

## OBITUARY.

## ALBERT BROWN LYONS.

A biography of the late past Honorary President, A. PH. A., Dr. A. B. Lyons, is printed on pp. 1578-1581 of the JOURNAL for 1913; this and recent press items are drawn upon in preparing this brief memorial. The father of our late member worked as a missionary in Hawaii for fifty-four years; that he won the devotion of its people and of the Government was shown when he died—the king sent a Hawaiian flag in which to enshroud him and a monument to his memory was erected by the Sunday Schools of the Island. The sketch referred to, written by Wilbur L. Scoville, gives an interesting account of Dr. Lyons' antecedents, among whom are John Lyon, founder of the School for Boys at Harrow on the Hill; Mary Lyon, founder of Holyoke College; on his mother's side are members of the Brown family, who gave the name to Brown University. The foregoing are only a few of the distinguished ancestors; as stated by his biographer—"Our Honorary President was born, not with a silver spoon in his mouth, but with traditions to uphold."

The deceased was born at Weimea, Hawaii, April 1, 1841, and lived to celebrate his 85th birthday, and twelve days more. He received his early education at Punahou Preparatory School, Oahu College, and under direction of his parents. Prior to coming to the United States the young man constantly sought information, the sciences being of greatest interest to him. He graduated from Williams College in Massachusetts in 1865 and the next year taught chemistry and physics at Eaglewood Military Academy, Perth Amboy, N. J. Following that he matriculated for the medical course in the University of Michigan and added laboratory work to his studies under the late Prof. A. B. Prescott, President of the A. PH. A. in 1899.

After graduating in medicine at the University of Michigan he became first, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and, later, Professor at Detroit College of Medicine, which position he held for twelve years. During part of this time he also owned and conducted a prescription pharmacy, wherein, for several years, past Honorary President A. B. Stevens was a partner.

In 1881, Dr. Lyons became analytical and consulting chemist for Parke, Davis & Co. In 1887, he accepted the editorship of the *Pharmaceutical Era*, with Professors Prescott and Vaughan as co-editors and Prof. Stevens and Dr. Ruddiman regular contributors. In 1888 he was appointed Government chemist for the Hawaiian Islands and added professorship of Chemistry in Oahu College to his duties, teaching also physics, botany, zoölogy, physical geography, logic, geology and astronomy. W. L. Scoville said that it is most remarkable for one man to teach such subjects—so many, and yet impress his students so that they hold him in remembrance and in high regard for his part in their education; on his birthday last month such messages were received. It is not overstating to say that he was an authority in most of the subjects he taught.

Since 1897 and until last October, when his health condition interfered, he had charge of the Chemical Department of Nelson Baker & Co., of which corporation he was a director up to the time of his demise.

The indices of the PROCEEDINGS of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and its JOURNAL record many contributions from his pen; the last paper for the latter is printed in the January number for 1924, p. 7. Many of his papers were also published in other scientific periodicals; as a member of the Revision Committees of the U. S. Pharmacopœia



DR. A. B. LYONS.

in 1900 and 1910, he contributed valuable work on the tables of the Standard and its assay processes. The greater number of his contributions to pharmaceutical literature have been largely along the lines of alkaloidal assays and tests. He was the author of a manual on pharmaceutical assaying, revised in 1899 under the title of "Practical Assaying of Drugs and Galenicals," and this was again revised in 1921. In 1900 he published "Plant Names, Scientific and Popular." His most voluminous literary work is "The Genealogy of the American Lyon Families," which was issued about twenty years ago, published in three volumes.

He was a member of the Royal Chemical Society of London for more than forty years, and an honorary member of the British Pharmaceutical Conference since 1911. He was also a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Medical Association, the American Botanical Society, the Association for the Advancement of Science, both in America and Great Britain. He joined the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION in 1885, wherein his interest centered in the Scientific Section.

Dr. Lyons was married April 25, 1873, to Miss Edith M. Eddy, who survives him. A daughter, Lucia Edith Lyons, a graduate of the University of Michigan, has served for about six years in China as missionary, but is now living at home. A son, Albert E. Lyons, is Assistant Professor of the Spanish Language and Literature at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Lyons was a member of the First Congregational Church of Detroit, of which he was a life deacon. Funeral services were held at the home of the deceased. A profusion of flowers, and messages of condolence to the family, evidenced the high regard in which he was held.

A great, good, modest scientist has departed; we extend sympathy to Mrs. Lyons and the children in the loss shared by the ASSOCIATION.

#### PHILIP LEHR.

Philip Lehr, member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and charter member of the Ohio State Pharmaceutical Association, and for twenty years president of the Retail Druggists' Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio, died February 28, at his home in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Lehr was seventy-five years of age at the time of his death and had conducted a drug store in Cleveland since 1873. His wife, four sons and a daughter survive him.

#### LOUIS HEISTER.

Louis Heister, 74 years old, member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, pioneer druggist of Cincinnati, died at Good Samaritan Hospital, January 24, 1926, following an illness of eight months. He was born in Germany and came to this country as a youth. As a young man he started in the drug business in Cincinnati at Liberty and Vine streets. For several years he was in business at Kansas City, Mo.; thereafter, he returned to Cincinnati and entered into partnership with a cousin, William Martin. Upon the latter's retirement Mr. Heister continued the business alone, and later moved to the southwest corner of Seventh and Elm streets, where his business has been located for the past 35 years.

Mr. Heister conducted his establishment along the lines of the old-time apothecary store. He was responsible for the introduction into this country from Italy of the hypodermic forms of medication by means of "hypules."

He is survived by a son, Louis Heister, Jr., of Cleveland, and his daughters, Edith and Helen Heister, who conduct a drug store on East Eighth street, and a brother, Henry Heister, of Chicago.

#### LUTHER BURBANK.

While Luther Burbank did not directly contribute to the development of medicinal plants, indirectly his work probably had an influence; his great work in speeding up nature, inducing new flavors, odors and colors, prompts a record in these columns.

Vernon Kellogg, National Research Council, writes in the *New York Times* that "Burbank has been called 'the plant wizard;' this name does not connote the possession of any supernatural powers or mystic manners of experimentation. It simply indicates that he possessed unusual power, amounting to genius, of perceiving plant differences and of understanding correlations among these differences; and that he was unusually bold in his experimentation, industrious and persistent in his pursuit of the particular end he had in view. He knew so little of conventional botanical science that he was not handicapped by scientific traditions and dogmatism. If these qualities and the fact that he was brilliantly successful in a kind of work not well understood by the public can be thought to constitute wizardry, then he was a wizard."

F. W. Fincher, of Pentwater, Mich., died March 24, age 71 years. He was a banker, but for many years was engaged in the drug business. He attended the Chicago College of Pharmacy 1875-1876. Mr. Fincher was one of the organizers of the Michigan State Pharmaceutical Association and for a number of years was a member of the State Board of Pharmacy.

Charles Mylert Carr, first editor of the N. A. R. D. Journal, died at his home in Chicago, April 14th, age 63 years. Mr. Carr's early connection with the N. A. R. D. was his work on the N. A. R. D. *Notes* which afterward became the N. A. R. D. *Journal*. For the last few years Mr. Carr was a member of the staff of the *Western Druggist*. During many years Mr. Carr was well known among pharmacists and highly regarded.

## SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

THEODORE J. BRADLEY, PRESIDENT-ELECT, HONOR GUEST AT DINNER.

Pharmacists of Boston and of Massachusetts tendered a complimentary dinner to Theodore J. Bradley, April 29th. About one hundred



THEODORE J. BRADLEY.

and fifty guests were present to do honor to the President-Elect of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION at the new John Alden Park Manor. James F. Finneran presided as toast-master. The following extended congratulations on behalf of the organizations represented by them: John R. Sawyer, President of Boston Association of Retail Druggists; Maurice W. Corbin, President of Massachusetts State Pharmaceutical Association;

H. C. Wiggin, President Boston Druggists' Association; John G. Godding, Past-President of AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION; W. H. Glover, President of Massachusetts College of Pharmacy.

E. G. Eberle delivered an address in which he referred to the qualifications of the President-Elect and the important events which will mark his administration and, at some length, spoke of the record of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and its future activities. He pointed out the need of greater publicity for pharmacy which would make the public better acquainted with its service. In the course of his remarks he referred to the fact that, including the President-Elect, there were three living who had been honored with the Presidency of the ASSOCIATION out of a total of nine presiding officers from Massachusetts.

The speaker referred to the progress of the Headquarters and its prospective service for pharmacy and, indirectly, for the public.

The response was made by President-Elect Bradley in which he expressed his appreciation of the honor and of the consideration of his many friends; he was hopeful that with their coöperation and the membership at large the work of the ASSOCIATION would be successfully carried forward; he promised his best efforts and thanked those present for their good wishes and evidence of friendship.

On behalf of the guests and friends Irving P. Gammon presented Mrs. Bradley with a basket of beautiful flowers and, in like capacity, James F. Finneran surprised the Dean with a radio set. Vocal selections rendered by Dr. Woodell, and orchestral music added to the pleasure of the evening. The toast-master's happy introductions were well received; the program throughout met general approval and the participants enjoyed the occasion. President Bradley will preside at the 75th annual meeting of the ASSOCIATION.