

ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

BY R. L. SWAIN.

To the Members of the House of Delegates of the American Pharmaceutical Association:

From the substantive and structural standpoints it may be agreed that pharmacy needs nothing more in the way of organization. A review of the pharmaceutical profession and the closely allied drug industry will impress one with the thoroughness with which organizations have been perfected. The educational, registrational and professional needs have been met very effectively. The same may be said for the manufacturing, distributing and commercial interests. The organizations now functioning in the field are sufficiently inclusive. Every question of importance, be it fundamentally professional or fundamentally economic, can be submitted to some agency familiar with the principles involved. To recount these bodies would be to make a formidable array of groups well and favorably known. Many of them have records of accomplishments which mark milestones along the pharmaceutical highway. Each of them has performed signal service to that portion of the work to which it has been directed. The advances which have been made in the basic principles underlying pharmacy, the general upward trend in the manufacture, standardization and investigation of medicinal substances are due to the stimulating influences which have been exerted by the forces of organized pharmacy.

Such an arrangement would seem to meet every legitimate need of pharmacy and the drug industry. However, a careful study of the matter will show that pharmacy and pharmacists have not made use of the organizational facilities as fully as the necessities of the situation demand. From the procedural standpoint pharmacy has not kept pace with the structural expansion. One difficulty with the present system is that there is a tendency upon the part of many organizations to pull away from the individual; to develop along purely organizational lines. In consequence of this attitude, there is evident an organizational complex. The relationship of the individual to the organization and of his relationship to the problems at hand have been subordinated to plans for organizational expansion. Many of the groups in the pharmaceutical field have been given to organizational thinking, resulting in a more or less inflexible organizational outlook. Obviously, such a viewpoint does not stimulate individual interest nor does it attract individual coöperation. To be most effective organizations must be responsive to individual problems. It would seem especially necessary to educate pharmacists to the wide facilities afforded and to point out to them the procedural facilities which the organizations provide for the solution of individual and collective problems.



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A careful study of the development of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION during the last decade will show that it has been conspicuous in its efforts to deal with the basic and individual problems of the pharmacist. Such an attitude in fact was to have been anticipated. There is no pharmaceutical organization to be found which has maintained a closer relation to pharmaceutical problems. The history of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION embraces all that is sound, constructive and intrinsically fine in the development of pharmacy in this country. From the outset down to the present moment it has remained true to the highest ideals. It has exerted its influences to a realization of these ideals. It has thrown the full weight of its prestige to every effort to advance the standing and worth of the profession. The position of pharmacy to-day, from the professional and functional standpoints, is due almost entirely to the stabilizing of deep-rooted judgment of this ASSOCIATION. Others have been tempted to follow the will-o'-the-wisp of superficial movements; some have confused the shadow with the substance of things; still others have failed to distinguish between the slow-moving yet fundamental essentials of progress and the froth of a quickly passing storm. On the other hand, the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has been able, almost by inherent intuition it seems, to see things clearly and to keep its course true to fundamental conceptions.

The soundness of the position which the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has maintained is given special emphasis by the efforts which it has made to reach the needs of the individual pharmacist. The pharmacist has been accepted as perhaps the most important factor in the whole scheme of pharmaceutical organization. To meet his needs, to provide him a common meeting place where his difficulties might be discussed and where plans for mutual progress might be laid, the ASSOCIATION instituted the formation of state pharmaceutical associations. With these organizations an actual fact, the way was provided for concerted effort in the individual states. Just how effective these organizations have been is to be ascertained by a glance over the country as a whole. In every state the laws restrict the practice of pharmacy to those meeting a state-prescribed standard of education; in many cases pharmacy has been accorded a place in the system of public education; the profession has been called upon officially in many instances, to cooperate in maintaining the public health. The secure place which pharmacy occupies in the professional life of the states is due in a very direct sense to the consistent and persistent work which the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has carried on throughout its long and honorable career.

The formation of the state associations was but the beginning of the work which this organization has done to touch the life and the problems of the individual pharmacist. The present set up of the ASSOCIATION'S activities is simply a translation into practice of its original purpose and desire. Comparatively recent trends of thought, culminating first in the creation of the House of Delegates and later in the establishment of the Conference of State Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries and of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Law Enforcement Officials, are emphatic of the resourcefulness and responsiveness of this ASSOCIATION. The significance of these developments is made profoundly important when their relationship to the individual pharmacist is seen. The House of Delegates, as its name indicates, is a body of delegated authority. Reference to the

rules governing this House will show that every state pharmaceutical association is entitled to voting representation. Such an arrangement places the House of Delegates largely under the control of the state associations, and thus in the hands of the practicing pharmacist. Here has been provided a real federation of pharmaceutical interests. As was so ably said by Dr. James H. Beal, the House of Delegates "is a real clearing house for pharmacy and affords the means whereby the state associations may, through their representatives, confer upon policies of common interest and also where the great national organizations of pharmacy may meet and coordinate their respective policies with each other and with the state societies." The House of Delegates thus constitutes a vital influence in pharmacy; its potential force is almost without limitation. It is the one place where state views may be given a national expression; where the problems affecting pharmacy in one state may be met with the forces which have resolved them in others; where diverse sectional views may be welded into a policy applicable to the needs of pharmacy everywhere. The House of Delegates affords an opportunity for the advancement of every pharmaceutical purpose. It is especially adapted to the needs and problems of individual pharmacists. It reaches out and touches his daily work. It provides the place where his hopes and ideals may be enlarged to embrace a national outlook.

The value of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to the individual pharmacist has been further expounded in the Conference of State Pharmaceutical Association Secretaries. This group provides a meeting place for those who are concerned with administrative problems in their own states. There is no field which presents greater need for a pooling of interests, for an understanding of individual problems, for a franker discussion of method and procedure than that dealing with the development and management of state associations. It is quite obvious that these groups depend upon a sound promotional program for their continued usefulness. For this reason nothing is so conducive to morale, to the maintenance of a constructive outlook, than meeting around the council table to discuss with others mutual problems and mutual needs. This conference is devoted to a consideration of the problems met with in association direction and is capable of great good. It can indeed be made the stimulating influence behind the work which the state associations are doing and must continue to do.

It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of the Conference of Pharmaceutical Law Enforcement Officials. There is a growing tendency to look upon law enforcement as the most urgent need confronting pharmacy to-day. To say that the public security demands an enforcement of the pharmacy laws of the several states is simply to state the elementary conception from which these laws have sprung. Therefore, in law enforcement pharmacy is simply making effective the responsibilities imposed by law. It requires little study to establish the direct connection between law enforcement and public security and law enforcement and professional advance. The maintenance of an acceptable legal status is essential to the professional position which pharmacy occupies. It is a field meriting most careful and considerate study. The conference, which has just been instituted in the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, marks the sound attitude which this ASSOCIATION has to this important work. This movement is directly concerned with stimulating the factors upon which the public regard for

pharmacy depends. It touches very acutely the welfare of the individual pharmacist. It may indeed be the answer to many of his problems. It certainly does hold out to him promise of future security and stability.

It would be possible to extend this discussion of just how closely the activities of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION touch the life of the individual pharmacist and how essential its efforts are to the welfare of all pharmaceutical interests. It is sufficient, however, to restate that the ASSOCIATION has ever remained true to its original purpose of developing pharmacy as an essential element in the security, health and welfare of the public. Its facilities are broad enough, comprehensive enough and deep enough to meet in a serious way any problem which pharmacy may present. The limitations to its usefulness are those which the profession itself imposes.

This brings this discussion back to the principle that there is need to stimulate pharmacy to a fuller use of the facilities which organization has made available. This is indeed about the only thing required to make pharmaceutical progress both uniform and certain. This need should be emphasized time and time again. Every branch of pharmacy, and especially that embraced in the activities of the practicing pharmacist, should be directed to the facilities afforded. Great use should be made of the opportunities for collective study of local problems. The future will be bright with promise if the means available for progressive work are utilized as fully as they themselves permit.

The annual meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION should be the outstanding event in pharmacy. It represents the most comprehensive agency in the entire field. It is the only place where every pharmaceutical problem and every pharmaceutical interest may receive consideration. It provides the most dynamic force for the continued development and advancement of the profession. It should be our determined purpose to encourage pharmacists everywhere to make greater use of its resources and to rely upon its strength in meeting the exacting responsibilities of the day.

The history of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION is a brilliant and stimulating record. It is indeed a great tribute to honesty in purpose and principle. The ASSOCIATION has always been conscious of its responsibilities to the public and to the pharmaceutical profession. To-day it is devoted to the same high purposes and to the same fundamental principles which have distinguished it in the past. Its potential power for future good knows no limit. Let us see to it that pharmacy is responsive to the great opportunities which the ASSOCIATION provides.

The future may be faced with an optimistic spirit. It will witness the full fruition of the forces which have long been at work for a finer and more useful profession.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN OBSERVES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

The 50th anniversary meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan was held April 19th and 20th. The function was attended by more than 200 delegates from all parts of the Empire, and a large number of delegates were added from the resident members of Tokyo. The following officers were elected: *President*, Dr. Saburo Takahashi; *Vice-President*, Dr. Keizo Ikeguchi; *Secretaries*, Drs. Asahina, Keimatsu, Nishizaki, Uyeno. *Councillors*: Kondo, Hosoi, Kinugasa, Nabeshima, Ogata, Tanii, Hattori, Isono, Nakao, Nozoe and Taguchi.