

of personnel in the Medical Department of the Army, which becomes "increasingly serious." The people of the United States will expect the Medical Department to adopt the most efficient methods for the conservation of the health and lives of our soldiers and of their families. The establishment of a Pharmacy Corps, as provided for in H. R. 16278, would meet one of the pressing needs of the organization of the Army. Congressman Clyde Kelly says:

"In the consideration of the proposal in Congress, it will be pertinent to remember that pharmacists must have special training in pharmacy. They must be graduates of a recognized pharmaceutical college, with some experience in retail and manufacturing pharmacy. They must have a special knowledge of medicinal drugs, chemicals, compounds, derivation, doses usual in the prescription uses of medicine and what are called the incompatibles. They must understand the methods of preparing mixtures and compounds of all kinds. They must know, for instance, how to prepare fluid and solid extracts, elixirs, sirups, pills, tablets, capsules, ampoules, etc. They must be able to supervise and direct such medicinally manufacturing work, to make proper inspection of material used and of the finished products and must be alert and dependable generally in their line of work."

A pharmacy corps organized as provided for in the measure before you will attract to the service this type of highly qualified pharmacist.

In our opinion, the present conditions surrounding the practice of pharmacy in the Army are highly unsatisfactory from the standpoint of the control and dispensing of drugs and medicines used in the maintenance and safeguarding of the health of the Army.

The Pharmaceutical Corps should be promptly organized to take up its various duties and to coördinate its work with that of the medical, dental, veterinary and nurse corps of the military service.

No doubt the experience of other nations will be duplicated in that the duties assigned to the pharmaceutical corps will rapidly increase and with such increase of duties the corps will grow in usefulness and importance. Eventually it may be placed in control of not only the providing, manufacturing and distributing of pharmaceutical and hospital supplies, but also, as in foreign countries, of the various hygienic, chemical, analytical and research laboratories of the Army.—February 20, 1929.

Respectfully submitted,

A. L. I. WINNE, *Chairman, Committee on Pharmacy Corps.*

THE MINNESOTA PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.*

BY FREDERICK J. WULLING.

The third annual meeting of the Minnesota Educational Conference was held at the College of Pharmacy on Monday, January 14th. So many inquiries concerning the nature and purpose of the Conference have reached me of late that I feel I should write this brief article, for the information of pharmacists of Minnesota as well as of elsewhere, although I have once before written about the Conference.

The Conference is a new organization having been established in the early Fall of 1927 for the purpose of carrying out the suggestions and offers of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. These two national bodies represent the regulatory and functional, and the educational interests, respectively, of pharmaceutical development. These national associations were organized to meet the increasing and accelerating need of doing many things collectively and coöperatively, that could not be done otherwise. The N. A. B. P. membership is made up of the Boards of Pharmacy of the several states, and the A. A. C. P. is composed of the recognized colleges of pharmacy. Many things which the growth and development of pharmacy required to be done, and which the separate boards and the separate colleges could not do as individual organizations, the two national bodies now do very successfully. While each of the national associations works primarily in its own field, there are so many points at which they have contact with one another, and so many over-lappings of activities and interests, that it became necessary for them to work together on many points, and accordingly, they have held joint meetings for a number of years now during the periods of their annual meetings. The

* Read at the first midwinter meeting of the Northwestern Branch of the A. Ph. A.

N. A. B. P. concerns itself primarily with the regulation of the practice of pharmacy and matters incident thereto; the A. A. C. P. with educational standards. Both of these activities have common points and interrelations. Both associations are working interestedly and successfully in the general interest of pharmacy, and for a better status for pharmacy. Each association works collectively as an association and in this work it utilizes the coöperation of its membership units. Every individual board is working and coöperating in its own state with the N. A. B. P. and every college of pharmacy of standing is working with and supporting in its particular region the A. A. C. P. Every board and every college, therefore, is now much better off than formerly, because it has the active assistance and support of the National Association which enable it, as experience has shown, to do much more satisfactory work and to be much more influential than was formerly possible.

The relations of the N. A. B. P. and the A. A. C. P. have become from the beginning increasingly cordial and effective, and their collective upward influence upon pharmacy, as a whole, has become a matter of pride and satisfaction, even though their respective separate activities and also their united work have hardly begun. In their united endeavor to increase the effectiveness of the separate boards and colleges, the two National Associations, suggested two or three years ago to their respective memberships that pharmacy could be greatly benefited if the colleges and boards of the separate states would join and coöperate in regional or state matters, as the two national associations now coöperate in the wider and more national sense. Minnesota pharmacists were, I believe, the first to recognize the wisdom of the suggestion and to act upon the suggestion which was also voiced at the N. A. B. P. regional meeting in District No. 4 at St. Paul, February 9, 1927, which meeting adopted a resolution that "the Board of Pharmacy of Minnesota meet with a joint committee consisting of faculty members of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota, and the Educational Committee of the M. S. P. A." The way having been paved, I invited the State Board of Pharmacy, the Educational Committee of the M. S. P. A., and the Executive Faculty of the College of Pharmacy to meet at the College of Pharmacy in July 1927, for the purpose of not only holding a joint meeting, but for the establishing of a definite organization. The July meeting was a brief one and preliminary to the meeting held at the College of Pharmacy on Oct. 10th. At this meeting I suggested the organization of a permanent Conference rather than of an association, and that the structure of the Conference should consist of three major units: (1) the entire Board of Pharmacy, (2) the Educational Committee of the M. S. P. A., and (3) the Executive Faculty of the College of Pharmacy. The meeting embodied this in a motion which was unanimously carried and thus the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Educational Conference was born.

At that first meeting of the Conference it was decided by unanimous votes that each of the composing units shall have one vote irrespective of the number of members making up the respective units; that the only officers of the Conference be a Chairman and a Secretary, and that the Chairman be the current Chairman of the M. S. P. A. Educational Committee, and the Secretary the current Secretary of the State Board of Pharmacy; that a record be spread upon the minutes embodying the general recognition of the existence in Minnesota for many years of amity, friendly coöperation and mutual good-will among all pharmaceutical bodies and interests; that the conference hold annual meetings in January during the week in which the Board of Pharmacy meets, and at other times as necessity may dictate, and that the meetings be held in the College of Pharmacy; that the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Educational Conference was created not upon the initiative of its component units, but upon the suggestion of the N. A. B. P. and the A. A. C. P. that joint meetings of boards and faculties be held in each state for the purpose of pharmaceutical advancement.

Other actions and discussions related to board and faculty questions and how these could be improved through mutual and reciprocal helpfulness. It was also voted to give the fullest support to the now well recognized tendency to raise the board examinations to the standard of the college examinations as rapidly as the practical aspects of the general pharmaceutical situation, with which the boards have to contend, make it possible. The agreement was made and emphasized that it should be well understood that the organization is only a conference and that its motions and actions, for the present have no binding or legal effect upon the component units, but that nevertheless the utmost attention to and compliance with the actions of the Conference should be observed by the three units composing it.