

and support of all other national pharmaceutical associations operating together, in daily contact in our new grand American Institute of Pharmacy Building, which will be established within the year on its splendid site opposite the Lincoln Memorial in our nation's capitol.

CONCLUSION.

The Presidency of this ASSOCIATION is a great honor and a great responsibility. I deeply appreciate the opportunity of serving in this office and the fine coöperation which the other officers, the committees and the members have given me.

I am highly appreciative of the interest which has led many of our members from distant points to gather here to participate in the work and share the companionship and pleasures provided by our Seventy-Eighth Annual Meeting.

In particular I am indebted to my neighbors and friends who have spared no effort to promote the success of this occasion and, especially, do I acknowledge with grateful appreciation the untiring interest, guidance and coöperation of our Permanent Secretary, Dr. E. F. Kelly.

COÖPERATION WITH HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS.*

BY ERNEST E. IRONS, M.D.

Inspection and study of the hospital drug room will be of interest and profit alike to the administrative and professional members of the hospital staff. The superintendent will find here opportunities for justifiable economies, the existence of which he had not suspected. Attending physicians will be surprised at the large amounts of proprietary drugs which they are unthinkingly using in place of equally effective and less expensive pharmacopœial preparations, often under the misapprehension that the widely advertised proprietaries were accomplishing something more than the practically identical official drugs.

A closer acquaintance and coöperation between the hospital pharmacist and the members of the attending staff will be of mutual profit. The pharmacist will learn the problems which the staff has to meet, and the physicians can learn much concerning the composition and origin of new as well as of old remedies. In many hospitals the staff has failed to avail itself of the store of pharmaceutic information which may be had from the pharmacist for the asking, and the pharmacist has not taken as large a place in hospital conferences as he should. His function should not cease with supplying of drugs called for on prescription and the detecting of inadvertent errors of dosage, but properly should be extended in an informative and advisory capacity, under instructions given by the staff and medical superintendent, so that the hospital prescribing may be limited to remedies whose composition is known and whose use is approved by the best medical practice. The correction of habits of prescribing proprietary drugs in hospitals will go far toward eliminating confusion and improving the medical education of interns, nurses, the public and the attending physicians themselves.

* From an article read before the Annual Congress on Medical Education, Medical Licensure and Hospitals, Chicago, Feb. 17, 1930, through *J. A. M. A.*, April 26, 1930, page 1278.