

EDITORIAL

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INDIVIDUALITY IN MEDICINE AND PHARMACY.

DR. JOHN MORGAN impressed American medicine and pharmacy by his firm conviction that the same individual should not engage in both the application and preparation of medicine. He conscientiously practiced what he advocated, even though his prior experience as apothecary qualified him for practicing pharmacy. He gave not only educational reasons for his stand, but also pointed out the dangers that obtain in attempting both. His sincerity and deep interest is of record in a series of addresses delivered soon after returning from Europe, where he had completed his medical studies. In each of them he referred to the necessity of keeping the practice of medicine separated from that of pharmacy, "as different talents were required in their practice." At the conclusion of one of these addresses he said:

"The wisdom of ages, approved by experience, the most certain test of knowledge, has taught us the necessity and utility of appointing different persons for these different employments, and accordingly we find them prosecuted separately."

Last year, at the meeting of Indiana Pharmaceutical Association and dedication of the Pharmacy Building of Purdue University, Dean Charles P. Emerson of Indiana University School of Medicine said in part, in substance: "A doctor cannot serve his patient to the very best of his ability if he is going to dispense; he may, at times, be inclined to prescribe that which he has in stock and that might not be just what his patient needs."

He impressed that symptoms of disease were often struggles of the body to overcome the underlying causes, and the beneficial attempts of the body in this direction should not be hindered; he applied this to indiscriminate selling of medicines for coughs and other stock preparations.

In his opinion, the importance of individual treatment will be better understood; the patient should have the benefit to be derived, and he was hopeful that pharmacists would not permit themselves to be submerged by business to such an extent that they would cease to be students of their profession. Dr. Solomon Solis-Cohen¹ expressed a related thought in a letter to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, a number of years ago—

"If I may assume to speak for clinical therapeutics to the representatives of Pharmacy, I would say:

Gentlemen, I depend on you in my efforts to help my patient to get well. I depend on your knowledge, your skill, your science, your enterprise, but above all upon your fidelity. I trust you.

You are my armor bearers, as I fight disease. If my spear is dull, my bow-string slack, my arrows unfeathered, my sword rusty, my shield pierced, death awaits them that I would protect. But you give me weapons that I can depend on and I go into battle hopefully with the determination to conquer.

The efforts that you and your co-workers are making to restore pharmacy to the ranks of learned professions and to advance the status of the pharmacist have my earnest sympathy and my sincere coöperation.

¹ Formerly Chairman of the Section on Pharmacology and Therapeutics, A. M. A.

Let us stand together, for clean medicine and upright pharmacy; let us oppose quackery, fraud and pretense within as well as without our ranks.

Let the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION join the American Medical Association in its determination that the errors of the past be corrected; that the interest of the people, the interests of science shall be our own chief interests and that selfish obstructionists shall be silenced and shamed. Then we can confidently face the future sure of what is better than the mere achievement of success—the deserving of it.”

Pharmacists of the past are remembered because of their achievements in pharmacy, aiding the practitioners of medicine by their discoveries and in the development of materia medica, and thereby contributing a public health service. True it is, that the modern laboratories have taken over much of this work and are constantly engaged in research, but nearly all preparations of the retail pharmacy and many prescriptions represent subjects of and for individual study, just as each case coming under the physician's observation presents an individual study.

Dr. Emerson said in an illustrative way in the address to which reference has been made:

“No two persons are just alike. The chances are that the same suit of clothes will fit no two men in this room, and the better your coat fits you the less likely it is to fit any other man. So it is with prescriptions. If I write exactly the same prescription for two cases of pneumonia the chances are that one of them, perhaps neither, will get the best that I can do. In other words, in the future we shall individualize as never before. To give each patient the best chance to win, means we must prescribe very thoroughly and very accurately for him, and this means more assistance from pharmacists.”

The most potent measure for bringing about an understanding of the mission of professions is reasonable, rational discussion with the purpose of devising the best means for being of service to the public. This creates public confidence in the individuals, in the practice of medicine and of pharmacy. It benefits the public.

The purpose of Pharmacy Week is not only to acquaint the public with the mission of pharmacy, its pursuit and importance, but a week of self-investigation—as to whether pharmacy is receiving the attention it should have from those who are engaged in its practice.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ANNIVERSARIES.

“GIVE me a due and decent esteem of my profession and of myself, that I may regard no man's occupation higher than mine, envying none so long as I serve honorably and well the sick and the injured.”—*Paraphrased.*

The celebration of anniversaries recalls the history of the times of their inception, brings us into touch with the active participants in the event or the discovery being memorialized and interprets the facts relating thereto.

The first fifty years following the first recorded use of cinchona gave comparatively little to the world, because the limited knowledge gained was used for exploitation, aggrandizement and monetary returns for those who knew the source of cinchona and how to obtain it. Gradually, however, there came enlightenment and a higher sense of professional obligation. In an article in the *Journal A. M. A.*, on “The Treatment of Malaria,” by a well-known authority,

Dr. C. C. Bass, of New Orleans, he makes the statement that "the isolation of quinine from cinchona bark by Pelletier and Caventou, in 1820, marked another advance in the treatment of malaria." The Prix Montyon of 10,000 francs was awarded these pharmacists, and this was the only award they obtained for their cinchona researches, for they took out no patents. It may be of interest to note that this award was the last one made during the lifetime of the French philanthropist, for he died December 1820 (Baron de Montyon—Antoine Jean Baptiste Robert Auget). A purpose of the mention is to impress that both Caventou and Pelletier were pharmacists; too frequently, intentionally or inadvertently, this fact is overlooked.

There are many quinologists whose names deserve mention, of this earlier period and of the present, and they include botanists, pharmacognosists, pharmacologists, chemists, physicians and pharmacists, etc., etc.; however, the purpose of this comment is not to give an historical account, but to mention a few facts of cinchona history, which prompted the celebration of the 300th anniversary. Reference is made to Alfonse Laveran, the French pathologist whose studies contributed largely to rebuilding the health of many people, restoring uninhabitable sections of the world, and making a number of great undertakings possible. The semi-centennial of his discovery of the *Plasmodium malariae*, known by his name, was most important and greatly simplified the control of malaria, which is now largely a matter of organization and administration.

THE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL.

The bicentennial of Washington's birth brings to mind the publication of the American Military Pharmacopœia and the establishment of the United States Pharmacopœia, and in that connection the pharmacists of a century or two ago are brought into relationship with those of to-day engaged in the revision of the U. S. Pharmacopœia, the National Formulary and the publication of the A. P. H. A. Recipe Book, books which have as a purpose service for the public. The two former are important in the conservation of health and life, constant reminders that high educational qualifications and training are essentials for pharmacists in civil life and government activities having to do with medicine, and that pharmacists have responsibilities of service and also duties which include making the public acquainted with pharmacy, its mission and its part in the life of the state and nation. This brings us to the latest important pharmaceutical celebration, that of the sixth observance of Pharmacy Week, relative to which President Hoover has expressed his appreciation in a message printed on page 1161. Prior references were made in the October number, relative to its origin (page 1147).

PHARMACY WEEK.

The worthwhileness of an endeavor is shown in its development, and if the idea is in competition for favor and then grows beyond its competitors; if the idea is put into practice in the country of origin and in other countries; and different nationalities, people of a different tongue and different customs accept it; if laymen speak of it favorably, exhibit an interest; if the purpose is educational and the public gain a better understanding and viewpoint; if citizens in every walk of life become interested in a celebration; if it strengthens those engaged in the

activity in their ideals—then, surely, no further argument is needed to prove the value of the idea.

The foregoing presents the case for an anniversary that has become established. When Chairman Ruth presented the thought, the aims and plan for an annual Pharmacy Week, he rendered an outstanding service in which he is now supported by more than can be estimated. The results of the work speak for the worthwhileness of Pharmacy Week and the active interest of the chairman, members of the committees, the press, associations, organizations, colleges, pharmacists everywhere, and others in the drug industry, none of whom should be omitted in giving credit. It is hoped that mention of the contributory service by E. L. Newcomb and H. V. Arny in preparing the Chemical Map which served as the background for many displays, will be permitted.

Secretary Arthur W. Hyde, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture said:

"Pharmacy Week assures the community of the high professional responsibility behind every pharmaceutical activity and also enlivens the pharmacists' own conceptions of the ethics of their calling."

"Pharmacy Week" rests upon the foundation implied in the foregoing lines.

Anniversaries are reminders of past achievements; they develop studies of progress and energize activities.

CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

THE *Times Magazine*, of October 19th, discussed the architecture and arrangement of the buildings of the Chicago World's Fair of 1933. This Exposition will depict a century of progress, with the contribution of pure and applied science as the main theme.

Prof. E. N. Gathercoal spoke before the National Wholesale Druggists' Association and interested the members in the celebration for which plans are developing, and this brief comment is a preliminary of further discussion of how pharmacy is to be represented at the World's Fair. "Coincident with the exhibit element of the Exposition, the Centennial scene, as contemplated by the Committee, will witness a series of important World Congresses and Conventions, in the deliberations of which the most important personalities in the modern scientific world will participate." In his remarks, Professor Gathercoal stated that "assurance has been given by the officers of the Exposition that pharmacy will receive due recognition and be provided with suitable space without charge for its exhibit, provided that the exhibit is a unified one, is truly scientific and is not in any sense for profit. It is expected, therefore, that there will be no competitive exhibits in connection with pharmacy, but that the exhibit will show the progress made in pharmacy during the past one hundred years."

During the Chicago Fair of 1893, an International Pharmacy Convention was held and the one of 1933 suggests a meeting of the International Pharmaceutical Federation. Pharmacy's participation in the Washington Bicentennial should bring out applicable thoughts for the coming centennial celebration. A Science Advisory Committee of the National Research Council will have charge of the scientific exhibit of the Exposition. "Graphic and dramatic picturization of the advances which have been made in the sciences over a hundred-year period

will make a special appeal to the industries dependent on scientific research for their present existence and their future progress." The Exposition offers an opportunity for pharmacy to make the public better acquainted with its contributions to science, medicine, public health, the industries and commerce. Plans are developing systematically, and with regard to the permanent disposition of the exhibits, "the Science Advisory Committee, which is responsible for bringing together, with the aid of American industry, exhibits in a permanent form, will act as advisers to the Trustees of the Century of Progress in designating appropriate disposal of the exhibits as a whole or in parts to museums or similar bodies constituted by equipment and personnel to display them to the public."

These brief references to the Exposition project will have to suffice for the present, but further comment will, in all probability, find its way into these columns very soon.

FRENCH COLONIAL EXPOSITION.

THE United States has planned for buildings to be erected at the French Colonial Exposition to be held at Paris, France, beginning May 1, 1931. The central structure of the group is to be a reproduction of Mount Vernon. The plans for the buildings have been approved by President Hoover and the American Fine Arts Commission. They have also received approval of the American Ambassador to France, Walter E. Edge, and high officials of the French government, according to the United States Commissioner General to the Exposition, C. Bascom Slemph.

THE LOCAL SECRETARY FOR THE 1931 A. PH. A. MEETING, AT MIAMI.

LOCAL Secretary G. H. Grommet is a graduate of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, 1909. He is a native of Denver, Colo., and entered the drug business, in 1900, in his home city. Soon after graduating in pharmacy Mr. Grommet engaged with Parke, Davis & Co. in the General Pharmaceutical Department. In 1912, he purchased a retail pharmacy and also became a member of the faculty of the College of Pharmacy of Detroit Institute of Technology.



G. H. GROMMET.
Local Secretary, A. PH. A.

In 1922 the Local Secretary became interested in the advertising business. During the intervening years Mr. Grommet took an active part in association activities and served as president of Michigan Pharmaceutical Association and of Detroit Retail Druggists' Association. His advertising interests brought him to Miami in 1925, at a time when the local druggists were organizing an association of which he was elected *Field Secretary* and organizer of the Greater Miami Pharmaceutical Association, an organization which has continued its activities under the name of Dade County Retail Druggists' Association, and will have a large part in the entertainment of and arrangement for the meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Grommet is again a retail pharmacist, also secretary of Florida Pharmaceutical Association and now *Local Secretary* of the A. PH. A. His successful work has pointed him out as one who can and will direct the convention affairs in a way that will please the Floridians and the visitors.



A Page from Tschirch "Handbook of Pharmacognosy"—"Quinologists of the 19th Century."—The great work of Dr. A. Tschirch (and his co-workers) is being republished in a revised and enlarged edition by Chr. Herm. Tauchnitz, Leipzig. This half-tone was made from a print kindly supplied by Dr. Tschirch, an honorary member of the A. Ph. A.; A. Delondre (died 1865) worked on cinchonas with apothecary Bouchardt; Hugh A. Waddell (1819-1877) was an authority on cinchonas; O. Hesse received the Hanbury medal for his work on the chemistry of cinchona alkaloids; John Elliot Howard (died 1883), well known in the development of cinchonas; G. K. W. H. Karsten spent 12 years in South America, he published "The Medicinal Cinchona Barks of New Granada." William Graham MacIvor was superintendent of the cinchona plantations in India, died 1876; Pahud de Mortarge helped to develop the Holland cinchona industry, he was an official of the Netherland's government, died 1873; Otto Berg, Java cinchona student,

died and buried in Java; Philipp Phoebus (1804-1880), his work on the specific rotation of the cinchona alkaloids is noteworthy; A. C. Ouedermans, Franz Wilhelm Junghuhn (1812-1864) and John Eliza de Vrij (1813-1898), known for their cinchona studies in Java, where their bodies rest, a monument has been erected as a memorial; below the latter, in the plate, is shown the monument to Caventou and Pelletier, French pharmacists, the first to isolate quinine.

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION AND CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET IN TORONTO, IN 1932.

AT THE Diamond Anniversary meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION in St. Louis in 1927, the *Chairman of the Council* of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association, Dean G. A. Burbidge, and the *Secretary*, Dr. R. B. J. Stanbury, brought greetings from the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association and extended an invitation to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to hold a joint convention with the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association in Toronto, in 1932, which would be the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Canadian organization.

This suggestion was received with hearty applause by our American friends and since then the matter has been brought up annually at the conventions of both associations and a definite decision was this year arrived at that both organizations meet together in Toronto, in 1932.

At the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association convention held last August in Halifax, we had the pleasure of a visit from Theodore J. Bradley, former president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and invited him to address a meeting of our Council, when he explained in some detail the operation of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and the organization work necessary in connection with the convention. General plans were considered and it was tentatively agreed to hold the joint convention the third week in August, which would be the week preceding the Canadian National Exhibition (the greatest annual exhibition in the world), as we feel that many of our friends from the United States would like to remain over a few days to see that great Fair.

On November 3rd, the *Secretary* of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association had a conference with the *Executive Committee* of the Ontario Retail Druggists' Association and this organization has agreed to defer its annual meeting, which is usually held in June, until the time of our joint convention. As the O. R. D. A. is a large and aggressive organization, its coöperation will add considerably to the attendance and to the enthusiasm of the meeting.

Invitations have been extended by our ASSOCIATION to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and the various pharmaceutical associations of the overseas dominions, so that we look forward to the meeting in 1932 as marking an epoch in pharmacy on this continent.—R. B. J. Stanbury, *Secretary*, Canadian Pharmaceutical Association.

RETROSPECT OF FIFTY YEARS AGO.*

AN ANTIMONY CUP.

... Very delightful were these literary gatherings (at Jacob Bell's house, shortly after the formation of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1841) which took place in a drawing room, the walls of which were hidden by modern paintings. It was at one of these journal committees that a specimen of the "Pocula Emetica, or Cups of Antimony," was placed on the table... The particular cup in question was exhibited at a conversazione by Mr. Trenham Reeks, of the Museum of Practical Geology, in Jermyn Street, having been purchased for one shilling at a Christie and Manson sale. It was rather a striking object, and the inscription, which was surmounted by a coronet, was in rhymed German. The first word, conspicuously printed in a single undivided line, appeared to be "Dubistein." What could be this string stone or metal? asked (Daniel) Hanbury, always bent on original research. He knew many varieties of stein, but this, he confessed, was new to him. He turned to the dictionary, but was unable to find any mention of the DUBY, or DUBI. Finally, the sub-editor took home the goblet, when, not a pharmacist, but a very clever person, resolved the mystery into "Du bist ein stein."

* Reprinted from *The Chemist and Druggist*, October 15, 1880.