

RESULTS PROVE THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCE AND TEACHING.

THE Director of the Department of Business Management is presenting a census of business costs in this issue of the JOURNAL. The data have been compiled from actual business life; the reports are based on facts and will, doubtless, prove of value to all who apply the results to their own business and be an incentive to some who are striving for better net returns and encouragement for those who are fearful that their business management does not average with others who are similarly engaged.

Another article of the same Department deals with guide-posts to profit and progress, and points out how the activities may contribute to a better understanding of the business.

The foregoing applies to transactions in business—how these may constitute the tests for proving efficient management. In a related way the results of examinations may be indicators of correct teaching methods, if not of those who apply them. It appears to the writer that one of the bonds of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy with the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy is, in a degree, represented by the results of examinations. This much, perhaps, may be said, if many candidates fail in making the required percentage in the subjects there is a defect in the system which comprehends the preparation and testing of those who seek to engage in pharmacy.

The writer has been impressed with examination results for the Fairchild Scholarship; usually there have been a few candidates who make exceptional records, a somewhat larger number who range low, and the records of the majority come in between these extremes. It is assumed that the candidates are selected because of their standing in class. In a related way the same conditions obtain in State Board examinations, therefore the article by Professor Cooper under the Department of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, in this issue, seems a timely one—well worthy of discussion and study by the members of the latter organization and of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. "All reasoning is retrospect; it consists in the application of facts previously known."

The title of this comment also permits a reference to the paper by Miss Greenwalt, a hospital pharmacist, in which she discusses the related value of drug-store experience and that obtained in a hospital pharmacy.

Terence may have been not so very far from right when he implied that of those things we deem ourselves best acquainted with we may know very little, and theories and ideas that appear advantageous are sometimes inapplicable.—

E. G. E.

THE SERVICE OF PHARMACY.

The service record of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION enables us to vision its future service. What we need for pharmacy is more publicity of a high order so that the mission of pharmacy may be better understood by the public, thereby stimulating a greater interest in the services pharmacists render—the NATIONAL FORMULARY is an example. "In this day of general publicity useful and honest opinion must make its appeal to the public in the face of other rival efforts to influence opinion." President Wendell C. Phillips, of the American Medical Association, voiced related thoughts in his inaugural address, at Dallas.