

# EDITORIAL

E. G. EBERLE, EDITOR

10 West Chase St., BALTIMORE, MD.

## PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

QUITE a number of annual Association meetings have been held, others will follow in succeeding months. The topics of discussion are influenced by the conditions of pharmacy, the drug business and the progress of developments. State associations and national organizations depend for their success on the loyalty and support of the individuals comprising them—no single group can stand alone, and is helpless, in degree, without the support and coöperation of the others, and no permanent good can come to the people when one group or organization endeavors to control or destroy the others.

Liberty is taken in repeating what has been said in these columns before—there is need not only for a larger percentage membership of pharmacists in state associations but for greater activity and participation in the promotions of pharmacy. The strength of associations is in numbers, provided a majority take an active part and accept the decisions reached after thoughtful deliberations. This not only speaks for larger membership but for a working together to adjust pharmacy to changing conditions and seeking new ways and methods for service. Educational standards have been advanced through Association efforts, so also continued and beneficial results will follow well-directed coöperation in behalf of legislative matters that will serve the public and promote pharmacy.

Associations should become thoroughly acquainted with the opportunities afforded them by the House of Delegates, A. PH. A., and a re-reading of the able address by its Chairman at the Baltimore meeting is commended (May JOURNAL A. PH. A., pages 499-502). The House of Delegates provides a real federation of pharmaceutical interests, of which Dr. James H. Beal has said that it "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 coördinate their respective policies with each other and with the state societies."

Chairman R. L. Swain comments: "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."

It is hoped that the delegates who attended the Baltimore meeting will impress the members of their respective associations with the importance of this body and also bring to the attention of their memberships the resolutions of the House of Delegates, printed in the May JOURNAL A. PH. A., pages 522-526. Most

of them are of interest to all Associations and are subjects for profitable discussion.

In the pharmaceutical and drug-trade activities there are always problems to be solved and situations to be met which require the study of all concerned; unless the mutual relations are given consideration there can be no successful outcome. There must be recognition of common interests of manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers.

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### THE HOSPITAL PHARMACY AND THE PHARMACIST.

**E**VERY pharmacist is interested, or should be, in the management of hospitals and, because of his professional relation, in the pharmacies and dispensaries of hospitals, and also because of his family and his patrons. The reason for pharmacy legislation is largely because of the preparation of medicines and the dispensing of them by pharmacists, and the same regulations, in a related way, should obtain in the pharmacies of hospitals.

There is a growing interest on the part of physicians in that division of the hospital, because the results of their work depend in a measure on the service the pharmacists render. The progress of medicine depends on coöperation of its several divisions, and due recognition of all who have a part in it. Quoting the *Journal of the American Medical Association* of a year or more ago—"In its work with hospitals it is the desire of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals to cooperate in every way possible for the improvement of hospital service, whereby sick or injured people may be provided with the best possible care." Prompted by that desire the Council has outlined essentials for hospitals. These are excellent, but the qualifications of the hospital pharmacists and of the hospital pharmacies should receive due consideration. Steps to that end are being taken and that is a reason for this comment, so pharmacists may become interested and give whatever aid and counsel is possible, not only because a service is rendered, but because such participation advances pharmacy.

Phoebe Miller Kandel, Director, Nursing Education Department of Public Welfare, Lincoln, Nebraska, is author of a valuable book on "Hospital Economics for Nurses," published by Harper & Brothers. In it a chapter is given to "The Pharmacy;" the following is quoted:

**"The Personnel of the Pharmacy.**—The personnel of the pharmacy should include a registered pharmacist, a registered assistant pharmacist and as many attendants as the pharmacist in charge feels he needs. The number of the personnel depends upon the demand of the hospital, the location of the ward drug rooms, and the system established for the transportation of the drugs and other supplies.

"In some of the hospitals of the United States that have accredited schools of nursing connected with them, a student nurse is assigned to the drug room for one or two months. It is thought that this experience is valuable if the work is organized and directed by a registered pharmacist, so that the student will be instructed and supervised in the preparation of solutions and weighing and measuring of drugs."

The foregoing shows the importance and at the same time, perhaps, an opportunity of systematizing pharmacies, so that there may be greater uniformity in the management of this important department.

We are also quoting the concluding article relating to "Suggestions for Managing the Pharmacy" from the recent volume, "Modern Hospital Year Book:"

"Because of the vital importance of the pharmacy in emergencies, it should be kept continuously open. The function of the pharmacy as an adjunctive aid to the physician and to the surgeon makes it one of the most essential departments of the hospital. It takes its place with other staff services in the training of pupil nurses. Because its interrelationships with all other hospital departments are so intimate the pharmacy (even though it be supervised by a competent and experienced pharmacist) deserves a considerable share of the time and attention of every hospital superintendent."

The following is from an article in the *Journal A. M. A.*, April 26, 1930, by our fellow member, William Gray, Pharmacist in Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago:

"The work of the hospital pharmacist differs materially from that of the pharmacist in the retail drug store. To the hospital pharmacist the most important part of his work is service, while the pharmacist in a drug store is more interested in sales. The hospital pharmacist must keep in close touch with the advances in professional pharmacy and be acquainted with new remedies as they come into use as well as with pharmaceutical progress in general. He must always stand ready to cooperate efficiently with the medical staff of the hospital, and he must be able to suggest officially recognized and tested medicines as against more expensive proprietary or branded products. This necessitates having at hand the most complete information available, in such standards as the United States Pharmacopœia, the National Formulary and New and Nonofficial Remedies."

A cooperative interest in this important subject by pharmacists and physicians will be helpful and a service will be rendered both groups and those who are served by them. We are encouraged by what is being done, as indicated by the foregoing comments, because of the greater opportunities and the evident interest.

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#### COMMENCEMENT MONTH.

**J**UNE is commencement month—young men and women commence their activities in public, professional and business life; they assume responsibilities for which their studies during previous years have prepared them. The young pharmacists among them have been taught the essentials of the drug business and the importance of pharmacy as the foundation of it; the problems and opportunities confronting them require that they put into practice their belief and faith in pharmacy, and we express the hope that sons and daughters of the respective "Alma Maters" will always be loyal to the institutions from which they have received their credentials.

Nearness to publication date will not permit of extended references to schools of pharmacy that apply to the statement in the foregoing paragraph, but it is pleasing to note that three of the honor men of the graduating class of the Medical Department of the University of Maryland, are graduates of its Pharmacy School. Two veteran alumni, brothers, Charles C. and Henry G. Drueding, generously furnished a room for Museum purposes in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. The bequest of Mrs. Harriet J. Bradbury to Massachusetts College of Pharmacy of one million dollars provides income for maintenance and makes provision for research and post-graduate work.

We hope in a succeeding issue to make mention of a number of institutions who have given prize memberships in the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.