

EDITORIAL NOTES

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CENTENARIES.

It was in 1726 that Benjamin Franklin after more than a year's sojourn in England returned to Philadelphia. In 1776 he was in

Epitaph written 1728.

*The Body of
Mr Franklin Printer
(Like the Cover of an old Book
Its Contents torn out
And strip of its Lettering & Gilding)
Lies here, Food for Worms,
But the Works shall not be lost;
For it will, (as he believed) appear once more,
In a new and more elegant Edition
Revised and corrected,
By the Author.*

*Julie's compared to almost
New-Tenison's, I've been a Guest;
I've been regaled with the best,
And feel quite satisfied,
'Tis true that I refuse to rest;
Ladies, I thank you! - Friends, Good Night.*

April 22, 1784 —

Paris seeking financial aid for the United States. John Adams who came to Paris during the following year wrote of Franklin's

* Deceased June 26, 1926.

popularity in France: "Franklin's reputation is more universal than that of Leibnitz or Newton, Frederick or Voltaire; and his character more beloved and esteemed than any or all of them." It is fitting that organizations of the Press, in its various activities, make pilgrimages to the grave of "B. Franklin, Printer," an annual custom of Poor Richard Club, of Philadelphia. The Advertising Clubs of the world followed not only the example of the former during their recent convention, but responded to the dictates of their pride in belonging to the craft which Benjamin Franklin honored.

Leibnitz is celebrated for the universality of his genius and known as the inventor of the differential and integral calculus, the principle of which was independently discovered by Newton. March 20th of next year will be the bi-centenary of Newton's death. The latter name is recalled because of the meeting of the American Chemical Society. Newton lived during earlier school years with an

J. S. Newton

*Trin. Coll Cambridge
June 20th 1682*

apothecary named Clark, in whose shop the embryo scientist served as assistant during leisure hours.

The year 1774 is usually given as the birth-year of chemistry, because of the many im-

portant discoveries about this time, and a shining light among these discoverers was Karl Wilhelm Scheele, who established his apothecary shop in Köping, Sweden, about 150 years ago. In 1874 the Centennial of Chemistry was celebrated at Northumberland (Priestley's home during the closing years of his eventful life). Among those present at Northumberland were the President of the meeting, the late Charles F. Chandler, P. W. Bedford, John M. Maisch and J. P. Remington, whose activities are of record in the Proceedings of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Of further interest in connection with the Centenary of the American Chemical Society is the

A
NEW NOMENCLATURE
OF
CHEMISTRY,

PROPOSED BY
MESSRS. DE MORVEAU, LAVOISIER, BERTHOLLET AND FOURCROY;

WITH
ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS,

BY
LYMAN SPALDING, M. D.
LECTURER ON CHEMISTRY IN DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY.

HARVARD, (N. H.)
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1828.

fact that Dr. Lyman Spalding, father of the U. S. Pharmacopœia, gave to the chemists a translation of "A New Nomenclature of Chemistry," proposed by Messrs. De Morveau, Lavoisier, Berthollet and Fourcroy, with additions and improvements made by the Lecturer on Chemistry in Dartmouth University (Lyman Spalding) in 1796.

Chemists, physicians and pharmacists will reflect credit by seeing that in the next election to the Hall of Fame the name of Lyman Spalding is chosen as the leader for the distinction. Citizens and the Government can well endorse such action because through Dr. Lyman Spalding's work they have had a protection given them by the Food and Drug Laws for which the U. S. Pharmacopœia provides the standard. Herein is an opportunity for coöperation wherein chemists and pharmacists may whole-heartedly join with the medical profession, of which Dr. Lyman Spalding was an honored member.

References to these centenary events remind us of the rapidly approaching meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, during the week of September 13—less than 2 months hence. Make your preparations to attend.

BULLETINS OF THE DRUG TRADE BUREAU OF PUBLIC INFORMATION.

Director Robert P. Fischelis has issued Bulletins D-27 to D-30, inclusive, of the Drug Trade Bureau of Public Information.

Bulletin D-27 relates to a discussion by Samuel C. Henry of the bills pending in Congress providing for stricter regulation of narcotics and alcohol. He states that under Regulation 35 of the Harrison law the innocent pharmacist who fills the prescription of a dishonest physician is made as guilty as the physician. He considers Senate Bill 4085 would hamper and annoy registered pharmacists and would not interfere with the sphere of activity of the illicit trafficker. The bulletin is concluded with this statement: "The drug trade of the nation as well as all other permittees under the National Prohibition Act are face to face with the problem of one-man government, which is the greatest enemy of popular government in all the world."

Bulletin D-28 presents a detailed and interesting account of the making of the National Formulary V which has recently become official.

Bulletin D-29 refers to the opportunities of publicity for pharmacy. An article along these lines by Dean Charles H. LaWall is printed in the June issue, page 492, under a caption of "What Should The Pharmacy College Professor Know?" He urges the establishment of free public lectures by colleges of pharmacy throughout the country and that the members of the faculty should be prepared to provide scientific advisory service to newspapers.

Bulletin D-30 is issued to pharmaceutical journals only and contains a sketch of the late Dr. H. M. Whelpley which is published in this issue of the JOURNAL.

MARSHALL'S KAOLIN EXCIPIENT.

Dr. Bernard Fantus has been contributing a series of articles to the *Journal of the American Medical Association* entitled, "The Technique of Medication." In one of these he refers to Marshall's excipient for pills containing chemicals that are de-

stroyed by organic substances such as silver nitrate and potassium permanganate. In this two parts of kaolin are used in connection with one part of anhydrous sodium sulphate. The technique is described:

"The powdered drug is mixed with the requisite amount of kaolin; half as much anhydrous sodium sulphate as kaolin is added and, after mixing, the whole is massed with about the same weight of water as of sodium sulphate. The mass must be kept above 33° C. until the pills are finished. When the temperature of the pills falls to that of the room, they become of stony hardness. The method depends on the fact that 33° C. is a critical temperature for sodium sulphate. Above that temperature the sodium sulphate exists in the anhydrous form; hence the water is free, and the mixture is a plastic mass. Below 33° C. the sodium sulphate exists as Na₂SO₄, 7 H₂O. Hence, when the temperature falls, this hydrated salt crystallizes out and the pills rapidly become hard. The pills disintegrate quickly, owing to the ready solubility of this salt in water."

SO-CALLED EPHEDRINE HYDRO-CHLORIDE.

A signed statement in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, for July 3, by Dr. T. Grier Miller, K. K. Chen, and Karl F. Schmidt, recites as follows:

"We have recently had some experience with a preparation of so-called ephedrine hydrochloride which was sold by a druggist in Philadelphia. He obtained it from an English drug house, the source and method of preparation being unknown. This sample of drug was not effective clinically in the control of asthma in a patient who had been completely relieved by the Peking product (Miller). Experimentally it was capable of relaxing the bronchial spasm produced in pithed cats by physostigmine (Schmidt). Its melting point and optical rotation are not those of pure ephedrine hydrochloride or of pseudo-ephedrine hydrochloride, its optical isomer, and it does not give the color reactions of ephedrine and pseudo-ephedrine (Chen). The nature of the material is therefore uncertain."

This is reported as a warning against the indiscriminate use of any preparation that does not meet the standards of the identifications that were described by Dr. Chen.

In the March number, *JOURNAL A. PH. A.*, for 1925, p. 189, an article will be found by

Dr. K. K. Chen entitled "A Pharmacognostic and Chemical Study of Ma Huang (*Ephedra vulgaris* var. *Helvetica*)." See also *JOURNAL A. PH. A.* for June, 1926, p. 509.

CRYSTALLINE INSULIN.

Dr. John J. Abel and his co-workers at the School of Medicine of Johns Hopkins University have reduced insulin to a crystalline purity. While this is wonderful progress, Dr. Abel states that a year or more of work will intervene before its analysis is completed.

THE AEDOS MOSQUITO CARRIER OF DENGUE FEVER.

Surgeon General Ireland has made public a statement relative to *Aedes aegypti*, as carrier of dengue fever. This mosquito, according to the statement, is the only carrier of the germ. To become infected, the mosquito must bite the patient with dengue during the first three days of illness, the living organism causing the disease must live and mature in the mosquito for 11 days before the insect becomes capable of transmitting the disease through its bites, and once the mosquito becomes capable of transmitting the disease, it retains that capacity throughout the remainder of its life.

The research work on dengue was completed just one year ago, and as a result of the application of the knowledge obtained, reports recently have reached the office of the Surgeon General to the effect that whereas in 1924, 80 soldiers in every 1000 on duty in the Philippines suffered attacks of dengue, in 1926 the number had been reduced to slightly less than 20 in every thousand.

CALCIUM CYANIDE HELD GOOD PLANT FUMIGANT.

A new Department Circular, No. 380-C, "Calcium Cyanide as a Fumigant for Ornamental Greenhouse Plants," gives details concerning the use of this chemical as a fumigant. A copy of the publication may be obtained free, by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

On exposure to the air calcium cyanide slowly reacts with the moisture of the atmosphere and gives off hydrocyanic acid gas. Customers should be warned of its danger.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Chairman F. F. Berg, of the Scientific Section, *A. PH. A.*, is expected to return from his trip to Europe the latter part of this month.

Joseph Jacobs gives an interesting historical account of the growth of Atlanta in the *Atlanta Georgian* of recent date. Mr. Jacobs can speak from experience as he came to Atlanta in 1884.

Milton Campbell, Leonard A. Seltzer, P. Henry Utech, Josiah K. Lilly, and Otto W. Osterlund have been given the honorary degree of Master in Pharmacy by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science.

In a letter from Chairman E. Fullerton Cook, of the U. S. P. Revision Committee, who is studying at the University of Bern, he expresses himself as well pleased with the condition of things. However, he has little idle time and that is really given over to perfecting his knowledge of German. He remarks on the pride students at the University have, because of their University privileges and opportunities. He dwells on the beauty of the lower passes of the Alps; "It is impossible," he says, "to lose the impression in viewing the scenery that it is not a painting."

Dr. E. M. Chamot, Cornell University, delivered a lecture in the John Harrison Laboratory of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania, on the subject of "Chemical Microscopy: Its Aims and Its Possibilities." He pointed out that some analyses that are impossible with other methods are easily determined, in experienced hands, with the aid of the microscope.

Dean Willis G. Gregory in an article on "Where Is the Market?" discusses the college curriculum extending over the three- and four-year periods. Among other questions he asks the following:

"Where will three- and four-year graduates find employment?

"What salaries will three and four years of study and expense justify?

"Will college classes remain large if the graduates are dissatisfied with conditions of employment?

"Will pharmacy colleges not supported by state treasuries be happy with decreased classes?

"If the supply of pharmacists is decreased, will the public be as well served by untrained clerks?

"Will higher-priced pharmacists increase the number of drugless drug stores?

"Is there enough professional work in the average drug store to-day to justify three and four years' training?

"Can these questions be answered in advance, or must we wait for experience?"

Prof. H. G. Greenish, in his very interesting description of the methods used in the production of flowers of sulphur at the Rotherhithe factory which he visited, refers to the practice prevalent among compilers of textbooks of perpetuating in their books accounts of processes and illustrations of apparatus which have long become obsolete. No doubt the professor could if he would quote a good many instances of this misleading habit, and their prejudicial effect on the student who depends on theoretical rather than practical information on a given subject. A similar charge might be levied in connection with many of the formulas and "scientific" abstracts which are published in the pharmaceutical press and in works of reference. A suggested formula may be published in a medical or pharmaceutical paper; it is copied into other papers at home or abroad; often in transcribing an error creeps in which is perpetuated when the formula is embodied—as often happens—in a work of reference. When the practicing pharmacist "tries out" the "recipe" he finds it useless or unworkable, and pours scorn on the originator. Even our most respected standard works of reference are not free from blame in the matter, although it would be invidious to quote examples.—*The Pharmaceutical Journal*.

Dr. J. J. Hofman, the Secretary of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, in a letter to the British Pharmaceutical Society, mentions that he is a collector of book-plates, and that he would be glad to receive copies of book-plates of pharmaceutical interest. If any reader having such a plate is willing to present a copy to Dr. Hofman, it can be sent him at Schenkweg 4-6, La Haye, Holland.

Dr. Neil E. Gordon, head of the department of chemistry of the University of Maryland, and state chemist of Maryland, sailed on May 31 from New York for a European tour in the interest of chemical education.

Prof. Otto Raubenheimer and family sailed for Europe. They hope to return early in the Fall. The tour will take them through Germany, Switzerland and Holland.

Dean E. V. Howell, University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy, entertained the pharmacy students on May 22, with a barbecue. It is an annual event which has added to the fame of the Dean as host. The day was enjoyed at Grannyborough Hole on New

Hope Creek; fishing, swimming, field sports and athletics were part of the day's program.

The students of the School of Pharmacy have subscribed more than \$2000 to the A. Ph. A. Headquarters' Fund.

Ex-President H. H. Rusby opened the series of Botanic Garden Lectures at Bronx Park, July 10. His subject was "Immunization against Diseases Caused by Microscopic Plants."

The New York Public Library has compiled a list of references covering the publications in the library on the chemistry and manufacture of writings and printings. A list of patents in connection therewith also has been prepared.

The U. S. Bureau of Chemistry is testing out the resistance to light of various inks.

Wilhelm Bodemann celebrated his 80th birthday on June 6 and reports are that he is in excellent physical condition. He was the recipient of so many congratulatory letters that it was necessary for him to issue a general note of appreciation to those who thought of him on his anniversary. "Jamieson Day" was celebrated by the C. V. D. A. at the Germania Club on which occasion Fra. Wilhelm sketched the members of the Round Table; it has been referred to as a "Scenario."



HARVEY W. WILEY.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley was given a luncheon last month at the New York Lawyers' Club.

A birthday cake representing Dr. Wiley's eighty years featured the occasion. Testimonials and expressions of appreciation came from many and a number of speeches setting forth his work were made by guests at the table.

The home of **John Bartram** at 54th St. below Woodland Ave., Philadelphia, is again open to the public, after considerable work of restoration which was done by the Fairmount Park Commission and the John Bartram Association. As is well known, John Bartram was the pioneer botanist of this country.

Prof. H. H. Bartlett, of the University of Michigan, has been named collaborator by the Smithsonian Institute to make studies of plants in Formosa and Sumatra.

The "Coöperator" of recent date had an illustrated article on the store of Julius H. Riemenschneider, Chicago. It may be pointed to as one of the instances of returning to pharmacy from a modern drug store, and with notable success.

Howard Kirk, lecturer on Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence and Commercial Law at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, addressed the Philadelphia Drug Exchange at its annual outing on June 4. His subject was "Lawful Price Maintenance."

J. H. Gow, chairman of the general committee of the Maine Pharmaceutical Association, has appointed his committee to prepare for the annual meeting of the Association at Belgrade Lakes on September 15. The committee had a meeting in Lewiston on June 9. It consists of A. H. Perkins, C. C. Files, C. C. Libby, L. C. Bailey and G. O. Tuttle, of Portland; Francis Frawley, of Bangor; Ralph Lochhead, of Auburn; F. Carroll Coughlin, H. E. Goodrich and J. F. Young, of Augusta; H. M. Tibbetts of Hallowell and J. H. De-Orsay, of Waterville.

Dr. C. A. Mills of Cincinnati, who has been given a two years' leave of absence from his duties as Professor of Internal Medicine at the Medical College of the University of Cincinnati, sailed for Pekin June 12, where he will teach medicine and do experimental and research work at Pekin University. A dinner was tendered to him by **Charles G. Merrell** before his departure.

Harry G. Schmuelling, former President of the Ohio State Pharmaceutical Association, will again contest for membership in the state legislature and he is strongly supported by the druggists of his district.

The D. A. Schulte interests have contracted for the purchase of control of the American Druggists' Syndicate, according to newspaper account.

Reserve Medical Officers are doing active duty at Carlisle Barracks and Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

Chemists of the United States Government participated in the investigation of the Texas ichthyol deposit. An office and laboratory will be established at the mines and general

offices and a laboratory will be maintained in Dallas under the direction of William H. Mize.

Miss Motley, Secretary to Dr. Harvey Wiley, won the second prize in the dental hygiene educational contest conducted by E. R. Squibb & Sons, in which there were nearly 40,000 contestants. The winner of the first prize was Mrs. Jefferson Jenkins of Tarboro. The latter received \$2000, the former \$1500. There were numerous prizes of smaller amounts.

OBITUARY.

DANIEL BASE.

Dr. Daniel Base, head of the laboratory and research department of Hynson, Westcott & Dunning, until his serious illness last November, died at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore Md., June 17th.



DANIEL BASE.

Daniel Base attended the public schools of Baltimore, graduating from Baltimore City College in 1888, after which he entered the Johns Hopkins University, where he specialized in chemistry. He received the degree of A.B. in 1891, and Ph.D. four years later. Shortly thereafter he became a member of the faculty of the Maryland College of Pharmacy, being associated there with the late Dr. William Simon and the late Dr. Charles Caspari. He remained with the college

until after its consolidation with the University of Maryland, succeeding Dr. Caspari as dean. He continued in this capacity until his association in 1920 with Hynson, Westcott & Dunning.

Dr. Base was a member of the Maryland Pharmaceutical Association and joined the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION in 1898; he held the secretaryship of the Scientific Section from 1905-1906. He was a high type of man and scientist and held the regard and friendship of students and co-workers. He is survived by his widow and one son.

JOHN WINTHROP BALLARD.

John W. Ballard, pioneer druggist of Davenport, Ia., and member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION since 1871, died at his home June 8th, aged 78 years.

Mr. Ballard contributed a paper for the Des Moines meeting, published in this number of the JOURNAL. He had been in poor health for nearly a year, so that he was unable to attend the latter convention, but exhibited his interest as indicated. He retired from the drug business in 1920; however, with a son, Harry W. Ballard, continued the dental business which was part of Ballard Drug and Dental Company. Mr. Ballard was one of the organizers of the Tri-City Retail Druggists' Association, now the Quad-City Association.

A sketch of the deceased is printed in the April JOURNAL, A. PH. A. of 1921, p. 243. He is survived by two daughters and two sons. Funeral services were held June 11th, at Calvary Baptist Church, Davenport.

DR. EMILE COUÉ.

An Associated Press Dispatch from Nancy, France, of July 2, announces the death of Dr. Emile Coué, the famous advocate of auto-