

PHARMACY WEEK REPORT.

BY ROBERT J. RUTH, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN.

Remarkable in scope and attention-compelling interest and entirely devoid of any tinge of commercialism to detract from its effectiveness, the sixth annual observance of National Pharmacy Week will go down in pharmaceutical history as a mighty accomplishment, the consummation of which is a tribute to organized effort—in this instance to the pharmacists of the nation who united with all qualifying allied agencies to carry the story of professional pharmacy and pharmaceutical service to an appreciative public which is each year becoming better acquainted with and interested in the pharmacist, his problems and status.

A message from President Hoover to the pharmacists of the nation gave fitting official recognition to the Pharmacy Week observance which is and always must be directly in the interest of the public health. President Hoover's message is as follows:

“On the development of drugs and their uses depend to a considerable degree the health and the welfare of the people of the world. Daily our laboratories are engaged in the pursuit of newer knowledge which will make constantly more effective the unending combat against illness and disease. The pharmacists of our country are indispensable allies of the physicians. It is fitting, therefore, that each year we should formally acknowledge our indebtedness to them. I am glad to extend to the pharmacists of the nation the good wishes of all our people.”

Arthur W. Hyde, Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Department of Commerce contributed to the governmental recognition given the importance of Pharmacy Week by their special messages for the occasion. Such coöperation is very cheering to pharmacists and those connected with or interested in Pharmacy.

The radio program broadcast from more than a hundred stations and reaching 80,000,000 people in the United States and Canada, the many thousands of noteworthy professional window displays in pharmacies, the hundreds of public addresses made by pharmacists in every part of the country and the flood of newspaper spreads, news stories and editorials which occupied hundreds of thousands of priceless inches of “white space” in the press of the nation and which gave Pharmacy Week a truly Coast-to-Coast coverage, were an indication of the extraordinary interest which the movement commands and its astounding growth since the first observance only five years ago, in 1925.

Just as impressive was the Canadian observance of Pharmacy Week, which is so closely linked with that of the United States because of the constant contact which the National Executive Committee on Pharmacy Week enjoys with the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association and through this great representative pharmaceutical body in the Dominion this contact is carried to our brother pharmacists who comprise the membership of the various provincial associations in our friendly sister nation.

This laudable Pharmacy Week movement which has spread around the world, first from the United States and Canada to England, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania—all of the English-speaking countries and now to several lands where the English tongue is not spoken—has accomplished something of importance for which purpose it was not originally launched. Pharmacy Week has rekindled the love of professional pharmacy in the hearts of thousands of pharmacists who were, perhaps, not aware that their pharmacies were rapidly losing professional appearance, prestige and practice. Pharmacy Week is helping to bring the colored show bottles—ancient symbols of the profession—back to the pharmacies of the nation.

In his splendid Pharmacy Week proclamation, President H. C. Christensen, of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION said: “The professional side of Pharmacy is the one and only part of the business responsible for the legal recognition given the pharmacist under state pharmacy laws; it is the only excuse for his existence.” That the pharmacists of this country realize the truth and wisdom of these words is evidenced by their active and whole-hearted support of the sixth annual observance of Pharmacy Week.

It cannot be doubted that the public has been impressed by the importance of the practice of pharmacy and by the fact that the services of the pharmacist are indispensable in any commu-

nity. Pharmacy Week has set up a new standard for the pharmacist in the public mind which the public will expect him to live up to. This will be a helpful influence and the pharmacist will not violate this public confidence but will strive as never before to deserve the public trust.

To President Hoover, U. S. Senator Royal S. Copeland, Secretary Hyde and Assistant-Secretary Klein, to the officers and members of the national, state and local pharmaceutical associations, retail pharmacists, wholesalers and manufacturers, the publishers, editors and members of the staffs of all journals of pharmacy, the many newspapers and radio stations, the officers, deans and faculty members of the colleges of pharmacy and all others who contributed so generously to the success of Pharmacy Week, the members of the National Executive Committee on Pharmacy Week extend their deepest appreciation and take this opportunity to ask for continued cooperation and support of the seventh annual observance of Pharmacy Week, October 11-17, 1931.

NATIONAL DRUG TRADE CONFERENCE.

The Executive Committee of the National Drug Trade Conference met on November 5th, in Baltimore. A program of discussions for the meeting of the Conference was prepared. The annual meeting will be held in Washington, December 10th.

NEWS BULLETINS OF THE DRUG TRADE BUREAU OF PUBLIC INFORMATION.

Director Robert P. Fischelis, has issued further bulletins of the Drug Trade Bureau of Public Information.

Bulletin No. 38 refers to the use of *Daphnia* for experimental purposes in the standardization and study of drugs, by Dr. Arnold Viehovec; No. 39 relates to the Leadbeater pharmacy in Alexandria, Va., carried on by a grandson of the founder, two great, great, grandsons; a great, great, great, grandson; and a great, great, great, grand-daughter. In the list of those of the family who in successive generations were interested in this pharmacy is the late Richard H. Stabler, a former president of the A. Ph. A. A brief article relating to this pharmacy will be found elsewhere in this issue of the JOURNAL; No. 40 relates to an address before the N. W. D. A. by Prof H. F. Ostlund, of the University of Minnesota, on wholesale drug distribution, in which he presented facts and figures refuting the charge that wholesale drug distribution is a wasteful enterprise. In the address he detailed a systematic business conduct; No. 41 discusses the article by E. A. Ruddiman, published in the JOURNAL A. Ph. A. for September, page 957; No. 42 deals with the report of the Committee on Proprietary Goods made at the meeting of the National Wholesale Druggists Association on free goods deals; No. 43 brings out points of the interesting address by Dr. James H. Beal before the Wisconsin Pharmaceutical Association; No. 45 relates to "Studies on Strychnine" by Ward and Munch, published in the September and October numbers of the JOURNAL A. Ph. A.; No. 46 relates to the Medicinal Plant Garden, of the University of Florida, and a paper on "Licorice Fern" published in the JOURNAL A. Ph. A., by Fischer and Goodrich, beginning on page 1063.

Interesting matter sent along with the *bulletins* are papers by Dr. Robert P. Fischelis read before the N. A. R. D. Convention explaining the work and success of the Drug Trade Bureau of Public Information; the report of the Committee on the Cost of Medical Care was referred to in the *bulletins* of the Drug Trade Bureau, in the October JOURNAL; radio talks by Robert P. Fischelis, *secretary* and *chief chemist* of the New Jersey Board of Pharmacy, on "Guarding the Purity of Your Drugs;" and another by Dr. H. V. Army, dean of the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University, on "Pharmacy's Contribution to Your Health." The latter talks were part of the program of Pharmacy Week.

AMERICAN REGISTERED PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION.

We are indebted to Mr. Henry Colle for the data relative to the functions of the above named organization, which is now thirty years old. It is an association of employee pharmacists.

Mr. Colle states that "the fundamental responsibility of any organization of pharmacists is the consciousness of the group for the welfare of the public health and safety, and the American

Registered Pharmacists is an organization which has long recognized these principles. Its directors know that if the organization is to expand it is only by the constant education of the public to the value of the services of the trained employee professional pharmacists, as well as the trained employer professional pharmacist. The inculcation in its membership that the chief hope by which it can attain its objective is the giving of service of the highest type.

"Another objective correlated with the former is the recognition of the pharmacist as a trained professional man in the same class and on the same plane as the qualified and experienced physician and dentist. A second objective is the securing of adequate compensation for service rendered, and working conditions commensurate with the dignity of a professional man.

"The American Registered Pharmacists Association has its offices in San Francisco; headed by Fred A. Lion, an able executive director; it is governed by a National Board of Governors who are selected from the membership to formulate its policies and guidance of the Association. It has units of membership operating as local chapters in San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Stockton, San Jose, Fresno, Bakersfield and a division with headquarters in Los Angeles, known as the Southern Division of the Association. In addition locals are under way in Minnesota and Washington State so that the organization is now national in scope. For thirty years the organization has labored to improve the condition affecting employee pharmacists, particularly in California. The Association credits itself with the framing of the California prerequisite bill, a law since 1928; the nine-hour law—a law on the California statute books since 1920, and other laws affecting the status of employee pharmacists. The Association is an acknowledged force to be reckoned with in the enforcement of the California pharmacy law.

"In addition to the qualification of being either a registered pharmacist, or a registered assistant pharmacist there is a rigid requirement regarding the fitness and the character of the applicant for admission. The application is passed on by the Board of Governors, and his credentials must be sponsored by responsible parties. Employers are admitted as associate members. Their dues are five dollars per year, including a subscription to the *Journal*, which the Association publishes monthly, but does not confer on them the right to vote. Regular members of the Association pay ten dollars per year if the dues are paid in advance, or a dollar per month if the dues are paid monthly.

"The Association has as its slogan, 'not solely by legislation, but also by education.' A slogan which is lived up to in that at all branch meetings a speaker, or a subject of educational interest to pharmacists is the main feature. The stand of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in demanding a four-year course of student pharmacists-to-be, is in line with the times and we are confident that our association will sponsor it.

"Our *Journal* constantly urges its membership to continue their studies as pharmacists. It urges coöperation in all association affairs, whether it be in our Association or other organizations. *The American Registered Pharmacist* advocates a wage scale of \$200.00 per month for Registered Licentiate Pharmacists and \$165.00 per month for Registered Assistant Pharmacists. Investigations have shown that the greater number of our membership are receiving that amount and many are paid more. There is a constant emphasis to the employee pharmacist that he is a professional man, and that he conduct himself as such. The term 'drug clerk' is abhorrent to us; it smacks of subserviency. We want our membership to be anything but that. A reader may ask, 'How do employers react to the policies of the association?'—'Very favorably.'

"Speaking at the banquet of the California Pharmaceutical Association in convention at Pasadena last June, Mr. Dickinson, a former president of the California State Board of Pharmacy paid a fine tribute to the work of the American Registered Pharmacists Association. Each year the Association conducts its own convention; members and delegates attend from all parts of the State for discussion of problems that affect the employee pharmacist. At the Stockton meeting Mr. John M. Culley, now a member of the American Registered Pharmacists Association, was the speaker at the banquet which closed the convention.

"It is the belief of Association advocates that the employee pharmacist has interests distinct from those of his employer and that those interests are best served through an organization representing their aims. Not all pharmacists can become the proprietors of pharmacies, following graduation from college; the greater number cannot do so for a good many years. It is to serve this class of pharmacists who after all constitute the majority in the practice of pharmacy, that the American Registered Pharmacists Association functions, and will continue to serve."