is superior to ours in the fact that it offers greater opportunities for young men and women to pursue lives of productive scholarship."

Dr. William Watts Folwell, President Emeritus of the University of Minnesota, many years ago advocated the establishment of junior colleges preferably in connection with and following high school, so that the universities might be free to devote themselves to advanced professional or specialized study and research. A number of junior colleges already are in operation. Their work, in a general way, covers the first two years of the average arts college course following high-school graduation. The creation of these junior colleges is no doubt the entering wedge toward the differentiation of the college, in the academic sense, from the university. Our universities are made up of numbers of colleges representing the various fields of learning. Nearly all of the colleges provide opportunities for graduate and research work. The administration covering this latter work is usually vested in a graduate school operating under rules applicable equally and collectively to all of the colleges. By graduate work is meant higher work following the completion of the undergraduate course. In that sense there is now only one undergraduate course, namely: the course of the general or academic college. Courses in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, law, education, commerce, etc., are not graduate courses, except as they follow the completion of the college undergraduate course which is already the requirement in a very few of our universities. They are specialization courses, based either not at all, or only partly, and in only a few universities wholly upon the completion of the college undergraduate course. No doubt the time will come when they will be based fully upon the college undergraduate course.

Some professions, in their educational aspects, already have made respectable progress toward that goal. The best grades of medical, law, education, business

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\* Read at the joint meeting of the Northwestern Branch, A. PH. A., and the Scientific and Practical Section of Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association, February 11, 1925.

schools, which only a comparatively few years ago required no prerequisites beyond the high school and in most cases demanded no preliminary educational standards at all, now require for entrance the completion of the junior college course, including certain subjects within the curriculum.

Only a few decades ago, all who were eligible for entrance upon the pharmacy courses were eligible for medicine, dentistry, law, etc., because there were practically no entrance requirements at all, at least not any really respectable ones in the light of those of to-day. Pharmacy students in those days were the equal of students in other professions as far as capacity and standing were concerned and similarly the professional pharmacists were on a par with the doctors and lawyers and ahead of the dentists in professional attainment and in the estimation of the public. Not so to-day. Why? The answer is obvious. Pharmacy did not advance its entrance requirements in the same degree as other professions did. As a result the best student material ceased going into pharmacy, at least in a large measure, with the consequent gradual lowering of professional ideals and a deterioration of loyalty to the altruistic aims and purposes of the profession. A few pharmacists, mostly though not exclusively educators, realized the remedy lay in advancing educational standards. The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and later the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties attacked the problem with the right remedy in mind, but with so little substantial support from the profession that only little progress has been made.

Some refer, in a boasting way, to the fact that the Conference colleges are now on a high-school graduation basis and soon will be on a minimum three-year professional course basis. That is nothing to boast about; in the light of the educational advancements made by other professions, it is something for our profession to be ashamed of. While it may be said truthfully that some of the Conference colleges have been indifferent and even hostile to advancing standards, the blame must be borne by the calling at large for not demanding and forcing adequate advancement. Why has the calling as a whole failed so completely to see its advantage? Because its composite intelligence is based upon antecedent education and training, of which there was not enough, nor was it generally of the right kind. In education I include devotion to ideals, a fair measure of refinement and culture and good taste, and even a little pride in right and adequate standards and conduct and affiliations. Those qualities are products more generally of academic courses than of professional, though some who have no education at all may possess them inherently. Those who possess them live life more fully and affirmatively and certainly have the advantage of those who lack them entirely or in degree. Why should not pharmacy enjoy its fullest advantages? I cannot think of a reason unless it be that it fails to recognize them. The practical responsibility of pharmacy is second only to that of medicine. Pharmacy accepts that responsibility foolishly, if it does not carry sufficient educational liability insurance, as it now does not.

Based upon the responsibility involved in its practice, pharmacy is certainly justified in placing itself on an unquestioned par with other professions. To do so it should procrastinate no longer but forthwith require completion of a junior college course and four years of professional pharmaceutical work as entrance prerequisites to the calling. Facilities for graduate work and research should be

created in a large measure and should be of the real university grade. If henceforth all incoming practitioners will have completed a junior college course of two years and a pharmacy (specialization) course of four years, the professional standards and atmosphere of pharmacy thus engendered will be incompatible with everything that is not conducive to professional virtue and dignity, and no more will the question be asked, "What is the matter with Pharmacy?"

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PROGRAM FOR THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING, OF THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF PHARMACEUTICAL FACULTIES, FT. DES MOINES HOTEL, DES MOINES, IOWA, AUGUST 24-25, 1925.

Monday, August 24, 8:30 A.M.

First Meeting of Executive Committee.

Monday, August 24, 9:30 A.M.

Teachers' Conferences

- (a) Teachers of Pharmacy, E. F. Cook, Chairman.
- (b) Teachers of Materia Medica (including Botany, Physiology and Pharmacology.)  
R. A. Lyman, Chairman.
- (c) Teachers of Chemistry, C. B. Jordan, Chairman.

Monday, August 24, 2:00 P.M.

Teachers' Conferences. (Same as above.)

First Session of Conference—Monday, August 24, 3:30 P.M.

Roll Call

President's Address, W. H. Zeigler.

Report of Secretary-Treasurer, Zada M. Cooper.

Appointment of Nominating Committee.

Paper—"Some Views on Minimum Three Year Course"—T. J. Bradley.

Paper—"The Necessity and Opportunity for Schools of Pharmacy for Negro Youth"—  
Dr. J. J. Mullowney.

Report of Executive Committee, C. B. Jordan.

Consideration of Revised Constitution and By-Laws.

Adjournment.

Second Session—Monday, August 24, 8:00 P.M.

Reports of Standing Committees.

1. Higher Educational Standards—D. B. R. Johnson.
2. Curriculum and Teaching Methods—W. J. Teeters.
3. Activities of Students' Alumni—E. L. Newcomb.
4. Relation of Pharmacy Schools and Other Professional Schools—W. F. Rudd.

Address—"College Placement Examinations"—Dr. George L. Stoddard, University of Iowa.

5. Committee on Research—Albert Schneider

6. Distribution of Information Concerning Prerequisite Legislation—W. B. Day.

7. Investigation of Pharmacy Schools by Carnegie Foundation—Edward H. Kraus.

Adjournment.

Second Meeting of Executive Committee.

Tuesday, August 25th, 2:00 P.M.

Report of Special Committees.

- (a) To Study Pharmaceutical Education from the Functional Standpoint—J. A. Koch.
- (b) To Coöperate with Executive Committee Relative to Use of Term Pharmacist by Civil Service Commission—Edward Kremers.

- (c) To Study Evaluation of Credit Hour—W. F. Sudro.
- (d) To Confer with N. A. B. P. and A. P. H. A. about Winter Meetings—T. J. Bradley.
- (e) To Prepare a Memorial on the Death of Dr. Kraemer—E. L. Newcomb.

Reports of Representatives to Other Organizations.

Unfinished Business.

Miscellaneous Business.

Election of Officers and Elective Members of Committees.

New Business.

Executive Session and Election of New Members.

Final Adjournment.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS.\*

BY F. E. STEWART, CHAIRMAN.

To the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION:

Your Committee on Patents and Trademarks labors under the disadvantage of having no lawyers in the membership or any other person sufficiently acquainted with the subject to sign the reports. Consequently, the committee has practically been from the beginning of its career a "one man committee."

On the other hand it has been to the advantage of the Association that the chairman has been in constant contact with leading patent and trademark lawyers through business and social connections whose aid in the work of the committee has been given freely and without expense to the A. P. H. A.

As an American pharmaceutical association we are vitally interested in patents and trademarks in their relation to the practice of pharmacy. Probably no subject influencing the vocation of the pharmacist, pharmaceutical chemist, and medicine manufacturer, is so little understood. In the first place these vocations differ from all other vocations because of their relation to the medical profession and the public health, so that certain misinterpretations and misapplications of the patent and trademark laws by the Patent Office, patent lawyers, and the lower courts, which unfavorably influence other vocations become a menace to the public health when applied to the vocation of the pharmacist and medicine manufacturer. This is very apparent when the subject of introducing new remedies to the medical profession and the public at large by advertising is considered.

What the physicians and the public must know about alleged new remedies to use them aright for the prevention of disease, the relief of suffering, and the healing of the sick is the truth regarding their properties as remedial agents. This information is not to be found in advertisements as a rule. Advertisements are written to sell the goods. Exaggeration is quite generally employed by merchants and manufacturers in every line who use advertising as a method for creating demand. This works more or less injury to the purchaser who is misled by it, but the harm may not be serious except in cases where the health is at stake. In such cases loss of life may result.

It has been truly said that tens of thousands of alleged new remedies have been introduced by advertising during the past thirty or forty years and not more than one tenth of one per cent of them have proved to be of any special value as therapeutic agents. Thirty years ago there were about three thousand drug items listed and now there are more than forty-five thousand according to one of the chemical journals. This means thousands of useless experiments on the sick by doctors who were induced to use these products in their practice, and thousands of more failures in the use of them for domestic practice.

The so-called new remedy business is protected and fostered by patents and the registering of the names of these alleged inventions and discoveries in medicine. The object of the patent law according to the provision for such law contained in the Constitution of the United States is to promote progress in science and useful arts by protecting inventors for limited times in the

\* Buffalo meeting, 1924.