

THE SERVICE OF PHARMACY.

THE PHARMACOPŒIAL CONVENTION OF 1930.

THE 1930 Convention should be an event in the life of every physician and pharmacist of this great country; for it brings into being the mighty movement of unparalleled importance to American medicine and to American pharmacy. The word "should" employed above is used advisedly. Even though the substitution of the words "is not" for "should be" expresses a close approximation of the truth, the fact still remains that the two or three hundred thousand persons interested in medicine and in pharmacy and the millions of patients and customers are enormously affected by the *raison d'être* of the Pharmacopœial Convention; the book that eventually emanates from the Committee of Revision: the United States Pharmacopœia. It is therefore earnestly hoped that both physicians and pharmacists take sufficient interest in the 1930 Convention to see that full delegations are appointed from each of the several authorized bodies; medical colleges and state medical associations, pharmacy colleges and state pharmaceutical associations; national associations, medical, pharmaceutical, dental and chemical; the various scientific bureaus of the national government; and that these delegations consist of representative men and women pledged to devote the time and money necessary for the trip to Washington and to the week of deliberations that will start the machinery producing U. S. P. XI.—H. V. Army, in October *American Druggist*.

PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY.

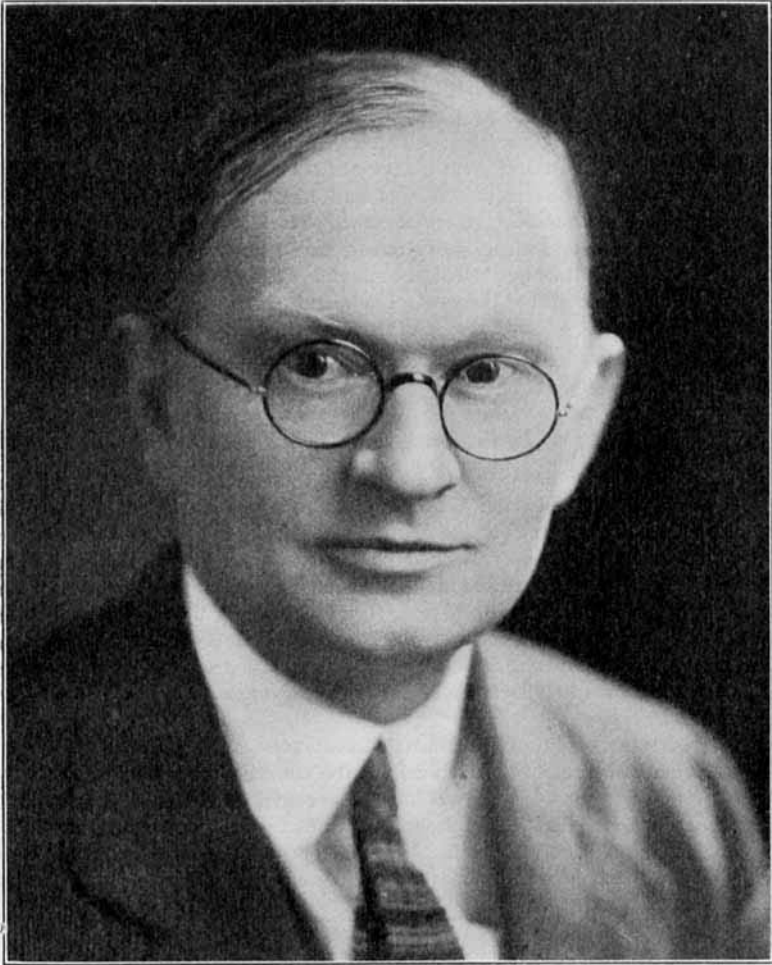
(From *International Health Year Book, 1928*.)

AS IN THE case of medicine and dentistry, the standards of pharmacy have also greatly advanced in the United States. Colleges of pharmacy were first organized in this country between 1820 and 1830. At that time and for many years later pharmacy was generally learned by the apprenticeship method. Prior to 1875, when the various states began to enact laws regulating the practice of pharmacy, anyone could establish and conduct a drug store. The number of colleges of pharmacy has gradually increased to more than 60, and the standards have advanced until graduation from high school and completion of not less than a three-year approved course in pharmacy are required by most states as prerequisite to examination for license.

"The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, an organization based upon high professional ideals, has aided in raising the standards of the profession. This ASSOCIATION now seventy-six years old, has also contributed to the improvement of the Pharmacopœia of the United States, the official standard for drugs and medicines, and it compiles and issues the National Formulary, which standardizes the non-official drugs and preparations in use by physicians, with respect to Latin titles and to formulæ."

VAUQUELIN CENTENARY.

LOUIS NICOLAS VAUQUELIN became director of the School of Pharmacy of Paris in 1803. We have a reference stating that in 1822 he left Paris and did not return until 1827; he died in 1829. "Wooten's Chronicals" record that Vauquelin was director of the School of Pharmacy until his death, in 1829. It seems that there is an error in one or the other statement, which should be corrected. He is best known to pharmacists for his investigations of belladonna, cinchona, ipecac and other alkaloidal drugs. Caventou was one of his many students, well known to pharmacy and chemistry. Vauquelin began work as porter in a Rouen pharmacy.



R. L. SWAIN.

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Robert Lee Swain, son of the late Rev. C. P. Swain and Martha H. Swain née Messick, was born at Redden, Sussex County, Del., September 29, 1887. After graduation from the Dover High School he entered the School of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland from which he graduated in 1909. Sometime after his graduation, Dr. Swain purchased a pharmacy in Sykesville, Md., which he conducted until 1927, when his other duties made it necessary to give up this activity.

Early in his professional career, organization activities gained Dr. Swain's interest and support and he has been a member of the Maryland Pharmaceutical Association and the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for many years. In the former, he held many committee appointments and, in 1925, was elected Editor of its official publication, the *Maryland Pharmacist*, which he has made an outstanding state journal. He has been a regular attendant at the meetings of the A. Ph. A., served for two years as President of its Baltimore Branch, was elected Vice-Chairman of the House of Delegates in 1928, and Chairman in 1929.

In 1920, upon recommendation of the state association, Governor Ritchie appointed Dr. Swain a member of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy and re-appointed him in 1925, since which time he has served as its Secretary-Treasurer. He has taken an active interest in the National Association Boards of Pharmacy and is now in charge of its latest added activity, the post-graduate instruction to be furnished by the Association to the board members.

When the enforcement of the Maryland laws affecting pharmacy was placed under the State Department of Health, following the membership of a pharmacist on the Board of Health, in 1922, Dr. Swain was elected Deputy Food and Drug Commissioner in charge of this enforcement, and has discharged this important office since that time. The experience gained in this work brought about his suggestion of the need for closer contacts between the pharmaceutical enforcement officials of the several states which led to the establishment at the 1929 meeting of the A. Ph. A. of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Law Enforcement Officials, of which he was elected the first Chairman.—E. F. K.