

consider any further advancement than that contemplated in the action of the N. A. B. P. and the A. A. C. P. The elimination of our shorter courses and the placing of minimum pharmaceutical education on a baccalaureate level should be sufficient for many years to come. This does not mean that the individual colleges should refrain from taking further forward steps, but I believe it unwise for the A. A. C. P. or the N. A. B. P. to raise the minimum above baccalaureate standing until we have had plenty of time to study the effect of these progressive actions and it will require many years to do this efficiently. Perhaps the time will never come in the lives of most of us when an advance in *minimum* requirements beyond this will be deemed necessary.

THE HIGH COST OF NEGLECT.

BY SAMUEL S. DWORKIN.

I have received many letters from physicians in answer to my article, "Try Your Neighborhood Druggist First," published in many medical magazines. They state the fact that quantities of biological products are being distributed by supply houses, who engage in this business only or, largely, in a commercial way, without any attempt to render a real professional service to the medical fraternity—is the fault of the druggists, because of their neglect in carrying a more complete stock of biologicals, the way of keeping them and because of lack of intelligent information relative to various products handled.

To me, it is only to start all over again. Many years ago, I stated that the neglect of the pharmacist in handling biological products and other modern products is hurtful—as with the advance in modern medication, with the striking new ideas in advertising to the physician, the open propaganda to the public for preventative medicine by various health departments, publications, insurance companies, etc., with pages devoted to articles pertaining to new vaccines and antitoxins in daily newspapers and other publications, creating a condition that the biological products are becoming greater factors in modern *materia medica* every day. It is a poor excuse for any pharmacist to refuse to supply them with present methods of distribution. Many manufacturers have established distribution depots and jobbers handle these products properly.

The pharmacist is the logical distributor of all medicaments and it should be recognized by every druggist that the physician of to-day is one of the principal guardians of public health and the professional pharmacist is the other. By proper attention to the needs of physicians, a closer bond of coöperation will be established between the medical and pharmaceutical professions.

Only a few words are necessary relative to the care of biological products. Proper care should be given to biological products and to all other medical preparations; special care must be given to biologicals in stock under refrigeration, in checking up the stock of outdated potency and, naturally, prompt delivery of orders. Information relative to the uses, etc., may be had from leaflets and booklets on the subject issued by manufacturers; most of them are not technical; manufacturers will also supply them for distribution among physicians.

The high cost of neglect on the part of the druggist is in the failure to recognize the fact that the physician and public will patronize a pharmacist and will buy everything he carries so long as they feel a professional atmosphere. Dr. LaWall, in "Four Thousand Years of Pharmacy," showed that specialization divorced pharmacy from medicine, but this separation went too far and with the present trend in modernization, the old "drug shop" is becoming a novelty. The various colorful bottles and ointment jars that were once displayed are becoming articles of observation as relics; literature describing the prescription department should receive more attention by pharmacists.

THIRD REPORT OF CONTACT COMMITTEE ON TABLETS.*

The Contact Committees of the American Drug Manufacturers' Association and the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association have submitted to the Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, their fourth report containing recommendations for tolerances on certain medicinal tablets. They have indicated the degree of accuracy within which properly manufactured medicinal tablets can be made under present-day manufacturing methods.

This report covers recommendations on eleven compressed tablets and includes recommended methods of analysis. The tolerances suggested by the combined Contact Committees for the compressed tablets mentioned are as follows:

Acetphenetidin.....	7.5%	Potassium iodide.....	6%
Acetylsalicylic acid.....	7.5%	Potassium permanganate...	6%
Ammonium chloride.....	7.5%	Quinine sulphate.....	9%
Hexamethylenetetramin....	6%	Sodium bicarbonate.....	7.5%
Potassium chlorate.....	6%	Sodium salicylate.....	9%

The proposed standard for Chloramin-Tablets is that they shall contain active chlorine corresponding to 10.3 per cent to 14.3 per cent of the labeled amount of Chloramin-T.

MEASURES FOR REGULATION OF TRAFFIC IN NARCOTICS PENDING IN CONGRESS.

Compulsory treatment of drug addicts in specially designed institutions as proposed by the Interparliamentary Union in Paris in August 1928, is advocated by Mr. Porter. He has introduced a bill (H. R. 11192) proposing to establish two Federal narcotic farms for care and treatment of addicts now confined in Federal prisons. His bill, he said, would admit others than Federal prisoners if facilities are available, and would permit States to board addicts who violate State laws. His proposal, he said, is in line with a suggestion in the President's message to Congress on December 6, 1923, that the Federal Government give more attention to its penal problems.

The Porter bill was referred to the House

Committee on Judiciary, so far without action. Another bill (H. R. 12575), similarly referred to the Judiciary Committee, has been introduced in the House by Representative Kindred, of Astoria, N. Y., to provide for a Federal narcotic hospital in New York State, also without action.

FUNDS FOR BUYING DRUGS.

Congress has enacted into law a measure (Public Law 198, formerly H. R. 10083) authorizing advance of funds for the detection of violations of the Federal narcotic law by means of purchase of necessary evidence of such violations. The bill, as it became law, is similar to a bill (S. 3311), introduced by Senator Shortridge, of California, and favorably reported, giving way, however, to the House bill.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon advocated this legislation.

* See March JOURNAL A. PH. A., p. 257.