

## The Women's Section

Proceedings and Papers Read at the Sixty-First Annual Convention

### FIRST SESSION.

The initial meeting of the Women's Section was called to order by the President, Mrs. John G. Godding, at 3 p. m. on Tuesday, August 19, in the Assembly Rooms of the Hotel Hermitage, Nashville, Tenn.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Detwiler.

Mrs. Robert Lee Thompson brought the greetings of the Nashville ladies as hostesses. Response was made by Mrs. Henry M. Whelpley, of St. Louis.

Greetings from the American Pharmaceutical Association were presented by Dr. J. H. Beal, General Secretary. The cordial welcome which Dr. Beal brought to the Women's Section from the parent body was very pleasing to the members. Among other things he said:

"The creation of this Section and its success is a question which is near to the hearts of the men of the A. Ph. A. who make the welfare of that Association their thought by day and their dream by night. There is a work that you can do that cannot be done without you. We men feel that we are capable of handling the coarser, heavy work of the Association, but we believe that there is a finer quality of work that can be done by the Women's Section that you can better accomplish. We welcome you most heartily as our coadjutors in making the A. Ph. A. conserve the best traditions in pharmacy, and not to be only a conserver, but a developer of what ought to be our common aim."

Professor Joseph P. Remington was then called upon by the chair to make a few remarks, and he gave in interesting, informal talk, welcoming the Women's Section to the A. Ph. A., and heartily endorsing the Section and its objects. He dwelt at some length on the story of Betsy Marshall and the establishment of the old Ellis drug store in Philadelphia as an example of the work a woman may accomplish in pharmacy and the influence for good which she impresses on all who are associated with her. Professor Remington unqualifiedly approved the Women's Section and asked that it give especial attention to the History of Pharmacy.

The President announced that the next order of business was the Report of the Secretary, which was as follows:

### REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE WOMEN'S SECTION OF THE A. PH. A.

On December 31, 1912, President Day of the American Pharmaceutical Association appointed the temporary officers and committees for the Women's Section, but it was not until the latter part of March that the work of organization and the preparation for this initial meeting was actually begun.

Your Secretary's work has been largely the care of the correspondence incident

to perfecting the plans for this meeting, the details of which will be reported by the various committees.

In an effort to make known the existence of the Women's Section to as large a number as it was possible to reach, a letter was addressed to the pharmaceutical press asking editorial comment on our Section. A large number of the journals responded generously, some giving us liberal mention in a general comment on the A. Ph. A. Convention, others reprinting the article which appeared in the JOURNAL, and still others simply publishing the Secretary's letter. These articles will be more interesting reading in years to come than now and have therefore been preserved in scrap-book style and attached to this report.

Another publicity effort was the sending of a letter to the presidents of the



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Secretary Women's Section.



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State Pharmaceutical Associations throughout the country, asking that mention of the Women's Section be made in the presidential addresses presented at the annual conventions, and extending a general invitation to the pharmacists of each state to attend the Nashville convention and especially urging women pharmacists to affiliate with the A. Ph. A. But few replies were received in answer to this request, but no doubt many of these state presidents complied with it, although there will be no opportunity to read these addresses until the printed proceedings are distributed.

The following ideas which have come to your Secretary in the course of her work are submitted for your consideration.

Few young organizations, whether of men or of women, are so fortunate as the Women's Section in having placed in its hands for use at the very beginning

of its existence such splendid machinery as is offered to us by the A. Ph. A. If properly managed, this gives us the means for a sure and healthy growth and development without limit.

One of these instruments right to our hand is the JOURNAL of the Association, in which Dr. Beal, as editor, has courteously offered us such space as we may need to further our organization. Your Secretary would recommend the establishment in the JOURNAL of a permanent department, recording each month such items as will be of interest to the members of our Section.

To properly provide for the contributions to the JOURNAL, let us have appointed a Press Committee, which could also look after the publicity in other drug journals and such publications as would be especially interested in the activities of a women's organization.

Whenever the Women's Section sees an opportunity to cooperate with the officers and committees of the A. Ph. A. to the advantage of either, it should be promptly done, so that we may keep pace in thought and action with the parent body.

In the formation of a Women's Branch Section in connection with each local branch of the A. Ph. A., we have another good means for interesting the women and drawing the association threads closer. The members of the Branch Section could occupy themselves as they might choose at their meetings which would be held at the same time as the local branch meetings, and no doubt the Women's Section in time would gain as much from its branches as the A. Ph. A. does from its local branches.

Another beneficial agency would be to keep in close touch with the colleges of pharmacy, boards of pharmacy, state associations and their women's auxiliaries, local druggists' associations and the various women's organizations. Through these institutions we would be able to reach a large part of those women eligible to membership in the A. Ph. A. and therefore in the Women's Section.

Our permanent organization should provide for the preservation of our records and proceedings. Arrangements should also be made for providing the Secretary with a complete list of drug exchanges.

The proceedings of our Section will be printed in the JOURNAL, and the preservation of our records being provided for, this brings us to the consideration of the project which will no doubt be discussed by the A. Ph. A. at this convention, that is, the establishing of an A. Ph. A. headquarters. If this receives favorable action, our Section should at once seek for quarters and recognition on the same basis as other sections, pledging our cooperation toward its establishment.

The Secretary wishes to thank the members of the official family who have so generously responded to her calls for help in this organization work, a task undertaken by her with many misgivings.

ANNA G. BAGLEY, Secretary.

Mrs. John C. Wallace, First Vice President, was called to the chair while the President read her address.