EDITORIAL NOTES

Editor: E. G. EBERLE, 10 West Chase Street, Baltimore, Md.

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GERMAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

The German Pharmaceutical Society was organized November 6, 1890, and celebrated its fortieth anniversary on November 9, 1930. Commemorating the occasion Dr. Paul Siedler has dedicated a memorial volume to Prof. Dr. Hermann Thoms, one of the founders of the Society and a leader in pharmaceutical advancement. He is an honorary member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and American pharmacists will recall his visit in this country several years ago—a sketch of the eminent scholar and pharmacist will be found in the July JOURNAL A. PH. A., 1923, page 569.

Dr. Thoms retired as head of the Pharmaceutical Institute of the University of Berlin, in 1927, after an incumbancy of twenty-five years. The German Pharmaceutical Society and University gave public recognition to his invaluable services, on which occasion the guest of honor delivered an address and after presenting this dissertation he reviewed his activities and the history of the Institute. Tributes were paid him by his students, the alumni, members of the Society and faculty and other co-workers, and a bronze tablet was placed in the Institute.

Dr. Thoms' "Handbook" on the art and science of pharmacy is the most comprehensive work on pharmacy, comprising about 4000 pages. In its preparation Dr. Thoms had the co-operation of nearly 200 leading authors in the subjects relating to pharmacy.

The Society extended invitations to the celebration of its 40th anniversary to national associations of other countries; among them the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and responsive thereto congratulations were cabled by the ASSOCIATION.

The German Pharmaceutical Society has about 5000 members; honorary members of the United States are Dr. Edward Kremers, Dr. H. V. Arny and Editor Hugo Kantrowitz.

The principal address of the Jubilee was delivered by Prof. Dr. Walden on "Der Apotheker als Kulturträger—ein historisher Rückblick." (The Apothecary's part in Culture—an historical review.)

The Foreword of the memorial volume has been prepared under the direction of Dr. Paul Siedler in which he depicts the history of the period and development of pharmacy. He speaks of the achievement of pharmacists and dwells at greater length on the twenty-five years of service by Dr. Thoms at the Pharmaceutical Institute of the University of Berlin, the recognition of which was made part of the program of the Jubilee meeting.

The volume gives detailed account of the organization of the Society and its progress. Its original purpose was to bring together each month German pharmacists, interested in the advancement of pharmacy, to communicate results of their researches, discuss and exchange ideas. The 39 volumes of the *Archiv der Pharmazie,* including the *Berichte der Deutschen Pharmazeutischen Gesellschaft,* bear testimony of the Society's success and the work of Dr. Thoms.

The major portion of the book records the transactions of the Society during its forty years of existence, abstracted in such a way that the matter becomes intensely interesting. The letters, the papers, reports and other presentations, discussions and names of the participants,

make the reader acquainted with German pharmaceutical activities and developments in all of its divisions—educational and otherwise.

There are four full-page illustrations—the first introduces the five founders of the Society, in 1890; namely, H. Thoms, J. Holfert, Ed. Ritgert, M. Goeldner and P. Guetzkow. The next is a congratulatory letter addressed during the Society's first year of existence to the British Pharmaceutical Society at its 25th anniversary meeting. Another shows those in attendance at the dedication of the Hager memorial and the last page presents some of the German leaders in pharmacy of 1930.

The Society has paid deserved tribute to a founder and leader in pharmacy; the celebration is timely, and the Society is to be congratulated on its achievements and growth and with it go hearty wishes for continued success and advancement.

Dr. Siedler has contributed to the celebration by the preparation of the noteworthy memorial volume, whereby he has made available to pharmacists in Germany and abroad an interesting history of the German Society's activities.

CINCHONA TERCENTENARY.

Scientists of five countries were assembled at Shaw's Garden in St. Louis on October 31st and November 1st to celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of the first authentic record of the use of cinchona bark. The

Left, D. M. Kerbosch, head of the Dutch Government Experimental Cinchona Station, in Java. Right, Dr. A. R. Van Linge, Amsterdam.

countries represented were Java, Holland, Germany, Scotland and the United States. In connection with the celebration there was an exhibition of cinchona bark and its derivatives; also, among other displays showing the gathering of the bark and the instruments used, etc., were the quaint old saddle-bags of Dr. John Sappington, the Missouri practitioner whose fever pills first introduced the specific value of cinchona bark to the inhabitants of Missouri valley.

The celebration opened with a symposium on the history of cinchona as a drug, by Prof. Leo Suppan; as a chemical, by Dr. Edward Kremers; and in medicine, by Dr. George Dock of Pasadena, Calif.

Prof. Robert J. Terry of Washington University school of medicine, told the story of Dr. Sappington and his fever pills. Speakers at later sessions were Wilbur L. Scoville, Dr. Frederic Rosengarten, Dr. Torald Sollmann and Dr. Kenneth X. Maxey of the University of Virginia.

Among the speakers at the banquet were Dr. Van Linge, Dean C. E. Caspari, W. D. Besant, director of Parks and Gardens of Glasgow, Scotland; Dr. George D. Rosengarten and George C. Hitchcock, president of the Garden Trustees.

The reception given by Dr. and Mrs. Moore, at their residence, concluded the ceremonies.

FOUR ADDITIONS TO THE HALL OF FAME.

There is more-or-less of a disappointment among pharmacists, because of the failure to elect Lyman Spalding, the Father of the United States Pharmacopœia to the Hall of Fame. However, there may be some consolation in the fact that other men and women of great prominence have failed of election. There were about one hundred nominations. The successful ones are: James A. MacNeil Whistler, the painter; James Monroe, statesman; Matthew Fontaine Maury, scientist; and Walt Whitman, poet. It is interesting to note that the son of Lyman Spalding, a sea captain, and Matthew Fontaine Maury were friends, and both were interested in the subjects which gained the honor for Maury. Among prominent nominees who failed to receive the required votes are: Henry George, Noah Webster, John Hay, Francis Scott Key, William McKinley, etc.

The effort to place Lyman Spalding in the Hall of Fame will be continued. It might be stated in this connection that Monroe was

nominated five times, successively; in other words, the efforts in his behalf extended over a period of twenty-five years. Only very few have received the coveted prize on the first nomination.

AQUEOUS MIXTURES OF ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID.

As the result of experimental work, H. Finnemore and A. W. Gorringe (*Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*, July 21, 1930, page 21) state that it was considered feasible by using a substance with a large molecule, such as gum, some "buffer" or protective action against hydrolysis might be secured. Proceeding on this assumption, it was found that when compound tragacanth powder was inmixed with acetylsalicylic acid in the proportion, set out in the following prescription, practically no hydrolysis takes place in seven days, and so far as pharmaceutical requirements are concerned the mixture is entirely satisfactory. The formula is also suitable for acetylsalicylic acid gargles:

Acetylsalicylic acid..... ℥ii.
Compound powder of tragacanth and water to..... ℥vi.

NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES.

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ARTICLES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AS CONFORMING TO THE RULES OF THE COUNCIL ON PHARMACY AND CHEMISTRY OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOR ADMISSION TO NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES. A COPY OF THE RULES ON WHICH THE COUNCIL BASES ITS ACTION WILL BE SENT ON APPLICATION.

W. A. PUCKNER, *Secretary*.

ANAEROBIC ANTITOXIN (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 343).

Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit, Mich.

Gas-Gangrene Antitoxin (Combined) Refined and Concentrated-P. D. & Co.—An antitoxic serum prepared from the toxins of *B. perfringens* (*B. welchii*) and vibrion septique. Horses are immunized with the respective toxins separately. The resulting antitoxins are standardized, the unit of the perfringens antitoxin being that specified by the United States Public Health Service and that of vibrion septique antitoxin being the amount which will neutralize 100 M. L. D. of the toxin per kilogram of rabbit; the antitoxins are refined, concentrated and combined in such proportion that the quantity of the finished product in the marketed syringes contains 100 units of each antitoxin. Gas-gangrene antitoxin (combined) refined and concentrated-P. D. & Co. is proposed for therapeutic use against gas-gangrene infection caused by *B. perfringens* (*B. welchii*) and vibrion septique. It is marketed in syringes containing 100 units of perfringens antitoxin and 100 units of vibrion septique antitoxin.

Dosage.—The contents of one syringe, preferably by intravenous injection, repeated in from eight to twenty-four hours if necessary, especially, in acute peritonitis and obstruction of the small bowel.

CHLOROBUTANOL (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 115).

The following dosage form has been accepted:

Inhalant Chloretone, Creosote and Eucalyptol-Sorensen.—Chloretone 1.2 Gm. (20 grains); creosote 2.5 cc. (40 minims); eucalyptol 3.75 cc. (60 minims); alcohol to make 30 cc. (one fluidounce).

Prepared by C. M. Sorensen Co., Inc., Long Island City, N. Y.

PARKE, DAVIS & COMPANY'S STANDARDIZED COD LIVER OIL (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 256).

The following dosage forms have been accepted:

Soluble Gelatin Capsules Parke, Davis & Company's Standardized Cod Liver Oil, 10 minims.
Soluble Gelatin Capsules Parke, Davis & Company's Standardized Cod Liver Oil, 20 minims.
Soluble Gelatin Capsules Parke, Davis & Company's Standardized Cod Liver Oil, 2.5 Gm.
Soluble Gelatin Capsules Parke, Davis & Company's Standardized Cod Liver Oil, 5 Gm.—*Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 6/30.*

QUININE BISMUTH IODIDE.—A substance of variable composition containing between 18 and 20.1 per cent of bismuth, between 48.7 and 53.5 per cent of iodine; and quinine.

Actions and Uses.—Quinine bismuth iodide is proposed as a means of obtaining the systemic effect of bismuth in the treatment of Syphilis (see Bismuth Compounds, New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 94).

Quinine bismuth iodide is a red powder that clings to most surfaces even when it is dry. It is insoluble in water and most organic solvents.

Treat about 0.5 Gm. of quinine bismuth iodide with 15 cc. of 20 per cent potassium hydroxide solution, warm, add 50 cc. of water, filter off the insoluble material, wash with water, dry at 100° C., extract with five 10-cc. portions of benzene, evaporate the benzene and dry the residue at 100° C.: the residue melts at 171° C. and gives the U. S. P. X tests for quinine. Ash the filter and undissolved precipitate in a quartz crucible: a yellow residue remains.

Treat about 0.1 Gm. of quinine bismuth iodide with about 1 cc. of nitric acid: the material blackens. Add 10 cc. of water and boil: violet-colored vapors are given off.

Shake 0.030 Gm. of quinine bismuth iodide with 4 cc. of water, filter through a pledget of cotton, add 1 cc. of chloroform, 0.3 cc. each of diluted hydrochloric acid and ferric chloride solution, shake, allow to stand five minutes: the chloroform does not acquire a purple tinge (*iodides*).

Shake 0.75 Gm. of quinine bismuth iodide with 4 cc. of potassium iodide solution, filter, add 1 cc. of chloroform to the filtrate, shake and allow to stand five minutes: the chloroform does not acquire a purple tinge (*iodine*).

Transfer about 0.5 Gm. of quinine bismuth iodide, accurately weighed to a wide mouth weighing bottle and dry in a vacuum over sulphuric acid to constant weight: it loses not more than 1 per cent in weight. Transfer about 0.5 Gm. of the original, accurately weighed, to a 600-cc. beaker, add nitric acid until the color changes to black, add 100 cc. of water and boil until clear and almost colorless, add an excess of stronger ammonia water and 20 cc. of ammonium carbonate solution, allow to stand three hours, filter, wash the precipitate with water, ash, ignite in a weighed quartz crucible, add a few drops of nitric acid, evaporate and ignite to constant weight, cool in a desiccator and weigh: the bismuth oxide weighed is equivalent to not less than 18 per cent nor more than 20.08 per cent. Transfer about 0.12 Gm. of the original, accurately weighed, to a glass capsule, transfer this tube to a Carius tube containing 30 cc. of nitric acid and 0.2 Gm. of silver nitrate, seal and heat for seven hours at 210° C., cool, open the tube, transfer the contents to a large beaker and dilute to 500 cc.; allow to stand

for four hours, filter through a Gooch crucible, wash with very dilute nitric acid (1 cc. diluted nitric acid in 50 cc. of water), dry at 100° C., cool in a desiccator and weigh: the silver iodide is equivalent to not less than 48.75 per cent nor more than 53.5 per cent iodine.

TARTRO-QUINIOBINE.—A suspension of quinine bismuth iodide and sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate in olive oil, each cubic centimeter containing quinine bismuth iodide, 0.072 Gm., sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate, 0.032 Gm., and camphor, 0.003 Gm.

Actions and Uses.—Tartro-quiniobine is proposed as a means of obtaining the systemic effects of bismuth in the treatment of syphilis (see Bismuth Compounds, New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 94); it is designed to secure both early action through the presence of the water-soluble sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate, and prolonged action through the insoluble quinine bismuth iodide component of the mixture.

Dosage.—From 1 to 2 cc., administered intramuscularly twice or thrice weekly; 17 to 22 cc., representing a total amount of bismuth corresponding to about 0.6 Gm. of metallic bismuth, constituting a single course.

Manufactured by Chemisch-Pharmazeutische A. G., Bad Homburg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany (Spicer & Company, Glendale, Calif., distributor). No U. S. patent or trademark.

Tartro-Quiniobine Ampules, 2 cc.—

Transfer 2 cc. of the tartro-quiniobine, well mixed, to a weighed Gooch crucible and percolate with petroleum benzine until all of the soluble part is extracted, dry in an oven at 50° C., cool in a desiccator over sulphuric acid and weigh: the residue weighs not more than 0.215 Gm., nor less than 0.20 Gm.

Place the crucible containing the residue just weighed in an 800-cc. beaker, add 5 cc. of nitric acid to the crucible, when the acid has percolated through, tip the crucible over, add 100 cc. of water, stir until the asbestos is washed out of the crucible, boil until the solution is nearly colorless, remove the crucible by means of a glass rod, wash the crucible adding the washings to the solution, filter the asbestos using a large filter paper, wash with very dilute nitric acid (20 cc. diluted nitric acid diluted to 100 cc.) until the bismuth is all in the solution, add an excess of stronger ammonia water and 20 cc. of ammonium carbonate solution, heat to boiling and allow to stand three hours, filter through ashless paper, ignite in a quartz crucible, cool, add a few drops of nitric acid, evaporate and then ignite, cool in a desiccator over sulphuric acid, weigh: the residue when calculated to bismuth is not more than 0.0615 Gm., nor less than 0.0585 Gm.

The quinine bismuth iodide in tartro-quiniobine conforms to the N. N. R. standards for this substance.

SODIUM POTASSIUM BISMUTHYL TARTRATE.—A basic sodium potassium bismuth tartrate containing from 40.75 to 41.25 per cent of bismuth.

Actions and Uses.—Sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate is proposed as a means of obtaining the systemic effects of bismuth in the treatment of syphilis (see Bismuth Compounds, New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 94).

Sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate is a white, heavy powder, soluble in water and insoluble in organic solvents.

During the ignition of about 0.1 Gm. of sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate in a quartz crucible, a small globule of metallic bismuth forms that oxidizes on extended heating. The residue is yellow, alkaline to litmus, and effervesces with acids.

Transfer 0.1 Gm. of sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate to a test-tube, add 5 cc. of water and sufficient diluted hydrochloric acid to dissolve the precipitate first formed, add 0.5 cc. of barium chloride solution: no cloudiness appears within 2 minutes.

Transfer 0.1 Gm. of sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate to a test-tube, add 5 cc. of water and sufficient diluted nitric acid to dissolve the precipitate first formed, add 0.5 cc. of silver nitrate solution: no precipitate appears.

A sample of sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate loses not more than 0.3 per cent of its weight when dried in a vacuum over sulphuric acid.

Transfer about 0.5 Gm. of sodium potassium bismuthyl tartrate, accurately weighed, to an Erlenmeyer flask, add 100 cc. of water, add diluted hydrochloric acid a drop at a time until the precipitate that forms redissolves, saturate with hydrogen sulphide, filter, wash successively with water, alcohol, chloroform and ether, dry at 100° C., cool in a desiccator, weigh: the bismuth sulphide weighed is equivalent to not less than 40.75 per cent nor more than 41.25 per cent. — *Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 13/30.*

TUBERCULIN-KOCH (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 358).

Eli Lilly & Company, Indianapolis.

Old Tuberculin, Human Strain, Concentrated (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 360).—Also marketed in packages of two vials, one containing a stated amount of tuberculin and the other sufficient diluent to make 1 cc. as follows: Dilution A, containing 0.1 cc.; Dilution B, containing 0.01 cc.; Dilution C, containing 0.001 cc.; Dilution D, containing 0.0001 cc.; Dilution E, containing 0.00001 cc.; and Dilution F, containing 0.000001 cc.

CHINIOFON (See New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1930, p. 120).

Chiniofon-Searle.—A brand of chiniofon-N. N. R.

Manufactured by G. D. Searle & Co., Inc., Chicago. No U. S. patent or trademark.

Tablets Chiniofon-Searle, 0.25 Gm. (4 gr.).—Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 20/30.

LONDON NARCOTIC CONFERENCE.

John K. Caldwell, narcotics expert of the Department of State, is now in London as the representative of the United States at a conference on international narcotics' problems called by the British government.

The conference is preliminary to a general international narcotics convention called by the League of Nations to meet in Geneva next May, and is for the purpose of preparing agenda. Representatives of drug manufacturers in several manufacturing countries may be asked to submit their suggestions for machinery for determining the medical needs of the world, and the conference hopes to work out a tentative proposal for apportioning quotas to producing countries after the medical needs are determined.