

**ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.\***

After preliminary remarks, extending greetings, etc., Secretary Kelly said:

"In order to properly present the 'Present Activities of the American Pharmaceutical Association,' my subject, it is necessary to briefly review the history of pharmaceutical organization in America. Prior to 1852, the only organizations were those known as Colleges of Pharmacy and these existed only in five or six of the largest cities. They were local associations of pharmacists, meeting at regular intervals and maintaining also a teaching institution.

"As the population increased, the problems of the pharmacists increased correspondingly and eventually it was found necessary to have a national organization to deal with them. Among the most pressing of these problems was the importation and sale by others than pharmacists of adulterated and sub-standard drugs and medicines. So in 1852, the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was formed and has been in continuous existence since. It is therefore the oldest pharmaceutical organization in this country. It was organized to deal with questions of interest to all branches of pharmacy, in other words to be a truly national organization and, consequently, its membership has always been open to any one interested in any branch of pharmaceutical activity.

"I am proud to recall that the first endeavor to which organized pharmacy in America gave its attention was that of high standards for the drugs and medicines offered the people, an unselfish effort for the public good. In addition it promptly took up the important questions of improving pharmaceutical education and making it more available, of limiting the sale of medicines to those properly trained for this important work, of the proper regulation of the practice of pharmacy, of limiting the sale of poisons, of improving the financial and professional status of pharmacists, of encouraging pharmaceutical organization and coöperation and of improving pharmaceutical practice in every way possible, and to these basic questions it has continued to give its attention as well as to others which have since arisen.

"In time it became advisable to have in addition separate organizations to deal with the individual problems of each group and to-day we have eight such national organizations to represent the retailer, the wholesaler, the teacher, the board members, etc. As previously stated, the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has been particularly interested in the establishment of a pharmaceutical association in each state and to-day such organizations exist in forty-six states, in the District of Columbia and in Porto Rico.

"Each of these organizations, both state and national, have representation in the A. PH. A. and their members are eligible to membership in it. As the state associations are the more numerous they have the greater power and if properly represented can influence the policy and work of the A. PH. A., a condition to which they should be keenly alive and of which they should take the fullest advantage. As each of these organizations is represented in the governing body of the A. PH. A., and since all connected with pharmacy are eligible to membership, we have a truly national pharmaceutical organization to deal with those questions of interest to all branches of pharmacy, such as those previously mentioned.

"Now what has this association accomplished for pharmacy? At the seventy-fifth annual meeting held last year, Dr. James H. Beal delivered an address on "The Work, Principal Purposes and Ideals of the ASSOCIATION" in which he reviews its more important achievements. Among these were the establishment of state pharmaceutical associations; the development of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia, the establishment and revision of the National Formulary; the adoption of these two as standards under the Pure Food and Drug Acts of the national and state governments; the development of pharmaceutical education and the establishment of colleges of pharmacy over the country; the adoption by the several states of laws regulating the practice of pharmacy and limiting it to those properly trained; the development and preservation of our pharmaceutical literature over seventy-five years through its YEAR BOOK, JOURNAL, and other publications; fostering pharmaceutical research and improving pharmaceutical practice generally. In addition, it has done its part in preventing inimical legislation and restrictions, and in coöperating in the enactment of legislation which affected pharmacy in any way, such as the Pure Food & Drugs Acts, the Harrison Anti-Narcotic law, etc.

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\* Parts of an address by Secretary E. F. Kelly before the California Pharmaceutical Association; the substance of this address entered into those of other state Associations.

"It is realized that such work does not always appeal as being important to the individual pharmacist and in many instances it is taken for granted. But it is of the utmost importance to every one of us because it is more and more apparent that the future of pharmacy and the recognition of the pharmacist rests on his professional status alone. Without that the pharmacist is no more than a merchant and pharmacists will certainly lose their position as a licensed group in society entering then into a type of competition in which they can hardly survive. It is evident from your program that you realize the importance of improving both the professional and economic sides of pharmacy, and we ask your continued interest and assistance in our work. The ASSOCIATION is keeping up the activities referred to. It is doing all that it can to strengthen the state pharmaceutical associations, to improve the U. S. P. and N. F. as pharmaceutical standards, to improve pharmaceutical education, to strengthen the pharmacy laws and to see that they are properly enforced, to cooperate with the state boards of pharmacy, to encourage pharmaceutical research, and to improve the practice of pharmacy in every way. In its Section on Commercial Interests it is giving attention to those general economic conditions which must be considered if the pharmacist is to be successful financially.

"In addition, the ASSOCIATION is constantly undertaking new activities and I wish to briefly bring the more outstanding of these to your attention.

"The most important is, of course, the Pharmacy Headquarters' Building. The purposes of this building have been explained to you so fully that I need not review them but I should give you a report of the progress made so far. Before doing so, let me thank you again for the interest the California pharmacists have taken in this great undertaking and for the aid which they have given it; we need your further support to make it the success it should be. Of the \$1,000,000 required, approximately \$725,000 has been subscribed by 15,000 persons, organizations and firms representing every branch of pharmacy in this country, and subscriptions are being received right along. Of the amount subscribed, more than \$300,000 has been paid in and since all expenses of the campaign have been paid by the ASSOCIATION, every cent paid in will be used for the purpose intended. As you know, Washington, D. C., was chosen by the vote of the members for the location of the building, and through the cooperation of several prominent pharmacists who generously subscribed \$10,000 each for this purpose in addition to previous subscriptions, a really wonderful site for the building has been obtained. It faces on the Mall which is the great governmental park connecting the Capitol, the Washington Monument and the Memorial Bridge over the Potomac River. The site is directly opposite the Lincoln Memorial and lies between the National Academy of Sciences and the ground on which the Headquarters building of the Public Health Service will be erected by the Government, and on account of its elevation commands a wonderful outlook which can never be interfered with. Plans for the building are now being worked out and it is hoped to have it completed by 1930, although that cannot be assured. It is planned to erect a building which will be not only a service institution for pharmacy but which will, on account of its architecture and position, bring Pharmacy and its service pointedly to the attention of the public. In addition this building will make possible greater cooperation between all pharmaceutical associations and cooperative efforts along lines which are not now possible.

The ASSOCIATION expects to issue the Pharmaceutical Recipe Book within the next few months. The publication will contain about 1600 formulas for preparations of various kinds which pharmacists are frequently called on to furnish but which do not appear in either the U. S. P. or the N. F. One department will deal with general formulas, another with hospital formulas, another with cosmetics and so on, and these formulas have been selected from several thousand submitted, by a committee of twenty-five representing all sections of the country. It is hoped that this publication will be of service especially to the retail pharmacist, that the ASSOCIATION will have the benefit of the suggestions and criticisms of those who use it and that its use will bring about greater uniformity in appearance and composition in these important preparations. Due notice will be given when the book is ready for distribution.

"At the last annual meeting, it was decided to investigate the practice of pharmacy in the hospitals and other public institutions of the country as it is evident that this is becoming a question of considerable importance to pharmacy. For this purpose the A. PH. A. has during the year applied for and been elected to membership in the American Conference on Hospital Service and proposes to undertake a thorough study of this situation in cooperation with the other organizations, mainly medical, who hold membership in this conference. When the study is

completed, the results will be submitted to the state associations and others and such further steps taken as may be found advisable. The president of one of the state associations visited on this trip referred in his address to the importance of this question.

"Another very important organization was formed at the last A. PH. A. meeting known as the Conference of Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries. For some time it has been felt that much good could be accomplished if the secretaries of the state associations could be brought together annually for a discussion of association problems, and an organization formed through which information about programs, date of meetings, speakers, meeting arrangements, publications, etc., could be exchanged in the interim between meetings. During the year a constitution and by-laws have been adopted and the Conference will hold its first annual meeting in Portland, Me., at the time of the next A. PH. A. meeting the week of August 20-25. The dues are only \$5.00 and it is hoped that your Secretary will join and will take an active part in this organization which I believe will prove a most valuable one as it is easy to see how much each state association would gain if it could be informed about and kept in close touch with the work of the other 45 associations.

"Our committee on colored glass containers is doing a very important piece of work in cooperation with the pharmaceutical manufacturers and the Glass Container Association, in studying the effect of the container on the preparation put into it, and the best type of container. This work has already brought out some very valuable information and in the end should add considerable to the permanency of pharmaceutical preparations—a matter of great interest to manufacturers and wholesalers and especially to retail pharmacists.

"These brief references, I sincerely hope will acquaint you with some of the past activities and recent activities of the ASSOCIATION and I appreciate the opportunity to submit them. Let me ask again for a continuation of the support which the California Association has given the A. PH. A. in its work. We urge you to be represented at our annual meetings, as you have in the past, by delegates who are acquainted with your views and wishes and who will express them. The ASSOCIATION desires to be in close touch with the druggists of the country and to carry on its activities in such a way as to have their interest and support. The ASSOCIATION is theirs and its policies are in their control if they exercise their rights as to representation."

Secretary Kelly closed with general congratulatory remarks and expressions of appreciation for courtesies. As stated, the substance of this address entered largely into the addresses at other state conventions of the West and Pacific coast, hence his place on the program is referred to elsewhere without inclusion of remarks made by him.—E. G. E.

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## THE PRODUCTION OF PHARMACOPŒIAS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.\*

BY HUGH N. LINSTEAD.<sup>1</sup>

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in October last, with the assistance of the Bureau of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, obtained from fifteen different countries particulars of the methods by which the Pharmacopœias of those countries are produced and at the suggestion of the Secretary-General, J. J. Hofman, of the Federation the replies have been summarized and are here set out for the information of readers of the *Bulletin*.

It will be seen that in almost all of the countries the Pharmacopœia is produced either under the direct supervision of one of the Departments of State or by a Committee appointed by the government for the purpose. The noteworthy exceptions are the United States of America and Great Britain. In the former country the Pharmacopœia is not produced under direct government authority but is accepted by the Government as a standard after its publication. In Great Britain the production of the Pharmacopœia is by Act of Parliament entrusted to the General Medical Council who in turn hand over the work to a Pharmacopœia Committee consisting of Members of the Council. There is at the time of writing a committee sitting in Great Britain which is enquiring into the methods of production of the Pharmacopœia with a view to seeing whether some alteration of the present method may not be desirable. It will be noticed that in

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\* From the *Bulletin de la Federation Internationale Pharmaceutique*.

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