

# THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY

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DEPARTMENT.

## ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY.

BY ANDREW G. DUMEZ.

The conditions surrounding the practice of pharmacy in this country at the present time are so well known to all of you that it would be imposing on your good nature to detail them here. Suffice it to say that pharmacy, in its various phases, is now in the midst of a period of transition which began some forty years ago and the end of which is not yet in sight. We know, definitely, that the old order is passing and we lament its departure, yet no concerted or systematic effort has been made to determine what the future will bring forth.



A. G. DUMEZ.

We, as pharmaceutical educators, are especially concerned with the future, because the successful prosecution of our work makes it imperative for us to anticipate the times that are to come. We have assumed the responsibility of preparing the young men and women who come to us to-day to meet the conditions which will prevail to-morrow; and unless we can show a fair measure of success in the attainment of this objective, we must be held incompetent and unworthy of the confidence which has been placed in us.

Our first and most important task as an organized body is, therefore, as I see it, to make a study to determine as accurately as is humanly possible the probable status of pharmacy in the immediate future. With the criteria established by this study in hand, we will be in a position to move intelligently toward a decision in certain matters that are now giving us trouble, particularly the development of a proper pharmaceutical curriculum and better courses of instruction. The creation of the machinery to make these developments effective will necessarily follow if the desired uniformity in results is to be obtained.

In our endeavor to forecast the future, we must not be guided alone by present indications, but we must also give due consideration to the events which have already transpired. It is the past that will reveal the causes for present conditions and the influences which have made these causes operative. It is the past, likewise, that will show us the pitfalls to be guarded against in any forward movement.

The guideposts of the times which indicate the nature of future developments are the present trends in the practice of our calling and the allied professions. These are before us and the more pronounced are easily discernible. It takes no great amount of intelligence or study, for instance, to perceive that our *materia medica* is changing—some of the older drugs and preparations, which had fallen into desuetude because of our inability to offer a sound scientific explanation of their physiological activity, have, as a result of recent investigations, regained their popularity; others have been discarded by the medical practitioner for the newer synthetic organic chemicals, serums and vaccines, organ products, *et cetera*. It likewise requires no unusual powers of perception to comprehend that the adoption of modern methods of store management and merchandising are essential to present-day success. There are other trends, however, still in the incipient stage, not so readily distinguishable; but which may develop into factors of great importance. I cite, as an example, a development in the practice of medicine, which, although quite evident, has as yet received but little attention from us, namely, the establishment of health centers. I can conceive of the time, not so far distant in the future, when there will be one or more centers of this kind in every county and municipality in this country. I can also visualize in each of these establishments a highly educated and well-trained pharmacist, provided we can demonstrate to the public that this is essential for their best interests. But we must begin to lay our plans now if we are to progress, and therein lies the importance of bringing to light and subjecting to study even the seemingly insignificant movements of to-day which may be the forerunners of definite and permanent changes tomorrow. Any study of present conditions to be of real value must be all inclusive. The trends that are not so easily discernible must be considered along with those very much in evidence. All must be carefully analyzed and their relative importance determined.

The foregoing admonition with reference to the care that should be exercised in making the study of present-day conditions and movements applies with equal force to the investigation of the past. All available records should be collected and examined, not only by members of our own group, but by experts in other lines of work, in order that the conclusions reached may be unbiased. It is only by a coöperative study of this kind that we can be reasonably assured of avoiding mistakes in attaching the proper significance to past events and the causes leading up to them. I emphasize this point because I have had considerable experience in investigational work and realize how difficult it is to arrive at the correct conclusion when the data under consideration are of such a nature that several interpretations are possible and the sympathies of the investigator are with the cause he is serving.

I have taken this somewhat lengthy course of presenting to you my notion of what we, pharmaceutical educators, are most in need of at this time to guide us in the future development of our schools, because the survey which we have sponsored jointly with the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy and the American Pharmaceutical Association is not yet under way, and because I believe that, these are the studies which should receive first consideration in any plan that may finally be evolved. I am fully aware of the fact that other studies will have to be made to give us the composite picture desired; but I am also convinced that the

foregoing studies are fundamental and that any survey made without including them will be superficial and have little permanent value.

Another matter, equal in importance to that of making the studies comprising the survey and which should be considered along with them, is the creation of an organization for making effective the criteria which will be established by these studies. In my opinion many of the benefits which might have been derived from the Charters' Report have not been realized, principally because the means for carrying out the many excellent suggestions contained therein was not provided. We cannot afford a similar outcome in the case of the survey, therefore we should proceed at once to provide the machinery which will enable us to reap its full benefits when available. A committee formed along the lines of the American Council on Medical Education or the American Council on Dental Education and endowed with similar powers would appear to be the type of organization best suited to accomplish this purpose. Such an organization, if set up at this time, would not have to wait until the survey was completed to begin functioning, but could get to work at once on the standards which we have already adopted and in directing the work of the survey.

It has been a real disappointment to me that the actual work of the survey did not get started this year, as I had set for myself the task of pushing it forward to a beginning during my term of office. However, the creation of a proper organization for control, the planning of the work and the matter of securing the necessary funds to carry it out has taken more time than I had anticipated. Although disappointed in not having achieved my ultimate aim, I am consoled in a measure by the belief that definite progress has been made.

Since the close of our last annual meeting, we have secured a reliable, nationally known body to sponsor the work, namely, The American Council on Education; we have perfected an organization to take charge of the survey; we have reached a tentative decision on the nature and scope of the studies to be made; and we have made a dignified effort to obtain outside assistance to bring our funds up to the estimated amount which will be required to complete all of the work as planned. It is still too early to announce the results of the last-mentioned activity on our part, as the foundations having funds available for assistance in work of this kind move slowly and not all of those approached have as yet been heard from in a definite way.

Even though we should ultimately be unsuccessful in raising funds from sources outside of the three organizations sponsoring the survey, it is my opinion that the studies of major importance should be begun without further delay. I feel that the organizations referred to will find the means somehow to finance the entire project as time goes on. Nothing would please me more than to have my successor in office announce at the end of his year of service that the work of making this survey had actually been started.

Although I have emphasized our activities in connection with the survey of pharmacy, I would not have you gain the impression that your committeemen and officers have not been active in other directions as well. So far as I have been able to determine, all of our standing and special committees have been functioning, as you will learn from their respective reports when received in the regular order of business. Your officers, likewise, have endeavored to discharge all of the

duties given them by specific act of this body and, in addition, they have participated in the furtherance of the interests of other pharmaceutical organizations whenever the occasion seemed to warrant it.

Our Association became a constituent member of the American Council on Education in the early part of this year, and for the first time in its history it was represented by duly appointed delegates at the annual convention of that organization. Your officers and the committee appointed for the purpose took an active part in drafting and promoting the introduction into Congress of the bill which has for its purpose the establishment of a Pharmacy Corps in the Medical Department of the United States Army. An active part was also taken in the redrafting of the Parker Bill, which would authorize the reorganization of the United States Public Health Service, and in which provision is made for commissioning pharmacists; also several conferences have been held with the Director of Field Survey of the Personnel Classification Board at Washington relative to the classification of pharmacists in the so-called Field Services of the Federal Government. Taken all in all, I feel that we have had a busy year.

By way of conclusion, I have seven recommendations to make. The first three have to do with the survey discussed; the fourth, fifth and sixth suggest the action which I would like to see this organization take with reference to measures now pending for the improvement of the status of pharmacists in the Government Service; and the seventh deals with an amendment to our By-Laws which would definitely authorize the Executive Committee to transact the business of the Association during the interim between meetings. They are as follows:

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. It is recommended that the three representatives of the Association now serving on the Joint Committee on Survey be continued in office until the work of the survey is completed and that definite provisions for their reappointment be made at this time.

2. It is recommended that action be taken at this time to define the scope of the survey, or that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee with power to act, in order that our representatives on the Joint Committee may be instructed with regard to the wishes of the Association on this point.

3. It is recommended that the Association consider in a preliminary way at this time the creation of an American Council on Pharmaceutical Education, so that we may have in readiness an organization to make effective the work of the survey when completed. It is suggested that this council be formed along the lines of the American Council on Dental Education; but that it be composed of nine instead of fifteen members, three to be appointed by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, three by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy and three by the American Pharmaceutical Association.

4. It is recommended that the Association renew its endorsement of the proposal to amend the National Defense Act to provide for the establishment of a Pharmacy Corps in the Medical Department of the United States Army.

5. It is recommended that the Association endorse the Parker Bill as redrafted and that it take an active part in securing its passage by the United States Congress.

6. It is recommended that provisions be made at this meeting for sending representatives to a hearing on the classification of pharmacists in the Field Services of the Federal Government to be held by the Director of Field Survey of the Personnel Classification Board in Washington in the near future.

7. It is recommended that Article I of the By-Laws of the Association be amended to give definite authority to the Executive Committee to transact the business of the Association during the interim between meetings.

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ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS OF SCIENTIFIC SECTION, A. PH. A., RAPID CITY MEETING.

"Report on a Splendid Example of Co-operative Research," by Josiah C. Peacock.

Pharmacy's participation in coöperative research program on tuberculosis by the National Tuberculosis Association presented together with findings to date.

"A Comparison of Methods for Demonstrating Healing of Rickets in the Biological Test for Vitamin D," by C. F. Church and J. R. Lockwood.

Various methods of demonstrating rickets and healing in the bones of rats employed in the biological test for vitamin D are compared by means of results from a series of experiments. The methods include X-ray photographs, line test and stained histological sections.

"Assimilation of Vitamin A when Dissolved in Liquid Petrolatum," by B. Mouess and W. G. Christiansen.

Dutcher found vitamin A as butter fat dissolved in mineral oil solution ineffective when fed to rats. Authors report cod liver concentrate dissolved in liquid petrolatum was effective to rats.

"The Vitamin Potency of Various Grades of Cod Liver Oil," by W. S. Jones and W. G. Christiansen.

Cod liver oils were obtained from the same lot of cod livers at various ages and tested for vitamin A and D activity. Oil from fresh livers was most potent, and the activity of various grades decreased with increased exposure to liver tissue, water and air.

"The Effect of Certain Hypoglycemic Drugs upon the Seedlings of *Lupinus Albus*," by John C. Krantz, Jr.

The toxicity of insulin, Abel's insulin crystals, synthalin, neo-synthalin, glucorment and myrtillin were studied.

"The Bioassay of Capsicum and Chillies," by James C. Munch.

In an effort to make the U. S. P. test a quantitative bioassay, a large number of

variables have been studied. Piperine has been found serviceable as a standard. The variability of reaction of 100 humans has been determined, and a number of samples of crude drugs and of oleoresin of capsicum have been assayed. Solutions differing by 5 per cent in capsicum content have been readily distinguished.

"The Anthelmintic Qualities of Pepo and Cucurbita Pepo," by James S. Neley and Edward D. Davy.

The anthelmintic qualities are shown to be positive in both seeds and fruit when tested with earthworms. Fermentation of the sugar present results in an increase in killing time. Four different sugars in 5 per cent solution had no effect on the worms.

"Notes on Cascara Sagrada," by Milford J. Harris and Edward D. Davy.

Crystalline material reported as glucoside, or lactone, by different workers was isolated without the use of a precipitant, acid or alkali, and was found to be emodin. The emodin had no laxative qualities but the water-soluble resinous material continued to be highly active, but griping. A fluidextract made from the same drug had no griping action.

"The New Remedy Business: Its Uses and Abuses," by F. E. Stewart.

Discusses development of New Remedies from Philadelphia Centennial in 1876 showing effect of practice of pharmacy and efforts of various associations in this connection.

"The Assay of Pancreatin," by F. E. Willson.

A modification of the Smith-Sorensen method for the determination of tryptic activity of Pancreatin is suggested. The end-point obtained is very definite and results tend to show that greater accuracy can be obtained than with other methods. Data on the effect of hydrogen-ion control of the casein solution used in the method is given.