

# THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

BY JOHN A. J. FUNK, PRESIDENT.

*Mr. Chairman, Fellow Members of the Association, and Friends:*

The privilege of greeting you as your President at this the twenty-seventh annual convention of our Association is one of the happy moments of my life that I shall always remember. We are fortunate this year and honored by being the guests of a city richly endowed with such a colorful, historic background as Baltimore, situated within a few miles from our national capital, with its governmental, educational and historic significance, as well as beauty. While in Baltimore this week, there will be opportunity for a pilgrimage to historic Fort McHenry, where Francis Scott Key wrote our national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner;" a visit to the tomb of Edgar Allan Poe; and possibly a trip to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, if there is time. Fort Carroll, also nearby, was built under the direction of Robert E. Lee, then a Colonel of Engineers in the U. S. Army.

Baltimore is also a city of commercial activity and has the second greatest industrial harbor in the country. Here, too, is the famous Johns Hopkins Hospital and Johns Hopkins University. The University of Maryland will this week dedicate a new building for its college of pharmacy, which will stand as a monument to the great strides being made in pharmaceutical education. Next week in Washington, we break ground for our American Institute of Pharmacy, heretofore known as the Pharmacy Headquarters Building, another big achievement for pharmacy. Our years of labor are bearing fruit and this is indeed a happy occasion.



JOHN A. J. FUNK.

## U. S. PHARMACOPŒIAL CONVENTION.

Once in ten years we, as pharmacists, assemble with the medical and Government representatives at Washington in the United States Pharmacopœial convention. We must fulfill our professional obligation on this occasion to the very best of our ability in order to reflect credit upon pharmacy, thus counteracting the occasional criticisms which some are making of our honored profession because of the encroachment of merchandising and chain-store methods. In reply, let us point with pride to the part we play in setting and enforcing a standard for drugs and medicines.

The majority of our board members are retail pharmacists, and it is therefore of vital importance that their voices be heard in the deliberations next week in order that the practical aspects relating to the preparing, compounding and dispensing of drugs may be properly stressed. Since the Pharmacopœia sets the recognized government standard, it is very important that the standard be right and fair to all. I am happy to learn that so many of our delegates will represent their respective states at the convention, and I urge all of you, both delegates and non-delegates, to go to Washington and attend these meetings, thereby giving the support of your presence. Once in ten years the time can be spared, and you will find it well invested.

#### AFFAIRS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

As only eight months have elapsed since the Rapid City meeting, this has been a very short year. Therefore, whatever of shortcoming you may discover, your President will promptly blame upon the lack of time. The year as a whole, however, has been very satisfactory.

It is my pleasant duty to report that we have successfully weathered the threatened financial crisis and that for the first time in four years our income and expense accounts balance. Our cash balance on July 1, 1929 was \$12,214.09; on March 31, 1930—\$12,771.33, a net cash increase of \$557.24 for the first nine months of our fiscal year, which will terminate June 30, 1930. As this report was prepared for printing before the end of April, figures for that month could not be computed.

As most of you will remember, a substantial appropriation was set aside for the survey of pharmaceutical education which amount is included in the cash balance shown above, as only a small portion of the money has been expended in preliminary work so far. Until the entire amount needed to conduct the study is pledged, we shall not be called upon to pay up our subscription.

Comparing the figures for the nine months ending March 31, 1930 with the same months of the preceding year may prove interesting: Cash balance July 1, 1928—\$13,203.99; March 30, 1929—\$12,647.24; net cash *decrease* for the period \$556.75 as against an *increase* this year of \$557.24.

Inasmuch as the \$25.00 fee became effective on January 1, 1930, it may also prove interesting to compare the first three months of 1930 with the corresponding months of 1929, when the \$15.00 fee was still in effect. As a rule, corresponding months of different years run about the same. During the first three months of 1929, 266 applications were issued; during the same period in 1930, 205 applications, or 61 less in number this year than the preceding year. This should not, however, be interpreted as an indication that fewer blanks will be issued at the new rate. Inasmuch as advance notice of the increase was broadcast, many applicants who intended to take out reciprocal licenses in the near future, rushed to receive the advantage of the lower rate, with the result that 144 applications were issued during December 1929 as against 73 for the same months in 1928, or an increase of 71. Comparing the four months—December, January, February and March—this year shows 10 more applications issued for that period than the corresponding months of the preceding year.

## LEGISLATION.

The combination of a short convention year and an off legislative year makes our report of legislation passed very brief. This happens to be the year in which only about 10 legislatures assembled. Those which convened in January are still in session and the few measures proposed which affect pharmacy are in most instances in the pending stage. Chairman Williams of the Legislative Committee will give you a detailed report on these. No advice has been received of college prerequisite bills being introduced in any state this past winter.

Next year, however, some forty odd legislatures will convene, including those of most of the states without college prerequisite legislation. Let me urge that these, through their state boards of pharmacy, their state pharmaceutical associations, and individual pharmacists, unite their efforts in a constructive campaign for the prerequisite. The four-year college course becomes effective in 1932. Since the conditions governing pharmacy are practically the same all over the country, there should not be such great variation in the entrance requirements for practicing the profession as there will be when most states are on a four-year college year college basis and a few remain on only the four-year experience requirement. As a majority of the states are now on a college basis and have found the effects of this requirement most beneficial to the welfare of both the public and the profession, the other states—only 12 in number—should follow suit immediately.

## DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The short year certainly did not interfere with the number of district meetings held, and this is undoubtedly due to the growing enthusiasm for more meetings, once a district gets started. Five districts held meetings at which both boards and college faculties were represented, during the period from January 1st to April 7th, as against three last year in seven months' time. In fact, members of two more districts were dissuaded from holding meetings as the only time available was the latter part of April and it was felt that either the attendance would suffer on account of the closeness of the convention or states sending representation to the district meeting might be unable to send delegates to the annual convention. Meetings were held in Districts 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7; Districts 3 and 5 are planning sessions early in fall. In the western districts, we have been unable as yet to overcome the obstacle of distance. The traveling expense is so great that only one or two states of a district can promise attendance of a delegate and this is not sufficient to warrant calling a meeting.

The district chairmen are to be congratulated on accomplishing so much this year.

## IN MEMORIAM.

At this time let us pause to honor the memory of our departed members. Five have been called from their labors since our last convention. We shall miss them; their places will not easily be filled.

Let us strive to carry on as they would have us, in such a manner that will bring honor to our Association and profession.

Harvey P. Bissell, Connecticut.

C. O. Ballou, Idaho.

Charles L. Joy, Idaho.  
Frederick W. Archer, Massachusetts.  
Harry W. Servant, Missouri.  
Robert H. Walker, Texas.

At a later session, I shall call upon fellow board members of the departed to pay tribute to our members who have passed to their reward.

#### TOLERANCE.

While tolerance as a necessity in reciprocity has been called to the attention of the members of the Association almost every year, yet I believe the subject so important that it should be stressed again this year. When it is recalled that no two states have laws exactly alike, and that the rules and regulations interpreting these laws make for further variation, it will be clearly seen that in order to have reciprocity that is worthy of the name, we must have a tolerant spirit on technicalities and differences in laws and rulings when these come up.

Take, for example, the question of grades: I am informed that the laws of only a very few states specifically mention the grade standard in the reciprocal clause. When this is not done, the matter of accepting grades rests entirely with the discretion of the board. No applicant who registered prior to 1915, when there was no minimum examination or uniform system of grading, should be rejected because he does not come up to the present standard of 75% general average or minimum of 60% in any one subject. His many years of practice since registration attest to his competency and that is all the law contemplates. To give reciprocal recognition to another examining board implies faith in its examinations, system of grading and judgment. To refuse to accept grades which another board deemed worthy of a license under its system of examination in the early period before a minimum was adopted, is to question the good judgment of the examining board, especially when it is backed up by years of successful practice on the part of the applicant. A board that refuses such an applicant on this account certainly shows a "technical" rather than a "tolerant" spirit.

#### CONVENTION ATTENDANCE.

I am pleased to note that we have about the average number of boards represented at this convention. However, *every* board should be represented at *every* convention. As it is, some 30 odd states send delegates. Usually the same states are represented each year, and the other fifteen or more members are not represented and therefore not only lose contact with their Association, its needs and accomplishments, but also lose the benefit to themselves and the public of their respective states, which comes from contact and deliberation with other board members. Enthusiastic support cannot be gained nor benefit derived from a written report of a meeting, no matter how well it is done. Owing to the unique nature of our work, the complete understanding and whole-hearted support of every member board is absolutely essential, if we are to achieve the full measure of success. As the membership of boards changes frequently, sometimes in entirety, these new members must be made familiar with the work of the N. A. B. P. Personal contact with fellow board members at meetings is the only way this can be accomplished

satisfactorily. In fact, most public welfare bodies and even governors of states recognize this need and meet in national conferences annually in order to get the benefit of experiences and advice from similar groups in other states.

In a few instances, boards which have been unable to send representation to national meetings on account of the distance and expense *have* been able to send representatives to nearby district meetings and in this way, these meetings have been of tremendous help. However, attendance at a district meeting should not be considered an excuse for lack of representation at the annual conventions.

The foregoing is not meant as a criticism, but simply to emphasize the importance of convention attendance. The fact that our reciprocal difficulties originate, as a rule, in states which do not send delegates to the meetings, the reason being, of course, that these absentee states have not had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with existing or changed conditions, shows the necessity for convention attendance.

In most instances, the reason for non-attendance is that the state does not allow expenses for travel outside its own borders. As it is difficult to get a member to volunteer to make the trip at his own expense, one way to overcome this might be for these boards to arrange to pro-rate the expenses among the five or six members, electing a different member as delegate each year. This would distribute the expense. Also, in those states where no budget is available, board members will often find the state pharmaceutical association and other bodies willing to help when the condition is explained.

After all, there is no pecuniary profit from service on a board, and those who accept the honor should be willing to make the necessary financial sacrifice to keep pharmacy within the state up-to-date in its examinations, education, reciprocity, etc. Attendance at N. A. B. P. meetings with the added opportunity of contact with the college association and the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION is the best and cheapest way of accomplishing this. It is really the duty of every board to find a way to send representation to these meetings.

#### HOME OFFICE.

During the past year, I have had the pleasure of visiting the home office on three occasions and observing the manner in which the work of the Association is being carried out. Only those who have had the opportunity of spending a day or even a few hours in the central office can realize how much time and effort it has taken to plan and equip it to handle its multitudinous duties and to gather and compile the statistical information on hand. It is to be regretted that so few of our board members can see the office and appreciate what is being done. I urge all of you who pass through Chicago on a trip to make the N. A. B. P. office your first stop.

Secretary Christensen and his assistants are to be complimented on the splendid work they are doing for pharmacy.

#### CONCLUSION.

Personally, I want to thank all officers and committees as well as members of the Association for the splendid assistance and cooperation which I have received during the term of my office. If this year has numbered accomplishments,

I acknowledge that I owe the success to those who have at all times been so willing to help and coöperate.

I have great admiration for the past of this Association and profound faith in its future. I believe that every penny which the N. A. B. P. has spent and is spending in its budgets for making reciprocity more general, assisting in legislation, rendering examination help, gathering statistics, promoting studies, etc., has yielded far greater returns for pharmacy and the practicing pharmacists of the country than could otherwise have been accomplished. Through this, we have learned the advantages of and necessity for coördination and coöperation in our efforts. We are no longer insular in our ideas. We have found out that what is good for one state is good for another, and thus are profiting by the experiences of other states and abandoning the slow method of working out our problems altogether by ourselves. The age in which we live demands efficiency and assumes a scientific, fact-finding altitude even in business. No one board has the resources to carry out such a policy, but by pooling our interests in our national body, the N. A. B. P., we are able to work out our problems mutually with modern efficiency and to be a strong force in the uplift of pharmacy to the professional status which it should enjoy.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE III of Chapter VII reads: "The objects and aims of local branches of this Association shall be the same as set forth in ARTICLE I of the Constitution of this body, and the acts of local branches shall in no way commit or bind this Association, and can only serve as recommendations to it. And no local branch shall enact any article of Constitution or By-Law to conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association."

ARTICLE IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches shall be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

### NEW YORK.

The April meeting of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University, on Monday, the 14th, the chair being taken by President Robert R. Gerstner. About 75 members were present, of whom 31 attended the Get-Together Dinner which preceded the meeting.

The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

Chairman Lehman of the Committee on Education and Legislation, reported that the so-called "Druggists' Bill" was defeated in

the State Assembly. He also stated that the bill, introduced by the New York State Pharmaceutical Association, embodying amendments to the pharmacy law of the State had passed both houses and was awaiting the Governor's signature. In regard to National Legislation, he reported on the present standing of the Capper-Kelly Bill, H. R. 11, the Williamson Bill, H. R. 8574, and the Johnson Bill, H. R. 6996; this last provides for a commissioned medical service in the Veterans' Bureau; the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, the American Association Colleges of Pharmacy and the National Associa-