

Through specialization in production, the manufacturer has become economically an indispensable factor in pharmacy; for he is not only doing his part well, but doing it to the satisfaction of the dispenser. It is proper to note that production has voluntarily and deliberately, as well as necessarily, sought all of this responsibility, and has so ably and dependably met its every phase that the dispenser who relinquishes it does so with every confidence.

Assuredly, this Section is the logical place of conference by the two functions for exchange of ideas. The manufacturer is far from being a stranger in this ASSOCIATION; for here was the cradle of his early days, and, regardless of all economic growth his feet forever stand on practical pharmacy and dispensing.

Since, for the dispenser, production means freedom from these many costs and cares, it permits him to more advantageously devote his full time and talent to attracting more customers and to cultivating the opportunities of his particular service to his clientele.

ALL THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO WAIT.*

BY JOHN URI LLOYD.

Possibly this statement is not literally true. But yet it is a something that needs be treasured by those who otherwise might get impatient or despondent because of problems, little or great.

Some decades ago while attempting to study systematically the problem of the American materia medica from pioneering days (which then lay not so far back as they do at the present time) I was confronted with the necessity of obtaining certain publications to which references were continually made in the Dispensatories and by other authorities.

Chief among these were three, whose titles I will name in the order of their sequence. They were:

1. "Schoepf's *Materia Medica Americana*," 1787.
2. "Peter Smith's *Indian Doctor's Dispensatory*," 1813.
3. "Rafinesque's *Medical Flora of the United States*," two volumes, 1828-1830.

Even at that date, these books were practically out of the market. Disconsolately I accepted that I could not hope to find them. But the motto, "The unexpected happens," may be taken for one's encouragement. To attempt to force a thing is liable to breed discouragement.

1. Writing to Erlangen, Germany, where was published Schoepf's *Materia Medica Americana*, the reply came that only recently had every copy in the hands of the publisher's successor been destroyed, as it was considered merely waste paper. However, the Erlangen library loaned me their copy, which was reprinted, facsimile, and distributed, gratuitously, to scientific societies as a Bulletin of the Lloyd Library. Later, Dr. Charles Rice discovered in a second-hand book store in Italy a copy of this much needed work, purchased it and presented it to the Lloyd Library, where it is now on the shelves.

2. A party of fishermen at Middle Bass Island, Lake Erie, were sitting one

* Read before Section on Historical Pharmacy, Diamond Anniversary meeting, St. Louis, 1927.

evening on the veranda of the Club House, discussing casually the subject of books and rare publications. Gen. Keifer, once Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, in the course of the conversation said to me, "Lloyd, I have an old book." Carelessly I replied, "What is the title of your book?" He answered "Peter Smith's Indian Doctor's Dispensatory." Astonished, I said, "I have been looking for that book for years. Where did you get it?" Said, he "It is an heirloom. Peter Smith was my wife's grandfather."

Borrowing the book, for he would not part with it, this, too, was published, facsimile, as a Bulletin of the Lloyd Library, and distributed gratuitously to scientific societies.

About twenty years ago, a young lady visiting at my home placed by my plate at the breakfast table a nicely wrapped book, stating that she had found it in the library of her uncle who had recently died. Opening the package I found it to contain the long sought Peter Smith's Indian Doctor's Dispensatory. The uncle lived at Columbia, Ohio, one of the homes of the wandering preacher-physician, Peter Smith. Doubtless the quaint old volume had been treasured from pioneer days by one of his congregation.

3. Still more elusive, for a long time, was Rafinesque's two-volume Medical Flora of the United States, more prized by collectors than either of those just mentioned. Despairing of finding it, I had advertised in the catalogs of book sales and second-hand book stores, as well as elsewhere in locations where this publication might possibly be found. Finally, a physician in the central part of Indiana who had seen the advertisement in an obscure medical journal, wrote me that he had the two-volumes of this work, which he wished to donate to the Lloyd Library. His offer was gratefully accepted, and the book came, with pages yet uncut.

Thus, from unexpected sources was the Lloyd Library enriched by the gift of original volumes of those three much valued publications. But the story is not yet ended. A few weeks ago came a letter from a physician in California, stating that during a hunting excursion through the mountains he had explored a long-deserted cabin in which he had found an old book on medicine. Thinking it might have a place in the Lloyd Library, he had mailed it to me. Opening the package, behold, I found the Rafinesque, two volumes, complete, 1828-1830, Medical Flora of the United States.

To close. One might ask, "Under these circumstances, why not present duplicate copies to some university needing the publication?" This question frequently arises. Continuously such donations are gladly made. But a reference library, such as the Lloyd Library, is continuously sought by research workers who desire to establish original authorities for certain data. Possibly the books thus loaned may be kept for some little time while the borrower is completing his research work, during which period these books may be required by other consultants of the Library. For this reason, wherever possible, duplicate copies of rare books are kept on the shelves.

There is danger of loss and even of destruction of works that cannot be replaced, during their journeyings to distant cities or country localities. Sometimes a "home" borrower forgets to return a rare volume. Increasingly it becomes necessary to establish, and then live up to, rules that the loan must be made through a library, or other recognized institution.