

to go forward in the direction of least resistance. More of them are looking ahead far into the future of their lives and careers and are insuring their successes by a better general as well as a more specialized education and training. It may be that in the near future students of maturity of mind will insist that pharmacy offer them a field of activity on a par with those of other but no more responsible professions. It is certain that in the past pharmacy has lost the advantage that would have accrued to it if its matriculants had been of the type and mental maturity that entered medicine and some of the other learned callings. A limited number of students always has gone to the institutions and professions requiring the maximum of preparation and many such have not given pharmacy any thought whatever. These pharmacy lost forever and with them all that they represented and would have projected into the future of pharmacy in matters relating to higher standards generally. Pharmacy needs this class of students badly. This type should be encouraged and invited into the ranks. Pharmaceutical educational administrators could do much in this respect if they would seek the coöperation of their regional junior colleges. From efforts already made in that direction the belief is justified that coöperation would be willingly given toward inducing junior college students to complete the two years instead of one year of their nearest or home college.

ABOLISHING THE ASSISTANT GRADE.

BY A. L. I. WINNE.

For some several years past attention has been directed toward the ultimate elimination of the class of assistant pharmacists which has been tacked on the body pharmaceutic of a great many of the states. This question has been discussed from year to year in the deliberations of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, and in the House of Delegates of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and both bodies have gone on record as favoring the abolishing of this grade of registration.

The grade of assistant, recognized by formal registration by the state, is a thing peculiar to pharmacy. It is not encountered in medicine, dentistry, law. While these professions have their assistant workers they do not accord them legal status as has been the case in the field of pharmacy. While, in the past, there may have existed justification for this type of registration, looked upon as a stepping stone to higher registration, and as a part and parcel of the apprenticeship system, since the passing of that system and the arrival of the prerequisite laws in a majority of the states, this type of registration is regarded as a detriment to pharmacy rather than as a useful expedient.

In most of the states granting assistant certificates the recipient of such a license enjoys rights under law largely comparable with the rights given to registered pharmacists, and the continued issuing of such certificates will constitute a constant menace to the prerequisite system. With high school education and a few years of drug store experience, so called, an applicant eighteen years of age or more, may secure a license in a great many states and compete with the registered pharmacist who is required to have completed his high school work, graduate in pharmacy, in a three-year course, and pass a state examination. There seems to

be little justification for continuing the assistant pharmacist arrangement in many of the states.

Following the discussion of this matter some of the states became active along legislative lines looking toward the abolishing of the grade, and during the past several years some of the states have secured legislation which enables them to discontinue issuing such licenses. Virginia recently secured such a law, after several previous unsuccessful attempts. A law was enacted by the general assembly of that state during the 1930 session which will allow the discontinuance of giving assistant examinations after March 1, 1935, and under its terms such assistants as are in good standing may be admitted to the registered pharmacist examinations until March 1, 1933. The group is small in Virginia, and this latter provision will have a tendency to further reduce the number of assistants through advancement to the pharmacist grade. Those not inclined to try for the pharmacist certificate will be allowed to continue practicing as assistants. The law does not wipe out the grade at a stroke, but before many years go by the assistant in Virginia will be a negligible consideration so far as numbers go.

HISTORIC AND INTERESTING PLACES OF BALTIMORE, THE A. P. H. A. CONVENTION CITY.

An inadvertent error was made on page 172 of the February JOURNAL; the statement "Monument over the grave of Edgar Allan Poe" is correct, but the other two monuments are located elsewhere in the city and are memorials. The locations of other historic and interesting places follow:

The Johns Hopkins University Buildings—on North Charles St.; Lee House—residence of Gen. R. E. Lee (with United States Engineer Corps) during erection of Fort Carroll at entrance to Baltimore Harbor, Madison Avenue near Biddle Street; Druid Hill Park—six hundred and seventy-four acres, noted for its natural beauty; Soldiers and Sailors' Monument—Druid Hill Park, between Druid Lake and Mt. Royal Reservoir; Confederate Monument—Mt. Royal Avenue, near Lanvale; Francis Scott Key Monument—Memorial to author of "The Star-Spangled Banner," Lanvale and Eutaw Streets; Lexington Market—Baltimore's famous market, Lexington Street, from Eutaw Street to Pearl Street; Carroll Park—with colonial mansion of Charles Carroll, barrister, Monroe Street and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Riverside Park—formerly Fort Covington, which prevented a land attack upon Fort McHenry during bombardment in 1814, Randall and Johnson Streets; Armistead Monument—to memory of Lieut. Col. George Armistead, War of 1812-1814, Federal Hill Park; The Fire of 1904 started at Southeast corner Redwood and Liberty Streets; Congress Hall—a tablet on the wall, east side of Liberty Street, south of Baltimore Street, says: "On this site stood Old Congress Hall, in which the Continental Congress met December 20, 1776, and on December 27, 1776, conferred upon General Washington extraordinary powers for the conduct of the Revolutionary War;" Maryland Historical Society Building—historical documents, paintings, statuary, etc., cor. Park Ave. and Monument Streets; Battle, or Baltimore, Monument—erected in memory of soldiers who fell in defense of Baltimore during British attack, September 12-13, 1814, Calvert Street, between Fayette and Lexington Streets (Monument Square); Merchants' Club—Redwood Street, between Calvert and South Streets. A tablet on the west wall says: "Upon this site stood, from 1774-1786, the Lovely Lane Meeting House, in which was organized (December 1784) the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America;" Wildey Monument—to Thomas Wildey, founder of first lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows in America, Broadway Square, near Fayette Street; Patterson Park—one of Baltimore's finest public reservations, contains breastworks erected during War of 1812, Patterson Park Avenue and Baltimore Street; Clifton Park—with the summer residence of the late Johns Hopkins, founder of university and hospital bearing his name, Harford Road and Washington Street.