

EDITORIAL NOTES

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COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO THE EDITOR IN PHILADELPHIA.

The pharmacists of Philadelphia tendered E. G. Eberle, Editor of the JOURNAL AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, a dinner, December 28, during the week of his departure for Baltimore where the offices of the ASSOCIATION and those of the JOURNAL now are located.

More than forty pharmacists and members of their families attended the function at the Bellevue-Stratford; all of those in attendance were Philadelphians with the exception of Prof. E. F. Kelly and Mrs. Kelly, who came up from Baltimore.

Joseph W. England presided as toastmaster and contributed largely to the success of the evening's program. Dean Charles H. LaWall spoke of E. G. Eberle as "A student of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy; William L. Cliffe paid tribute as a class-mate; George M. Beringer referred to his association activities; Chairman E. Fullerton Cook commented on his work on a prior U. S. P. revision and aid in the present revision; President W. Wilson McNeary, of the Alumni Association of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, referred to the guest as one of the official family, and Editor Ivor Griffith, to his kindly cooperation. The Philadelphia Drug Exchange was represented by Walter V. Smith, who after the conclusion of his remarks presented the parting guest with a handsome traveling bag; Professor Cook, on behalf of those present, added a beautiful folding umbrella. Secretary E. F. Kelly spoke of the Editor's new home and

the reception that would be accorded him in Baltimore. President M. M. Smith referred to Mr. Eberle's activities in the A. PH. A. Branch. Ex-President Ambrose Hunsberger, of the N. A. R. D., spoke of the esteem in which the guest of the evening is held by the N. A. R. D. members and Secretary Otto Kraus of the P. A. R. D. brought greetings of the local members; Dr. William Duffield Robinson expressed his regrets that it was necessary for Mr. Eberle to leave Philadelphia. Among others present besides those mentioned as speakers and members of their families were: Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Blackwood, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Osterlund, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. W. E. Harrison, Dr. and Mrs. Arno Viehoveer, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Peacock, Messrs. W. H. Gano, Edward T. Hahn, Paul C. Olsen, John K. Thum, Prof. J. W. Sturmer, Dr. H. C. Wood. Letters and telegrams were received from Mrs. William E. Lee, Frank H. Rohrman, R. P. Fischelis, Richard H. Lackey, H. R. McIlvaine, Raymon Hendrickson, Henry Paul Busch, H. H. Whyte, President of H. K. Mulford Company, and C. Mahlon Kline, President Philadelphia Drug Exchange; Mrs. Martha Chiles, sister of Mrs. Eberle, A. E. Ryan, son, and Mrs. R. J. Thomas and Mrs. Lizzie Galbraith, nieces.

Mr. Eberle, in responding, thanked the Philadelphia friends and members for their kindness during the past ten years and said he looked back with happiness to the friendships formed in Philadelphia more than forty years ago. In his opinion the tributes were

expressed by the speakers in superlatives because of charitableness and friendly consideration. He assured them of his attachment and hoped they would not forget him. He spoke of the ASSOCIATION projects which had made the move necessary.

E. L. NEWCOMB BECOMES FIELD CONTACT MAN OF THE N. W. D. A.

Dr. E. L. Newcomb has become associated with the N. W. D. A. as Field Contact Man. He will continue and extend the services performed for the wholesale trade by F. E. Holliday. The former is also to study the distribution problems of the drug trade and assist in their solution, and further work is contemplated. In giving account of some of the activities of Dr. E. L. Newcomb the *Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter*, of December 21, said in part:

"Dr. Edwin Leigh Newcomb is of the oldest American-British stock, being a descendant of Capt. Andrew Newcomb, a seafaring immi-



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grant who lived at Boston in 1663, and of Governor William Bradford, of Plymouth Colony. In more recent times his great-great-grandfather was a quartermaster in the Revolutionary Army. He was born at Vineland, N. J., October 18, 1882, where his earliest botanical experience was gained as he sprayed fruit trees on his farther's farm. After going through high school he became a drug clerk and was graduated by the Philadelphia Col-

lege of Pharmacy and Science in 1905. During his third year at college he was instructor in botany and pharmacognosy there, the first undergraduate to hold an instructorship at the college. He continued in this position until 1910, in the meantime doing special study in chemistry and German. The latter year he accepted a call from the department of pharmacy of the University of Minnesota, where he now fills the chair of botany and pharmacognosy.

"Dr. Newcomb has done much pioneer and constructive work among the pharmacists of the Northwest, and is one of the leading spirits in the matter of raising the headquarters building fund for the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. He also is editor of the *Northwestern Druggist*, and a member of the committees on revision of the United States Pharmacopœia and the National Formulary. He is a man of strong personality and great magnetism, and carries force and enthusiasm into any work he undertakes. In short, he is the kind of man who does things."

His energetic and enthusiastic promotion of the Headquarters is known to his associates and the membership at large. He is a tireless worker and communicates enthusiasm; he puts himself into the work undertaken by him. The ASSOCIATION has had his services in the project since the active campaign started and his time and energy were given as freely as though he had received financial compensation. The N. W. D. A. has made a good selection and, without authority to speak, it seems almost impossible that the subject of this sketch can withhold himself from participation in the great undertaking until after the Headquarters' Building becomes an actuality.

THE BUREAU OF CHEMISTRY TO STUDY METHODS OF ANALYSIS FOR DRUGS MORE INTENSIVELY.

"Systematic research in methods for the analysis of drugs has been established recently on a more extensive scale in the Bureau of Chemistry of the United States Department of Agriculture," according to a recent announcement by officials of that bureau. "Work of this kind has been carried on in the Bureau of Chemistry for many years but it has now been taken up in a more intensive way in order that reliable methods for the analysis of drugs may be made more readily available to pharmaceutical chemists and laboratories interested in this important subject."

The work will consist largely in the critical revision of methods used in the analysis of drugs, including the identification and separation of potent medicinal substances in mixtures. It is proposed to try out new methods for the analysis of drug products, or those of uncertain status, by carefully controlled collaborative studies. Older methods will be critically reviewed and revised if necessary. Criticisms of unreliable methods will be published in the chemical and pharmaceutical journals. Unless known by long experience to be reliable, no method will be accepted until it has been subjected to trial under the most exacting conditions and to collaborative study with preparations of known composition. Acceptable methods will be embodied in monographs and published from time to time for distribution to those interested in the analysis or examination of drugs.

It is hoped by the officials that the aid of universities, colleges of pharmacy, and laboratories of pharmaceutical manufacturers as well as those of state and city drug officials may be enlisted to cooperate in this work by an exchange of information. It is especially desired to have the active cooperation of all pharmaceutical chemists and pharmaceutical laboratories. The progress and success of this undertaking will depend in some degree on the freedom and extent of the cooperation and collaboration given by such agencies as mentioned. Provision will be made for prompt distribution of information and data to those who are particularly interested.

Mr. L. E. Warren, who for a number of years has been associate chemist of the American Medical Association in Chicago, has been appointed to have immediate charge of this work. Mr. Warren is a graduate of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan, and has had considerable experience in the manufacture and control of medicinal chemicals and pharmaceuticals, as well as many years of experience in the analysis and standardization of medicines. He was formerly employed as a drug analyst in the Bureau of Chemistry.

Many analysts and a large number of agencies, such as pharmacopœial revision committees, Government laboratories and the laboratories of pharmaceutical manufacturers, and schools of pharmacy are conducting all over the world researches in the chemistry of drugs. In this way a very extensive literature has accumulated. However, the methods are widely scattered in the literature in several

languages and some of them are misleading and unreliable. Search of the literature often reveals several methods for the analysis of a medicinal substance, yet the analyst may have no way of determining which procedure is the most trustworthy without subjecting them all to trial. Sometimes no method applicable to the problem in hand can be found. Several



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books on the analysis of drugs and medicines have been published, but at present there is no comprehensive treatise in which the information in the literature has been brought together, critically examined, and coordinated for use.

STANDARDIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL STAINS.

The executive committee on Standardization of Biological Stains, affiliated with the National Research Council met at the Chemists' Club, New York City, November 20. Chairman H. J. Conn's report was concluded in part as follows:

"I think we can say without making immodest claims that we have already made a distinct contribution to science and to the independence of American science from European supplies. Without the financial assistance of the Chemical Foundation and the active interest of its president, only a small part of what we have actually accomplished would have been brought about."

CHIEF CHEMIST FOR BUREAU OF STANDARDS, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

The United States Civil Service Commission is to fill the position of chief of the chemistry division of the Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce, and, in view of the importance of the position to the whole field of chemical research, and to insure the appointment of a thoroughly qualified man for the work, an unusual method of competition will be followed to fill the vacancy. Instead of the usual form of civil service examination, the qualifications of candidates will be passed upon by a special board of examiners, composed of George K. Burgess, director of the Bureau of Standards; F. G. Cottrell, director of the Fixed Nitrogen Research Laboratory; W. A. Noyes, dean of chemistry of the University of Illinois; W. R. Whitney, chief of the research laboratory of the General Electric Company and Frederick W. Brown, examiner of the United States Civil Service Commission. The entrance salary is \$5200.—*Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter.*

BIENNIAL CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES.

The Bureau of the Census is now engaged in collecting the data for the biennial census of manufactures, which will cover industrial operations during the calendar year of 1925. This census is required by an act of Congress approved March 3, 1919.

In preparing your schedules, care should be taken to answer each inquiry that applies to your operations. Do not combine items that are called for separately. If you can not give exact figures, careful estimates will be accepted by the Census Bureau. In answer to Inquiry 6, the value of production, *not sales*, is called for. The sales during the year may exceed considerably or may fall considerably below the production during the year. Where no exact records of production are kept, the value of the production for the year may be ascertained by adding to the value of goods sold, the increase in the stocks of finished goods (or stocks in the process of manufacture) on hand at the end of the year as compared with the beginning of the year, or by deducting the decrease in such stocks from the value of goods sold. For example, if the sales during the year amounted to \$50,000 and the value of stocks on hand increased from \$10,000 at the be-

ginning of the year to \$15,000 at its close, the value of the production during the year would be \$55,000; but if the stocks on hand decreased from \$10,000 at the beginning to \$5000 at the end of the year, the value of production would be only \$45,000.

These figures are published for the benefit of the manufacturing industry and the usefulness of census statistics is increased by making them available at an early date.

GIVE WHILE YOU LIVE.

In a series of articles describing public gifts made by the men and women in American cities it is said that "a spirit of civic patriotism aroused by a 'Give While You Live' speech, delivered by the late Mayor Robert W. Speer of Denver, Colo., upon his induction into office in 1916 is credited with being responsible in a large measure for many public benefactions which have added to the beauty of Denver, now recognized generally as one of the most attractive cities in the Nation.

"While Denver previously had been the beneficiary of numerous gifts, most of them were of posthumous character. Within two years from the date on which Mr. Speer delivered his compelling talk, gifts totaling \$600,000 in value and covering a wide range were received by the city."

It is not our intention to force the proposition of giving to pharmacy while you live or to make provisions for posthumous gifts. But we do believe there are some, perhaps many, who would appreciate the suggestion and make a note. There are, doubtless, some men of means and others outside of pharmacy whose estimate of pharmacy would be strengthened if they were apprised of gifts by pharmacists for projects of pharmacy. Many pharmacists give while they live or by will to worthy promotions outside of pharmacy but, because they are part of pharmacy, provisions that would aid the cause of pharmacy, in one way or another, often are overlooked. We judge the service of other activities largely by the estimates of their votaries.

A NATIONAL ARBORETUM.

The movement to have the Department of Agriculture establish a national arboretum in Washington was given new life when Senator Pepper of Pennsylvania, on December 15, introduced the necessary legislation in the Senate.

Under Senator Pepper's bill the arboretum would be developed along the Anacostia River north of Benning's Bridge. It would be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture separately from the agricultural, horticultural and forestry stations of the department, but co-related to those branches in such a way as to obtain the best results in research and discovery.

The bill authorizes the President to turn over to the Secretary of Agriculture for the arboretum any land already owned by the United States in the area designated and further authorizes an appropriation of \$300,000 to enable the Secretary, in his discretion, to acquire other land by purchase or condemnation.

The head of the Agriculture Department would be authorized to consult in conducting the arboretum with an advisory council to be made up of representatives of the following organizations: The National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, Smithsonian Institution, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Garden Club of America, Wild Flower Preservation Society, Botanical Society of America, American Society of Landscape Architects, American Association of Nurserymen, National Association of Audubon Societies, American Forestry Association, Society of American Foresters, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Dr. A. G. DuMez—of the Hygienic Laboratory, Washington, D. C.—has been appointed dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland, succeeding **Dean E. F. Kelly**, who is now the full-time Secretary of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. As is well known by our members the new dean is Reporter on the Progress of Pharmacy and conducts the "Bibliography of Pharmaceutical Research" in the JOURNAL. Dean DuMez assumes the duties of office about February 1. Dr. DuMez organized and was head of the Department of the University of the Philippines for a number of years. For sketch see JOUR. A. PH. A., October 1922.

The American Society of Bacteriologists met in Madison, Wis., December 29-31. On this occasion former President of the University **E. A. Birge**, and **William Trelease**, formerly of the department of botany and for

many years at Shaw's Garden, St. Louis, were present; they spoke on "The Beginnings of Bacteriology in the Middle West." The first work in bacteriology carried on at the University of Wisconsin was done by Dr. Trelease about 43 years ago, and the first formal course in the science was begun three years later under Dr. Birge.

John K. Caldwell, assistant chief of the division of Far Eastern affairs, Department of State, has been appointed to represent that department on the Federal Narcotics Control Board's committee of experts. He succeeds **Mr. Norris** of the solicitor's office, Department of State, in that capacity. The latter has resigned from the service. Mr. Caldwell is an officer of the foreign service, class 3. He has served twenty years under the State Department, beginning his career as student interpreter at Tokyo, serving elsewhere in Japan, Siberia and the Orient, as well as here in the department.

Dr. Albert Schneider held forth in one of the Sunday editions of the press, in which he was accredited with the statement that the span of life should be about 500 years.

Dr. and Mrs. José P. Alacan have announced the marriage of their daughter **Sylvia** and **Dr. Francisco E. Borgas**, at Havana, Cuba, December 25. Mrs. Borgas is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, and is a member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Lewis Hilton, of Chevy Chase, Md., announce the marriage on November 25, of their daughter **Virginia Claire Williams** to **William Henry O'Brien**. Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien are at home in Lynbrook, N. Y.

The *Merrell Messenger* has a page of pharmaceutical teachers at Des Moines, in the October number.

Miss Evana Hopp, daughter of the late **Lewis C. Hopp**, is attending Columbia Extension School.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of **L. C. Andrews** as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, in charge of prohibition enforcement.

Secretary Charles L. Parsons, of the American Chemical Society, has been created an officer of the Legion of Honor by the French Government. The presentation of the cross was made by the French ambassador at Washington recently.

Secretary E. F. Kemp, in discussing statistics relating to the manufacture of "patent" medicines, said that "on the basis of the most