

of domestic tax-paid alcohol which may be taken as the basis for payment of drawback may equal the quantity actually appearing in the preparation as exported, provided that in no case shall it exceed 12 percent. in volume of alcohol of 190 degrees proof.

(T. D. 32892.) **DRAWBACK ON CHEWING GUM.**—Drawback was allowed on "U-all-no mint chewing gum," manufactured by the Manufacturing Co. of America, Philadelphia, from refined sugar obtained from imported raw sugar, chicle and essence of mint.

### The Bulletin Board



**GEORGE M. BERINGER.**

George Mahlon Beringer, president-elect for 1913-14, of the American Pharmaceutical Association, was born in the old district of Southwark of Philadelphia on February 3, 1860. He obtained his early education in the public schools of that city, graduating from the Central High School with the degree of A. B., and a standing meriting the award of a teacher's certificate. He developed special fondness for the study of chemistry and this

led him to enter the employ of the firm of Bullock & Crenshaw on March 1, 1876, where he made the acquaintance of the late Thomas S. Wiegand, editor of the later editions of Parrish's Pharmacy, who assisted and guided him in his early studies in pharmacy. The strong friendship then established lasted until the decease of Mr. Wiegand.

In 1878, Mr. Beringer matriculated as a student in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1880, the subject of his thesis being "Caffeina."

Subsequently he engaged in laboratory work with Bullock & Crenshaw and later became manager of their retail department as well as an advisory and research chemist. Being employed during the day, he was unable to enter the Analytical Laboratory of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and took, instead, an evening course with Dr. Henry Leffmann, the well known chemical expert.

At this time he became active in the organization of the Lyceum of the Ebenezer M. E. Church of Philadelphia, contributing literary and scientific essays and participating in debates, a training which proved to be of much value to him in his subsequent work.

In 1882 Mr. Beringer was married to Miss Estella F. Wolfe, of Camden, N. J., and removed to that city. In order to carry out more fully his experimental and research work, he fitted up a small laboratory at his residence, and here in the early hours of the morning and frequently the late hours of the night, he made his investigations.

After graduation from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, he continued his studies, chiefly along botanical and chemical lines, and in these he has been largely self-taught. Summer vacations were utilized for botanical excursions, and his herbarium is a good representation of local flora. He was one of the founders of the Philadelphia Botanical Club, and was its president for several years.

In 1892 he was elected director of the Microscopical Laboratory of the Alumni Association of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and performed the duties of this position until the association turned the laboratory over to the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1894.

Mr. Beringer remained with Bullock & Crenshaw until June 1, 1892, when he purchased the retail drug store of the late

Albert P. Brown at the northeast corner of Fifth and Federal streets, Camden. In 1898, he rebuilt, remodeling and refitting the store to meet the demands of a rapidly growing manufacturing and physicians' supply business, as well as an extensive retail drug trade. He specialized in urine analyses for physicians and has made many hundreds of analyses; also a number of toxicological investigations for the police authorities in cases of suspected poisoning in Camden, Burlington and Cape May counties.

The degree of Ph. M., *honoris causa*, was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater in 1903. He is a life member of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and the Chairman of its Board of Trustees, as well as the Chairman of the Committee on Instruction and a member of other committees. He is a life member of the Academy of National Sciences of Philadelphia, and its Botanical Section; of the Philadelphia Botanical Club and the American Chemical Society. He became a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1893 and is a most active and loyal member. He is chairman of the Committee on Unofficial Standards, and a member of the Committee on Publication, the Committee on National Formulary, and the Pharmaceutical Syllabus Committee. He is a "live wire," as the late C. S. N. Hallberg would say, and his work on behalf of the Association has been most valuable. He is a member of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association and was its President of 1904-05. He is, also, an honorary member of the Pennsylvania and Maryland Pharmaceutical Associations. Lastly, he is an exceedingly active member of the Committee on Revision of the U. S. Pharmacopœia, and Chairman of the Sub-committee on Fluid and Solid Extracts.

He is broad-gauged, interesting himself in public affairs, as well as those of his own calling. He places high value upon building and loan association work as a stimulus to thrift. The Guarantee Building and Loan Association of Camden resulted from a meeting held at his home in August, 1886, and from its inception he has been its secretary. He takes a deep interest in legislative affairs generally, and has been a leading spirit in a number of movements in his city for the uplift of civic conditions.

Mr. Beringer is a man of action. He is a close student of the progress of pharmacy

and allied sciences, and his contributions to pharmaceutical literature have been many and valuable. He loves work—he revels in work, or as a fellow-member of his on a committee of the American Pharmaceutical Association once said of him to the writer—"He is a fiend for work," and his capacity seems unlimited. Moreover, with his love of work, he has the ability of inspiring enthusiasm in others; the committees of which he is the chairman "get things done." His work is marked by unusual ability, thoroughness and practicality. He is purposeful and resourceful. He wastes no time in unnecessary details. He gets "at the core of things," picking "kernels of truth from hulls of sham" and yet covers his subjects fully.

Personally, Mr. Beringer is genial, warm-hearted and every ready and willing to help others, and to do his full duty in all movements for the advancement of pharmacy. His critical faculty is highly developed, but he is an unsparing critic of himself, as well as others, and is fair and reasonable with his opponents. His conclusions are carefully made, but once made they are firmly maintained, and generally prove to be correct.

His many friends will rejoice in the honor that has come to him, in his election as President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and will wish him many years of happiness, usefulness and prosperity.

J. W. E.



### CARL L. ALSBERG.

THE NEW CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF  
CHEMISTRY.

Dr. Alsberg is the son of a chemist and grew up in an atmosphere of chemistry. He was born in New York City April 2, 1877, and his early education was had in private schools in New York City, and in 1892 he entered Columbia University, receiving the A. B. degree in 1896. He then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, receiving his M. D. degree in 1900, and the degree of A. M. from the University during the same year. He then went to Germany, and during the period from 1900 to 1903 he took graduated work in the University of Strassburg along the lines of pharmacology, physiological chemistry, and internal medicine. For two months in the spring of 1901 he was a research worker at the German Imperial Institut for Experi-

mental Therapeutics at Frankfort-am-Main, and also at the Senckenbergisches Institut. He took graduate work at the University Summer School in Berlin during the summer recess of 1901, and from June, 1903, to January, 1904, he was a graduate student in chemistry at the University of Berlin. While in



DR. CARL L. ALSBERG

Germany, Doctor Alsberg worked under Schmiedeberg, who is recognized as the leading chemical pharmacologist in the world.

In September, 1902, Doctor Alsberg was appointed Assistant in Physiological Chemistry at Harvard Medical School, with leave of absence until January, 1903. He was granted leave from June, 1903, to January, 1904, to go abroad for purposes of study. In June, 1905, he was advanced to instructor in biological chemistry at the Harvard Medical School and jointly with a colleague of the same rank put in charge of the Department of Biological Chemistry. The next year he was advanced to faculty instructor and made sole head of the Department, which position he retained until his resignation in October, 1908, to accept a position in the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. He was appointed in

that Bureau after a long search for a man who could combine the science of pathology, physiology, and chemistry in such a way as to conduct a number of special investigations upon which work he has been engaged up to the present time.

Dr. Alsberg has acquired an international reputation as an authority on the biological phases of chemistry. He has been Chairman of the New Biochemical Section of the American Chemical Society—the largest and most influential scientific society in America—since its formation. At the St. Louis Exposition he was Secretary of the Section of Physiological Chemistry of the International Congress of Arts and Sciences. His publications in the field of biochemistry have been numerous. Since being in the service of the Department of Agriculture, Doctor Alsberg has received a number of flattering offers to take up work along the lines of pharmacology and chemistry from colleges and other institutions.



#### MORE ABOUT THE PROPAGANDA.

In an article by Dr. Fantus printed in the November JOURNAL he states that some doctors object to druggists giving gratuitous therapeutical information to physicians in the U. S. P. and N. F. propaganda work. He further states that some of the therapeutic ideas advanced by pharmacists "though taken from text books" are antiquated, etc.

How deplorable that whatever good is intended in a movement will be misconstrued! May I ask the doctor a few questions:

Are all the text books obsolete?

Has he consulted some of the living writers of text books?

Is there anything good in text books?

Are the tried remedies (though antiquated) to be discarded; e. g., are senna, aloes, rhubarb, podophyllum, magnesium sulphate, etc., to be replaced by Smith's Laxine, Cathartazine, General Purpose Tablets, etc.?

Is sufficient stress laid upon the teaching of therapeutics and materia medica in every medical college?

Would Professor Lister turn over in his grave if he knew how he is being immortalized by the Listerine Manufacturing Company?

What were the primary objects of the A. M. A. in promulgating the work of its Coun-

cil on Pharmacy and its Chemical Laboratory?

Has their work brought results?

The doctor states truly: "The better educated the doctor the less will he be in need of the U. S. P. and the N. F. propaganda."

What sane man will not admit this? But may I ask Dr. Fantus if he knows what per cent. of the prescriptions of five years ago proved that many prescribers were of the better educated kind? May I ask the doctor if he has ever examined a class of recent medical graduates in prescription writing?

Not wishing to take up too much space in *THE JOURNAL OF THE A. PH. A.*, I would earnestly refer the doctor to an article in the *Journal of the A. M. A.*, Sept. 30, 1911, pp. 1133-1135, entitled "Prescription Writing."

The doctor recommends that the druggist should endeavor to educate the physician in other matters, e. g., pleasant methods of administration. I agree with the doctor, but permit me to state that this subject would soon be exhausted, the capsule, cachet, pill, chocolate-coated tablet and a few elixirs will do the work. The value of the remedy is in the active ingredient, not in the taste.

The doctor continues and mentions "commercialism," "counter-prescribing," "refilling of prescriptions," and lastly, "substitution" (the war cry of the slanderer). Will the poor druggist ever hear the last of these accusations, which were borne by his competitors: (a) the dispensing physician, (b) the grasping physician, and (c) the enemies of both the physician and the druggist, the specialty manufacturers, and the synthetic grafter?

For mercy's sake, "let us have peace." The writer believes that any man who is familiar with pharmaceutical education knows well that we have men and women educated in pharmaceutical science equal to the best equipped doctors in the medical science.

These kind of pharmacists are making propaganda of the U. S. P. and N. F. preparations and are certainly ready and willing to do all in their power to assist medical men in preventing and stamping out disease, and do not consider the loss to their pocket-book, either.

Let us realize that there are good and bad druggists, good and bad doctors, but let us think only of the good ones and forget those

things in this world which belittle our fellow man.

E. A. SENNEWALD.



## SCIENTIFIC SECTION MEMBERSHIP.

While every member of the American Pharmaceutical Association may rightfully claim membership in each and every one of its several Sections, there are many who are not sufficiently interested in purely scientific pharmacy to have any desire to be actively identified with the work of the Scientific Section, and who would pay no attention whatever to any communications from the Section. To prevent undue waste of the resources of the Association, and to conserve the energies of the officers of the Section for the cultivation of only the promising part of the membership field, it is proposed that there be made up a list of active members for the Section. Now, neither the Chairman nor the Secretary are sufficiently conversant with the mental trend of the members of the Association to warrant them to presume to compile such a list; hence, they request each and every member who wishes to be considered a member of the Section to write on an ordinary postal card, "Member Scientific Section, A. Ph. A.," following this with his name and address; and then address the card to F. P. Stroup, Secy., 145 North Tenth St., Philadelphia, Pa.



## THE A. PH. A. HOME.

December 2, 1912.

Professor James H. Beal, Scio, Ohio.

*My Dear Professor Beal:* Your editorial in the November *JOURNAL* on the need of a building for the A. Ph. A. impressed me so much that I read it to our faculty with the result that I am authorized to write you, saying that the Buffalo College of Pharmacy subscribes \$100 toward an A. Ph. A. building for its own purposes, payable as soon as total subscriptions amounting to \$5000 are received and a call is made upon such subscribers.

We are aware that this sum is somewhat minute for the ultimate purpose, but sometimes a small beginning is sufficient to inaugurate a promising movement, and in this hope we make this proposition. Of course back of this is an appreciation of the great service that the A. Ph. A. has rendered to American pharmacy and a recognition of its need of a building of its own in which to

conduct its affairs. With personal regards,  
I am, Yours very truly,  
WILLIS G. GREGORY, *Dean.*

&lt;&gt;

INDIANA BOARD OF PHARMACY.

SALEM, IND., NOV. 28, 1912.

Prof. James H. Beal, Scio, Ohio.

*My Dear Mr. Beal:* I want to compliment you on your article in the last JOURNAL on having a home for the A. Ph. A. That is one of the best suggestions that has been made in a long time.

I should like to have a part in such a work, although, like most druggists, not in position to give a large amount. Why could we not have a fund started with that object in view? I think we could get some city to give us the ground and perhaps some help on the side.

The first time I am in Indianapolis will see what some of our druggist friends think of the proposition.

Yours truly,  
W. H. RUDDER.

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## THE DIFFERENCE.

D. N. ROBIN, PH. G.

"Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time."

At near midnight on November 12, 1912, a druggist by the name of J. Arthur Bean died from the effects of an automobile accident received some weeks earlier.

Since his death the entire pharmaceutical press has been filled with notices of his life and work, such as the following:

"It is no exaggeration to say that the death of J. Arthur Bean, of Somerville, has cast all drug-trade matters of general interest in Boston and vicinity into the background during the past month."

"Only those who have been fortunate enough to come into personal contact with him in association work can fully realize the great loss in the untimely death of J. Arthur Bean."

"I can readily understand how much you must be grieved on learning of the death of our mutual friend, Mr. J. Arthur Bean."

"Our friend has gone from us forever so far as this world is concerned, but it is not hard to believe that such men as J. Arthur Bean can never die, but the influence of his life will ever live."

These and scores of similar tributes have expressed the deep and abiding affection in which he was held by his druggist friends and associates.

Mr. Bean was only about forty years of age, yet I have known of druggists who lived to be fifty, sixty, seventy, and even ninety-three years of age, whose demise only brought forth a brief notice in their home paper, giving the dates of their births and deaths.

Why this difference?

At about the same time as Mr. Bean's death, there died another druggist whom we will call "X," since X is an unknown quantity, and the greater proportion of druggists who die annually are unknown quantities in the drug world.

When druggist X died he was about fifty-seven years old. He graduated from a college of pharmacy at about the time Mr. Bean was born. The death notice was the stereotyped one stating that he was a local druggist who conducted a drug store on Z St.

During the hour of the services over the body of Mr. Bean every pharmacy in Somerville was closed.

During the services over X's remains only his immediate family and relatives knew of it, or cared.

Mr. Bean died leaving two flourishing drug stores; he had attained many honors in his profession, and his death was the cause of much sorrow to his fellowmen.

When X died he had an interest in one of the smallest drug stores in the city in which he lived. He had never received any honors, and he "never will be missed."

What was the difference?

The one man was a doer of deeds, he recognized his obligations to his fellow-workers in pharmacy, and strove earnestly to discharge them. He gave largely of his time and money to association work, and the more he gave, the more he gained.

The other man lived for himself alone, and did not recognize that he owed the world any obligations, and consequently the world does not recognize any obligations to him. He saved his money and his time, instead of "wasting" them on association work, and the more he saved, the less he had.

Let us, then, be doers of deeds and lovers of men, so that when we die we shall have earned the tributes of our fellows and not be an unknown quantity as was druggist "X."