

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."
—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

Article IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches shall be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

BALTIMORE.

The January meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Hotel Emerson on Wednesday evening, January 27, 1926, Vice-President Chas. C. Neal presiding.

Dr. Samuel L. Hilton of Washington spoke on the subject "The Proper Preparation and Manipulations Necessary in Preparing Ampuls."

The address was particularly interesting and instructive as Dr. Hilton not only told in detail the technique of filling and sealing the ampuls, but exhibited samples of the empty ampuls to show quality of glass desirable, the excellent condition of ampuls that he had prepared for a previous demonstration and which had been kept for nearly three years, and the handy cartons which he used for the packaging of ampuls.

He reminded those present that ampuls were fast becoming popular as a means of medication not only on account of furnishing a finished product easily handled by the physician, but also on account of the psychological effect on the patients in observing that separate ampuls are available for individual treatment.

He called particular attention to the desirability in preparing ampuls of using only absolutely neutral glass, which could be determined by boiling for ten minutes with phenolphthalein solution; and also of using neutral solutions in filling ampuls. He emphasized the necessity of using fresh double distilled water for all solutions, of exercising special care in filtering, and exhibited a Berkefeld filter which he employed when preparing mercury succinimide and other ampuls.

Dr. Hilton also stated that in sterilizing all glassware he had found it necessary to use the

hot air sterilizer and a temperature of 160° C. to destroy certain bacilli, such as Timothy bacilli, and emphasized the importance of care in preparing ampuls that would be decomposed if subjected to sterilization in an autoclave. He indicated the necessity of careful inspection so as to detect any fine particles of silica that might prove injurious in the solutions; and to detect any possible crystallization of such substances as Tartar Emetic when incorporated in ampuls intended for the treatment of tropical diseases. He also pointed out the advisability of adding 2% sodium citrate to solutions intended for intravenous use, to prevent coagulation of the blood.

One especially pleasing suggestion was that pharmacists, on account of the care necessary in preparing ampuls, should expect a fair return of profit in comparison with the cost of the medicament used.

In welcoming him as a member of the Baltimore Branch, Editor E. G. Eberle was assured that his connection not only would add prestige, but that the Branch would benefit by his assistance and advice.

The yearly election resulted in a reelection of the previous officers. They are

Robert L. Swain *President*
Chas. C. Neal *Vice-President*
B. Olive Cole *Secretary-Treasurer*

Committee on Membership.—Wilmer H. Schulze, *Chairman*; L. M. Kantner; Miss Carrie G. Mossop.

Committee on Professional Relations.—George P. Hetz, *Chairman*; James A. Black; L. S. Williams.

Committee on Science and Practice of Pharmacy.—Dr. J. Fuller Frames, *Chairman*; John C. Krantz, Jr.; Wm. F. Reindollar.

Committee on Education and Legislation.—

Dr. E. F. Kelly, *Chairman*; Dr. Samuel Y. Harris; Dr. J. Carlton Wolf.

The soloist of the evening was Robert David Mugford, Tenor, of the Peabody Institute.

FEBRUARY.

The February meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the School of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland, on Friday, the 19th, Dr. R. L. Swain presiding.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. Paul S. Pittenger of Philadelphia, Pa., who is well and favorably known among Baltimore pharmacists. He presented the subject "Compulsory Biologic Assays of the U. S. P. X" in a very interesting and instructive manner, supplementing his talk by demonstrations with charts and live animals.

Dr. Pittenger stated that biological standardization was adopted for certain substances, not with the idea of conducting experimental pharmacology, but for the purpose of furnishing uniform preparations, the biological assays presenting methods of measuring the activity of the drugs quantitatively, and the means of eliminating variation by the definite adjustment of the preparation to uniform activity. He stated that the biological assay was the only valuable test for substances of which the active principle has not been determined, or of drugs where the active principle, although determined, cannot be isolated quantitatively in pure form by chemical assay; and that the biologic tests were not intended primarily as checks on chemical assays.

Dr. Pittenger stated that the emergency drugs were the ones generally assayed biologically, thus insuring for the physician instruments of precision in combating disease, and enumerated the drugs that were standardized in the U. S. P. X by compulsory biological assays. He stated that the biological assays were of three types—1st, the toxic type, exemplified by the "One Hour Frog Method" for Digitalis; 2nd, the type of assay where the entire animal was used, such as the assay of Cannabis by the use of the dog, and Ergot on the cock's comb; and 3rd, the type of assay where the specific effect on an isolated organ was noted, as in the assay of Pituitary Extract.

Dr. Pittenger demonstrated the "One Hour Frog Method" for Digitalis, the Cock's Comb Method for Ergot, and the Blood Pressure Method on the Dog for Epinephrin; and by

means of charts explained the other compulsory biologic assays of the present U. S. P.

Music for the occasion was furnished by the student orchestra of the School of Pharmacy.

B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

CHICAGO.

The Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was highly honored on the occasion of its 156th meeting, Monday evening, February 8, 1926, at the University of Illinois, School of Pharmacy Bldg., by the presence of Dr. W. W. Charters of the College of Education, University of Chicago. The meeting was called to order by President Kolb who stated that Dr. Charters would introduce for discussion one of the most important and valuable pieces of work in connection with the present and future of Pharmacy that has ever been accomplished in this country.

Dr. Charters had with him and presented to the large audience the practically complete copy of the report of the committee appointed by the Commonwealth Fund for the Study of the Pharmaceutical Curriculum. Dr. Charters presented a splendid résumé of the report in his usual able and interesting manner dwelling particularly upon the values from an educational standpoint of various features of the report. He did this because the faculties of the University of Illinois, School of Pharmacy and the Valparaiso School of Pharmacy were both so well represented.

In the extended discussion that followed many present took part including Dean Day, Professor Clark, Messrs. Christensen, Storer, Becker, Gray and Linke.

E. N. GATHERCOAL, *Secretary*.

DETROIT.

The February meeting of the Detroit Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Wayne County Medical Building, Friday, February 5, 1926. A chicken dinner was served at 6.30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by President L. W. Rowe at 8.15 P.M. Owing to the late start the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Mr. Seltzer read an amendment to the Constitution of the Branch. It follows:

Amendment to the Article III of the Constitution: Strike out the word "and" following the word "Program Committee" and add "of the A. PH. A., and one member representing

each of the local pharmacy schools, one from the school at Ann Arbor and two representing the clerks of Detroit and vicinity who shall form the Council of Students and Clerks."

Mr. Seltzer explained his idea was to promote greater interest in the A. Ph. A. by the students and clerks.

The amendment was placed on the table for 30 days.

President Rowe then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. H. V. Army, Past-President of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and Professor of Chemistry in the Pharmacy Department of the Columbia University.

Dr. Army gave a very interesting talk on Standardized Colored Fluids; he accompanied his talk with illustrations. Mr. Gabel of Parke, Davis and Company assisted Dr. Army in preparing several solutions to demonstrate his color theory.

A general discussion followed, participated in by Messrs. Seltzer, Webster, Hall, Stocking, Gabel, Gorenflo, Lakey, and others.

After a rising vote of thanks to the speaker the meeting adjourned.

The March meeting was held Friday, March 12. The speaker of the evening was Dr. A. L. Jacoby, City Psychiatrist, who spoke on "Crime and Its Cure."

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA.

The February meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held Friday, February 5, at the P. A. R. D. Building, President Smith presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary and approved. Three new members to the parent ASSOCIATION were introduced and accepted as Branch members: George W. Fehr, 1500 S. Broad St., Alex. G. Keller, 161 N. Second St., and Conda M. Diehl, 3703 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

At the suggestion of the Branch, the President appointed a Committee of three—W. W. McNeary, A. G. Keller and Raymond Hendrickson—to consider ways and means of increasing the membership of the Branch and to report at the March meeting.

W. W. McNeary was introduced as the speaker of the evening and he read a most interesting paper on "What Should the Pharmacist Manufacture?" While the paper was comparatively short it was full of "real ammunition" and it started a discussion which

lasted for more than an hour. Briefly, Mr. McNeary would have the pharmacist manufacture:

1. Whatever articles he can prepare better than he can buy.
2. Preparations which readily deteriorate.
3. Products which can be made more cheaply than they can be purchased.
4. Those which require only simple technique.
5. Preparations where accuracy is not dependent upon physiological assays, etc.
6. Those articles which do not require elaborate and extensive apparatus or machinery.
7. Products which are sold under one's own name.

A lively discussion followed the reading of the paper, the following members taking part: Hendrickson, Swain, Keller, Jenkins, Nichols, Dean, Hunsburger, and Harrisson.

Mr. Hendrickson stated that the paper was so interesting and would be of such value to so many pharmacists that it should be sent to the JOURNAL OF THE A. Ph. A. in its entirety for publication, a motion being so made and passed.

The president appointed as Committee on Nominations: E. F. Cook, W. E. Harrisson, and Ambrose Hunsberger, to report at the March meeting.

The usual Branch dinner at the Longacre Hotel was partaken of earlier in the evening by most of those present.

ADLEY B. NICHOLS, *Secretary*.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.

The January meeting of the University of Washington Branch met at Bagley Hall, January 21, at 8 P.M., President Bradshaw presiding. Fifty members were present. The preliminary business meeting was dispensed with and the President introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. A. W. Johnson, Executive Clerk, of the office of The Federal Prohibition Administrator. Mr. Johnson presented a very clear outline of the rules affecting the procuring and dispensing of alcohol in this state. Due to the laws of the state alcoholic beverages are not dispensed on prescriptions or any other way (legally). Hence the rules are relatively simple and the pitfalls for the druggist few. All members were interested in the subject and the speaker was bombarded with questions and presented with hypothetical cases until

one might think a loophole was being sought for. The speaker had his subject well in hand and succeeded in avoiding any pitfall. The closing remarks of Mr. Johnson seem worth while repeating as they reflect the coöperation between the druggists of the state and the Department.

"Coöperation between the profession of Pharmacy and Prohibition enforcement, as provided under existing laws, would seem, of necessity, to be mutually advantageous and protective. During the six years, almost to a day, of National Prohibition, the pharmacists as a whole, both in this state and throughout the country as well, have rendered an invaluable service in the way of an intelligent and effective coöperation with prohibition officers, and as a result of this attitude, it may be truthfully said that the business of pharmacy has not only rendered a distinct and appreciated service to law enforcement officers, but an added dignity and respect to a law that has been the object of more subtle propaganda and invective than perhaps any other law ever enacted. The profession of pharmacy is one, by reason of its very nature and service, of first and increasing importance. It demands and, to succeed, must have for its members men and women of high character and of more than an average standard of intelligence. Not only that, but it is a profession that demands and is distinguished for its high ethical standards of business. This statement is made advisedly, for during my six years as head of the office work of the Federal Prohibition Director of this state, having immediate charge of the permissive feature of the law, it has been my privilege and pleasure to meet and know most of the retail druggists holding alcohol permits in this state, of whom there are approximately 500 at this time, not including other classifications of permittees and, with few exceptions—very few—I have found the drug personnel to be composed of men and women of more than average intelligence and of a better professional ability than is frequently found in many other professions and lines of business. As in every other profession and business, there are, here and there, so-called druggists who are unfit and undesirable, and whose very connection with the business is hurtful—unjustly, it is true—to the whole profession. Such men are neither motivated by any professional pride nor worthy ambition to build up a legitimate, reputable business. Neither have they even the semblance of

regard for business ethics and professional standing. In plain words, they are either natural born violators of law and order or have, through certain weakness of character and inability to resist temptation, become degenerate, and finally land in the clutches of the law. Such cases are most frequently found to be bootleggers or dope peddlers masquerading as druggists. If they are fortunate or unfortunate enough to secure permits to use alcohol and narcotics, they seem to have the idea that they can fool the government and divert their alcohol to the more profitable bootleg channels by falsifying their records and other means of concealment. They may be able to do so for a while, but the instances are rare, indeed, when such offenders have escaped detection for any considerable length of time. This brings us to the point where coöperation between the pharmacist and prohibition officer is of the greatest importance in its mutual service. The prohibition officer is the one to whom the pharmacist naturally and properly looks to help him rid and cleanse his profession of such offenders and thus protect the reputation of his business. The prohibition officer, in turn, looks to the ethical pharmacist almost as his ally in safeguarding his alcohol from misuse and improper diversion and to keep him confidentially informed of any druggist willfully violating the terms of his permit."

H. A. LANGENHAN, *Secretary.*

PLANT DRUGS IN HONDURAS.

Honduras abounds in many plants and other botanical growths having important industrial uses and valuable medicinal properties. While there is no organized industry for the production of these natural products, a few of them are gathered by the natives and exported in considerable quantities.

The principal articles produced, according to Consul George P. Shaw of Tegucigalpa, are chicle, crude balsam, styrax, and sarsaparilla root. Practically the entire production of these commodities is shipped to the United States, a very small amount going to Germany. In the past Russia was the best market for sarsaparilla root, but none is shipped there at the present time. San Pedro Sula, Department of Cortez, is the center of this industry, and practically all of these products have been shipped through the port of Puerto Cores.