

# EDITORIAL

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## THE YEAR WITH US.

**T**HE first week of every January seems to be a time when most individuals look forward; some hopefully, others not. Fortunately, most of the thoughts of the week are expressive of hope and, certainly, it is a better attitude than one of doubt and misgiving. We must have faith, hope and courage in order to accomplish; faith in the mission of pharmacy, hope in its progress and courage to share in solving its problems.

Dean Frederick J. Wulling was asked to broadcast a series of six radio talks over University of Minnesota Station W. L. B. After transmitting two of these messages of pharmaceutical information he was asked if he would double the number of talks and he consented. He is giving the public a better understanding of pharmacy, of its importance in public health service, as a part of the professional and business life of the State. In rendering this service to pharmacy the public is impressed with the greater value of its University. In speaking of the latter service, in the ninth of the series, the Dean acquainted the "listeners-in" with the direct and indirect service being rendered the public by the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota—by contributing to educational advance, pharmaceutical progress, coöperation with other pharmaceutical bodies, services to the U. S. Government, the value of the medicinal plant garden, research, revision of the standards, by supplying medicinal preparations to other University divisions, analyses and identification of items sent to the College, professional advice to pharmacists, advice upon drug culture, service to the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association, etc.

He also conveyed the message of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to his hearers, of its service, made them acquainted with its code of ethics, its promotions. The speaker connected up the Headquarters project in his talk of Tuesday evening, December 6th, from which the following is quoted:

"Another significant evidence of the trend of pharmacy is found in the decision of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to undertake a campaign for the raising of one million dollars for the erection of a pharmaceutical Headquarters building. The campaign has already made good headway and more than \$600,000 has been subscribed. Washington, D. C., will be the location for the new building and soon now the drive will become more intensive to complete the full million dollars needed. Subscriptions are entirely voluntary. Every person, firm and corporation engaged in any of the several divisions of pharmacy has been or will be approached some time during the drive. All pharmacists who are listening in, please take notice of this fact. The subscriptions are not expected to be greater than pharmacists feel their respective circumstances permit but the contributions must be fairly generous to meet the total needed for the project. It is felt that subscribers will not be burdened under the provisions of the plan for the payment of subscriptions since these may be remitted in ten equal installments during a period of five years so that a pharmacist subscribing \$100.00 would never need to write a check for more than \$10.00 at any one time. Of course, subscriptions are not confined to those interested in pharmacy. Information is at hand to the effect that several ten thousand and one or two twenty-five thousand dollar subscriptions have already been made. Several one thousand and some hundred dollar subscriptions have already been made by retail pharmacists of the Northwest."

There are others who have done like work and the aim of the comment is not to speak of only one who has brought the message of pharmacy over the radio to the public, for quite a number have done so, especially during Pharmacy Week, but

it is for the purpose of encouraging others and expressing appreciation to all who are making the public better acquainted with the mission of Pharmacy.—E. G. E.

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### THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE HEAD- QUARTERS BUILDING.

**T**HE following has a general interest for those who would like to be better informed relative to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and the Headquarters soon to be a realization. This being the first issue of the JOURNAL in the New Year, suggests the printing of an informative message, prepared by Secretary E. F. Kelly.

"The Headquarters project has for its objects:

*First.*—To properly equip the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to carry on the great work which it has been doing since 1852.

*Second.*—To consolidate so far as possible the efforts and influence of pharmacists—retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, research workers, writers and teachers—to improve pharmaceutical conditions and to educate the public, through cooperative publicity, to a fuller appreciation of the value of pharmacy as a public health agency.

"From its organization the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has taught that the future of pharmacy rested upon its ability to furnish the public with an adequate pharmaceutical service and that this is the sole basis on which pharmacy has a claim to a licensed or protected position in society. Consequently, it has given major consideration in its work to pharmaceutical education: to the enactment of adequate legislation to regulate the licensing of pharmacists and the practice of pharmacy; to the development of adequate standards for the identity, purity and strength of drugs and medicines; to the control of drugs and medicines which may be habit forming, poisonous or otherwise dangerous; to fostering pharmaceutical research with the purpose of improving the quality of drugs and medicines and of discovering new ones; and to encouraging, collecting and preserving and recording pharmaceutical literature and history.

"While the ASSOCIATION has given a good part of its effort to fostering the professional phase of pharmacy it has always realized that the distribution and sale of drugs and medicines and of the many other items which the public looks to the druggist to supply, is a very important part of pharmacy and that the commercial ability of the pharmacist is second in importance only to his pharmaceutical training. It has, therefore, encouraged adequate training of pharmacists in commerce and economics, and organized many years ago, as one of its five professional sections, the Section on Commercial Interests. This has become one of the best attended and most important of the five sections of the ASSOCIATION and deals, in a fundamental way, with the economic and commercial phases of pharmacy. The ASSOCIATION has always considered commerce as an important profession and as one of the group of sciences and professions on which the practice of pharmacy is based.

"The search for drugs, sources of chemicals, spices, perfumes, etc., developed the early commerce of the world and still is a most important stimulus, especially as most of the material is represented in nearly all of the industries. Thus, as general examples, the search for balsams gave us the utilitarian product—rubber. Reversely, the search for potash for the industries, of more or less importance in pharmacy and medicine, has shown us that one of the "Acres of diamonds" in that connection is within our own country.

"It is apparently being understood by all classes of pharmacists that the development and the commercial success of pharmacy are dependent upon keeping alive the "spirit of pharmacy" and in bringing about conditions which will enable the pharmacist, whether retailer, wholesaler or manufacturer, to give the public the

pharmaceutical service that it requires and at the same time make an adequate living and competence for himself, in keeping with that of other citizens.

"This object requires coöperation to a greater extent between the different classes of pharmacists, the realization that the success of any class is dependent upon the success of all others, and that the influence of pharmacy as a whole must be combined as far as this is possible and practicable. The Headquarters Building will provide, for the first time in the history of American Pharmacy, the opportunity and equipment for such coöperative efforts in education, in legislation, in research and in publicity under the auspices of the ASSOCIATION in which all who are interested in pharmacy are eligible to membership and which has devoted itself unselfishly to the good of all."

Progress is being made with the Headquarters project, the amount of cash in hand is well toward \$300,000 and the subscriptions amount to considerably more than double that sum; the site for the Headquarters is having consideration.

#### A NEW DEPARTMENT IN THE JOURNAL.

**W**ITH this issue of the JOURNAL a Department is inaugurated in which questions relating to laws which apply to the pharmacist will be discussed. Howard Kirk, well- and favorably-known member of the Philadelphia bar, has consented to conduct this division of the JOURNAL. In the first installment, he is searching for the point of contact and it is hoped that a valuable department for pharmacists will develop.

The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION consistently aids in the promotion of measures that serve the public and pharmacy—this is conclusively shown by the provision of standards and legislation which, as is well known to all pharmacists, resulted through its coöperative efforts and speaks for its continuance in such efforts. The ASSOCIATION likewise, at all times, supports all laws, encourages their enforcement by coöperative efforts. Doubtless, there are regulations and laws which require correction and to that end the organization of secretaries of pharmaceutical organizations, formed during the convention in St. Louis of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, may be most helpful.

It would seem a unity of action in legislative matters that pertain to the States, would promote a better understanding of needful and necessary legislation and suggest means for correcting laws which serve no very useful purpose in their present form. Prevailing conditions give the legislators many suggestions for new laws and regulations and some of them might be persuaded to permit free discussion of their proposals before enactment, so that best results might follow.

Practices that have at first little significance may grow into sources of danger and make necessary proper regulations for correction and control. In the legislative measures in force, proposed and possible, there are many points of contact of the druggist and pharmacist with other activities that cause them to share in a larger number of regulative measures, laws, licenses, taxes, etc., than other members of related trades and professions, hence the value of coöperative efforts are nowhere of greater value than in the drug industries. Quoting from Dr. J. H. Beal's address before West Virginia Pharmaceutical Association:

"The formulation of a proper statute involves something more than the simple hiring of an attorney to convert the suggestions of the legislative committee of a State association into legal phraseology. It needs the lawyer trained in the principles of statutory interpretation and constitutional law in order that the new statute may have the necessary legal validity; it needs the help of the political economist posted in the reactions of legislation in order that the statute may not fail through infringement of economic principles; and finally it needs the technical knowledge and practical experience of the man in business, in order that it may not be burdened with provisions incapable of practical application."

It is through coöperation that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has, perhaps, served most and best, and it will continue to serve.—E. G. E.