

The Minneapolis Executive Committee in charge of arrangements for N. A. R. D. meeting.

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE.

THE SMOOT BILL—S. 1468 SEEKS TO AMEND THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Senate Bill No. 1468 seeks to amend the Food and Drugs Act, including tobacco, and control of advertising. As printed in the Congressional Record of June 10th, the Bill reads:

Whereas the manufacture and sale of tobacco products are matters that affect the public health and welfare of millions of our population; and

Whereas various drug products are contained in tobacco; and

Whereas, because tobacco now abandoned as a medicinal agent is no longer classified as a drug, and thus escapes, through a technicality, the controls set up in the food and drugs act adopted by Congress for the protection of public health; and

Whereas public health would be better served by empowering the Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture to exercise the same control over false and deceptive statements made through advertising media, that it now exerts in preventing the use of false and deceptive statements, designs, or devices made on containers or labels: Now, therefore

Be it enacted, etc., That the food and drugs act, June 30, 1906, as amended August 23, 1912; March 3, 1913; March 4, 1913; July 24, 1919; and January 18, 1927, be, and is hereby, further amended as follows:

The words "food or drug," "food or drugs," or "food and drugs," as the case may be, wherever they occur in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 11 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768), as

amended, are changed to read "food, drug, tobacco, or tobacco products."

SEC. 2. Section 6 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"The term 'tobacco' means the leaves of the plant *Nicotiana tabacum*. The term 'tobacco products' means the products from tobacco prepared for smoking, chewing or snuffing."

SEC. 3. Section 7 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"In the case of tobacco:

"If it contains any added deleterious or added poisonous substance."

SEC. 4. The first general paragraph of section 8 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768) is amended to read as follows:

"That the term 'misbranded,' as used herein, shall apply to all drugs, articles of food, tobacco or tobacco products, or articles which enter into the composition of food or tobacco products, the package or label of which shall bear any statement, design or device regarding such article, or the ingredients or substances contained therein, which shall be false or misleading in any particular, and of any food, drug products, tobacco or tobacco products which is falsely branded as to State, Territory or country in which it is manufactured or produced."

Sec. 5. Section 8 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768) is hereby further amended by adding immediately following paragraph third of the section beginning "in ease of drugs," the following new paragraph:

"Fourth. If, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, it or they, or the ingredients or substances contained therein, are falsely or deceptively advertised, represented or described, or if the curative or therapeutic effects of a product or the ingredients or substances contained therein are falsely and fraudulently advertised, represented or described."

SEC. 6. Section 8 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768) is hereby further amended by adding immediately following at the end of the second proviso of paragraph 4 "in the case of food" a new paragraph as follows:

"Fifth. If, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, it or they or the ingredients or substances contained therein are falsely or deceptively advertised, represented or described."

Sec. 7. Section 8 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768), as amended, is further amended

by adding immediately after the complete new section dealing with drugs the following new section dealing with tobacco or tobacco prodnets:

"In the case of tobacco or tobacco products: "First. If labeled or branded so as to deceive or mislead the purchaser or purport to be a foreign product when not so or if the contents of the package as originally put up shall have been removed in whole or in part or other contents shall have been placed in such package.

"Second. If the package containing it or them or its or their label shall bear or contain any statement, design or device regarding the ingredients or substances contained therein which statement, design or device shall be false or misleading in any particular.

"Third. If, in any manner or by any means whatsoever it or they or the ingredients or substances contained therein are falsely or deceptively advertised, represented or described."

SEC. 8. The words "food, drug or liquor" in the first line of Section 10 of the act of June 30, 1906 (34 Stat. 768) be changed to read "food, drug, liquor, tobacco or tobacco products."

THE INCREASED DUTY ON BLACK-STRAP MOLASSES AFFECTS THE PRICE OF ALCOHOL.

The Senate will reconvene August 19th. Information relating to the effect of increased duty on blackstrap molasses on the price of alcohol will be gained by reading an address in Congress by Representative Hudson; copy may be obtained by addressing Secretary E. L. Newcomb, 51 Maiden Lane, New York City. The following is reprinted from N. W. D. A. Bulletin, No. 179:

"While the allied alcohol-using trades were able to prevent the amendment of the Tariff Bill in the House of Representatives so as to provide an increase in the duty on blackstrap molasses from one-sixth of one per cent per gallon to eight cents, which would have meant an increase in the cost of alcohol to the consuming industries of 25 or 30 cents per gallon, they are now faced by a similar threat in the Senate Finance Committee. Senator Broussard of Louisiana, representing the sugar producers of that state, has introduced an amendment raising the duty on blackstrap molasses intended for the distillation of alcohol to four cents per gallon which would represent an increase in the distillery cost of industrial spirits of approximately 11 cents per gallon, or the equivalent of 15 or 16 cents per gallon in the price to be paid by consuming manufacturers.

"All our members should immediately address telegrams to Hon. Reed Smoot, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and to their own Senators protesting urgently against the proposed increase in the duty on blackstrap molasses intended for the distillation of alcohol. The Broussard amendment will be strongly urged in the alleged interest of the farming community on the ground that it would compel the distillers to use corn instead of molasses in the production of alcohol. Such a substitution is wholly impracticable and even if it were possible it would involve the scrapping of many million dollars of alcohol plants and the removal of all distilleries from the seaboard to the corn-growing regions. Incidentally it would so increase the cost of alcohol as to make its use prohibitory for many purposes, including the manufacture of anti-freeze mixtures for automobiles."

REVISION OF LAWS ON NARCOTICS PLANNED.

Representative Porter, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, conferred at the Department of Justice July 13th regarding details of a new proposed law covering narcotics which Mr. Porter is drafting for consideration by Congress. Mr. Porter stated that there are several problems involved in the drafting of such a law, including the rights of states in connection with the enforcement of narcotic laws.

Mr. Porter is also conferring with representatives of the Departments of State and Treasury.

One feature of the new measure, Representative Porter said, will be the separation of the work of enforcing the law regarding narcotics from the Bureau of Prohibition.

"It is a matter of sufficient importance now, this question of narcotics enforcement," he continued, "that it should no longer be a subordinate branch and should not be tied up with the enforcement of prohibition. It should be a separate and distinct bureau."

He said that the measure now in course of drafting is a revision of the narcotic laws to be introduced at the regular session of Congress. "I have been working on it," he said, "for two months with a view to making the narcotic laws of the country more efficient and to overcome difficulties that have developed during the last eight or ten years.

"I will have the bill ready for action by Congress when the House meets in December and the committees are organized for that regular session," he said.

The foregoing interview reported in the Press has interest for pharmacists, all of whom are desirous of aiding narcotic control, and always have; in fact, they have been leaders in such movements, and will doubtless, be consulted by Mr. Porter.

"PHARMACY" DESIGNATES STORE IN WHICH A REGISTERED PHARMACIST IS EMPLOYED.

The new Texas pharmacy law requires that the word "pharmacy" be displayed in or on the front of a drug store in which a registered pharmacist is regularly employed. It is unlawful to display the sign in which no registered pharmacist is regularly employed; towns of less than 500 population are exempted.

BOOK REVIEW.

Industrial Carbon. C. L. MANTELL, Ph.D., Pratt Institute. pp. vii + 410. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., N. Y., 1928. \$4.50. One of the publishers' additions to their series of Industrial Chemical Monographs, edited by H. E. Howe.

The author has contributed a noteworthy addition to the technical literature on carbon and carbon products, having incorporated valuable data otherwise accessible only from diversified sources. Among the twenty-nine chapters devoted to the industrial uses, manufacture and specific applications of carbon, there is considerable material of practical value to the pharmaceutical chemist.

The writer, starting with the subject of Diamonds, continues down through Natural Graphites, Lubricating Graphites, Manufacture of Lampblack, Decolorizing Carbon, Pharmaceutical Charcoal, Carbon Specialties, Gas Absorbent Charcoal, etc., and concludes with a chapter on the making of "Lead" Pencils. Historical details are presented in an interesting manner and numerous halftones have been included.

The chapter dealing with Artificial Graphite contains several erroneous conclusions in view of recent X-ray researches concerning the physical constitution of graphite. The book as a whole well merits its position in the forth-coming Monographs on Industrial Chemistry.

Simon Mendelsohn.