

EDITORIAL

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DOING THE BEST WE CAN WITH WHAT WE HAVE.

PERHAPS everyone will admit that if we magnified our profession to the fullest we would have a relatively greater appreciation of it; and, as a result, its opportunities would be developed to a greater extent, and as a further result—the public could have a better understanding of its worth. There are few industries to which pharmacy has not directly or indirectly contributed; in most of the divisions of science and art pharmacy has a part; certainly pharmacy has contributed largely to the achievements of medicine.

A few weeks ago, in the *New York Times*, the daughter of our late life-long member, Dr. Frederick B. Power, replied to an article which spoke with rightful enthusiasm of the success in the treatment of leprosy, but no mention was made of her father's work that developed the products that made administration of the remedial agent possible. In the article noticed by Mrs. Heimke, on "The National Institute of Health," reference is made to the beginnings of the Hygienic Laboratory, in the following quoted paragraph:

"It was for checking up on medical products of the kind that came from such discoveries as Pasteur's and Lister's that a governmental agency which evolved into the present establishment was set up in New York in the '80s. The supervisory agency was transformed into the Hygienic Laboratory, with headquarters in Washington, early in the century. It still keeps a watchful eye on vaccines, serums and toxins, and other such products made for interstate distribution, making the investigations that guide the Secretary of the Treasury in licensing the distribution of such preparations. Places of production are inspected regularly, and tests of products are made to see that proper standards are maintained."

The place of pharmacy is readily seen in this research; looking back and forth and into the present developments one cannot fail to recognize the importance and possibilities of pharmacy, and in this work the retail pharmacies and other divisions of the drug industry share in the medical research. It is true that the facilities and purposes of the clinical, research and manufacturing laboratories are outstanding, but those who know pharmacy are aware that in the pharmacies of to-day, as in the times of Scheele, Liebig, Caventou, etc., discoveries have been made and are being made that add to the common fund of medical research and science, and the sources are often forgotten or credited elsewhere.

This brings us to the purpose of the comment. Everywhere pharmacists, druggists and manufacturers contribute, as they should, to the advancement of their home cities and institutions, and by large gifts and provisions in their wills give to worthy causes; in some of which the memorial which they sought to perpetuate becomes hidden or neglected. The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has always safe-guarded and carried out the provisions of its trust funds and it always will.

The American Institute of Pharmacy should have a large endowment for its activities. Here, those who have acquired wealth in the drug industry have opportunities for memorials, expressive of their appreciation and valuation of

pharmacy, and those whose means are more modest can have a share in the great undertaking in which their names, or those they desire to memorialize, will be placed on record with others who have shared in the development of American pharmacy. It is hoped that this brief comment will be given serious thought and result in valuing pharmacy at its best, so that the means afforded can be used to extend the possibilities of pharmacy. Without fully understanding or appreciating the need of pharmacy—the benefits it has given to the world—the right estimate cannot be placed upon its usefulness, and upon its usefulness depends its value in a practical way.

In closing, we express appreciation of the altruism evidenced and coöperation declared in the resolution adopted by our "sister" organization, or shall we say "daughter"—the National Association of Retail Druggists—at its recent annual meeting in Atlantic City; it follows:

PHARMACY ENDOWMENT.

WHEREAS, many large fortunes have been built largely through sales in retail drug stores and through other pharmaceutical activities, and

WHEREAS, the possessors of many of these fortunes have not been made acquainted with the endowment needs of pharmacy at a time when they were planning the disposition of their wealth, with the result that the proportion devoted to pharmacy, as compared to other professions and causes, is not in keeping with its importance and with its services to humanity, and

WHEREAS, the needs of the American Institute of Pharmacy in Washington, of the many schools and colleges of pharmacy throughout the land, of the necessary researches and surveys in the professional and economic phases of pharmacy, particularly in the improvement of standards, and of proper publicity for pharmacy, are very great and pressing if the profession is to fully discharge its obligations, and

WHEREAS, such endowments would not only place pharmacy in a position conforming to its importance, but would also enable it to increase its contributions to the comfort and safety of life, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and timely that it be explained in a dignified but forceful manner, that a proper proportion of the means made in pharmacy should be devoted to its advancement, *therefore, be it*

Resolved, by the National Association of Retail Druggists that its incoming president appoint a committee of five members who shall acquaint our members with the needs of pharmacy and coöperate with them and with other associations, in making contacts with the men of large means in their respective communities to the end that these various pharmaceutical activities may receive the financial assistance that they require and deserve.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL.

BEGINNING on February 22, 1932, and continuing until Thanksgiving Day of the same year, the bicentennial of the birth of George Washington will be observed. Congress has provided for a commission, officially known as the "United States Commission for the Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington," of which the President of the United States is the *chairman*, and associated with him are men and women of prominence. The Associate Directors, under whose management the plans are being organized and directed are Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant (3rd), and Representative Sol Bloom, of New York.

It is not the intention of this comment to discuss the celebration at length; the program, in preparation, will enlist the interest of every American, and the cele-

bration will extend to every village, town and hamlet in the country. It is to be nation-wide in its scope—the most far-flung and all-inclusive observance ever undertaken by this country.

An important feature of the general program involves the making of a great motion picture, depicting the life and principal events in the career of George Washington. In the making of the picture the producers will utilize every modern adjunct of the motion picture art, and accuracy is the aim in all historical depiction. The development in the arts, sciences, etc., will, as far as this is possible, be shown by comparison; the pursuit of the industries, and men of the times will be brought into the picture, and related literature will deal with 18th century activities and the present.

The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION is making preparations for the erection of its Headquarters Building—the American Institute of Pharmacy. The hope is expressed that there will be liberal contributions to its Museum and Library during the lifetime of the donors and provisions made in wills, so that their names may be kept in remembrance and their gifts perpetually serve a useful purpose. The building site is near the Arlington Memorial Bridge which, with its approaches, is the monumental entrance into Arlington Cemetery, connecting it with the Mall.

On page 1041 of this issue an effort has been made to connect up pharmacy of Washington's time with the events of that period. The U. S. Pharmacopœia came into existence through the efforts of Lyman Spalding after Washington's death, but Dr. Spalding's earlier activities, during which period the ideas developed that led to the establishment of a national standard, preceded the passing of George Washington. The Military Pharmacopœia, prepared by Dr. William Brown, served a useful purpose in the American Army; on the page mentioned is a picture of the building in which Apothecary-General Andrew Craigie had his office. In 1829, Christopher Marshall, one of the "fighting Quakers," established a drug business in Philadelphia; his "Remembrances" is one of the most interesting and important of the contemporary records of the period covering the War of Independence. Before graduating in medicine and taking up its practice, as practitioner and member of a Philadelphia medical faculty, Dr. Morgan had been apothecary at the Pennsylvania Hospital. After he returned from Europe, where he had completed his medical studies, he declared in his lectures, in his addresses and in his writings, that physicians should prescribe medicines, and pharmacists should prepare them. During several years he was Director-General and Physician-in-Chief of the General Hospital of the American Army.

General Mercer's Apothecary Shop in Fredericksburg, Va., has been restored. The friendship and esteem of Washington and Mercer, one for the other, is of record; the former had his desk in Mercer's Apothecary shop. A sketch of Dr. William Brown by Bessie Wilmarth Gahn, a lineal descendant, and Dr. Lyman F. Keble is printed in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for November 1927, page 1090. Related biographical sketches appear in the following volumes of the JOURNAL: Apothecary-General Craigie, January and February 1928; Lyman Spalding, August 1917; General Hugh Mercer, June 1926; Dr. John Morgan, June 1923.

The United States Commission referred to is seeking related information on apothecaries, apothecary shops, etc., American pharmaceutical literature of that

period and, in an effort to be helpful, we are asking all of our readers and members of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to assist us by contributing to this wonderful celebration, so pharmacy may have a place in it. The ASSOCIATION also hopes that pharmacy will be well represented at the Chicago Exposition in 1933; therefore part of the donations received will serve a double purpose.

AGENCIES FOR INCREASING THE USEFULNESS AND EFFICIENCY OF PHARMACEUTICAL ENDEAVOR.

TWO conferences have, in recent years, been established, which serve as agencies for increasing the service and efficiency of state pharmaceutical organizations—a growing interest by and for these will result in corresponding usefulness. Reference is made to the Conference of Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries, and the Conference of Pharmaceutical Law Enforcement Officials. Both of these conferences meet at the same time and place as the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The purpose of these bodies is to bring together—annually, for round table discussions and for other means of acquiring information—the secretaries of various state and local pharmaceutical associations and, in a separate group, those who have to do with enforcement of drug and pharmacy laws. The interchange of ideas and debate adds to the knowledge of the individual and enables him to better carry out his duties, and put into practice the methods which he deems advantageous and followed by his co-workers in other states.

The success of any organization is largely dependent upon the initiative, energy, ability and enthusiasm of its secretary. If he is new in the office he will be helped for the Association's good by the experienced counsel of other secretaries attending the Conference; if he has been long in service he may need the inspiration and new ideas of his younger associates!

What is implied in the foregoing has related application to those who have to do with law enforcement. New ideas are gained by hearing others discuss problems affecting law and legislation, by bringing about greater uniformity in enactment and enforcement. Members of both bodies profit by the opportunities afforded by inter-association, by attending the meetings of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and the sections of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. If the potential value of these Conferences were known to all pharmacists it would result in insistence that secretaries become members of the one and that delegates be designated for membership in the other. These Conferences provide effective means for initiating and promoting helpful policies, and their usefulness will be greatly enhanced by representative membership from all states and by the encouragement of those served.

The transactions of the bodies for 1930 will be found in the July number and in this issue of the JOURNAL. Careful study of these minutes will acquaint the readers with the importance of these conferences and impress the possibilities of these organizations for serving pharmacy and the drug-trade activities.

PHARMACISTS SHOULD BE UPSTANDING, INDEPENDENT FACTORS IN ECONOMIC LIFE.

PARTS OF AN ADDRESS BY GLENN FRANK, PRESIDENT UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN,
GOLDEN JUBILEE MEETING, WISCONSIN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

I am a little at sea in addressing pharmacists, even in this brief and informal manner. I hardly know whether to talk about pharmaceutical science or retail distribution. I realize that, as merchandizers, you are professionally passing through a difficult transition. The hard time the apothecary is having to hold his own in the day of the drug store, with its bewildering miscellany of wares, does not make him unique among the rest of us. All trades and all professions are under the same stress of transition. We are in an age marked by increasing centralization in all fields of enterprise. The transfer to centralized laboratories of the work that the old apothecary did in his independent shop is simply part of the widespread centralizing tendency of our time. I have been saying to the retailers and to the farmers of Wisconsin that it behooves us to look facts in the face, whether we like them or not, and, if centralization is inevitable, not to delude ourselves into thinking that simply shouting about the glory of the old individualism will help us much, but set about the devising of ways and means of meeting the centralizing tendency of the time.

The American historian of the future will, I suspect, say that the decade from 1925 to 1935 saw the death struggles of an old individualism and the birth-throes of a new groupism throughout the economic life of America, a culmination that had its roots, of course, in earlier years. The symbol of the old America was the pioneer with his emphasis upon individualism. The symbol of the new America is the corporation with its insistence on group action. I do not attempt here to pass judgment on this tendency. I simply record it.

Evidence of this transition from individualism to group action lies so plainly on the surface of American life that he who runs may read. More and more all phases of American life tend to follow the principle of combination. More and more the chance, the choice and the conduct of the individual American is determined by associations, organizations and combinations. A lush growth of legal corporations is seen on all hands. Gigantic mergers are the order of the day. Popular opinion regarding the Sherman Anti-Trust Law is less riotous than it once was, if, indeed, it has not reversed itself. Factories, utilities, railways, banks, stores; theatres, newspapers—all head toward larger and larger operating units through merger and syndication. And where direct merger is impossible, a hundred and one indirect means of interlocking the fortunes of smaller units of enterprise are resorted to. More than three-fourths of the capitalization of all the banks in the United States is to-day lodged in the hands of a dozen financial concerns. This control of three-fourths of America's bank capitalization implies at least a marked influence on the credit policies of the remaining fourth.

The upshot of all this is that American life daily drifts away from the old individualism toward a new groupism. Some of the most astute and liberal intelligences of our time are convinced that this drift is inevitable, and that legislation can do little more than to heckle and harass its advance. I find John Dewey, for in-

stance, saying, "Political control may be needed, but the movement cannot be arrested by legislation. . . . The forces at work in this movement are too vast and complex to cease operation at the behest of legislation." I agree with Dr. Dewey. Unless I am far afield in judgment, the America of to-morrow will act through highly organized groups. Whether we like it or not, this seems clearly in the cards.

The problem that must now be faced is this: What is to be the nature of the control of this group action? As I see it, that control can be either of two types. It can be a feudalized control or it can be a federated control.

A feudalized control will mean an ever narrower control by the few. It will mean that the individual merchant must surrender to chain systems controlled by a few owners from a few centers. It will mean that banks, factories, theatres, newspapers and the other basic enterprises of our time must follow suit. In some fields this feudalized control may be not only necessary but salutary; but anything like a wholesale application of it to the total economic life of the nation will mean not only the death of the old individualism but of all individualism.

There is the alternative of a federated control of this inevitable group action. I mean control by the federated action of otherwise independent units of enterprise. I mean the sort of control exercised by the United Grocers on the Pacific Coast, who, by pooling their resources and their resourcefulness, have beaten the chain stores at their own game, without surrendering any of the essential virtues of their former isolated independence. Federated control of group action means taking advantage of all the benefits of group organization without submitting to the tyrannies of a new feudalism. It means the death of the old individualism, yes! But it means the birth of a new individualism surrounded by the protection of coöperative strength.

All this has direct bearing upon a problem the pharmacists of Wisconsin face. And the point toward which I have been leading is simply this: If the pharmacists of Wisconsin find themselves facing an increasingly difficult competition from chain drug stores, there is no reason why, as independent pharmacists, they should surrender to this competition, or cease to be upstanding, independent factors in the economic life of this Commonwealth, because there is no feudalized control in America that cannot be matched by a federated control through the joint action of independent Americans.



LABORATORY OF APOTHECARY
D'AILLY.

Joseph Bienaimé Caventou carried on an important pharmaceutical business in Paris for many years. His fame rests largely on his association with Joseph Pelletier in the discovery of quinine in 1820. The latter was one of the most brilliant workers in pharmacy. The picture herewith is from an old oil painting and shows the factory in which quinine was manufactured soon after its discovery by Caventou and Pelletier. It is of interest at this time because of the 300th Cinchona Anniversary, to be celebrated by the Missouri Botanical Gardens this fall.