

p. 1450) has reported two cases of blindness under similar conditions; De Schweinitz (Ophthalmic Record, 1901, p. 289), one case of a painter blinded by an inhalation of a methylated spirits varnish, not in a vat but in the ordinary routine of his work; Hiram Woods (Journal A. M. A., 1913, LX, p. 1762), has reported a case of blindness following the use of methyl alcohol as a *liniment!*

In the light of these reported—and no one knows how many unreported—disasters, are the pharmacists going to stand sponsors for an agent fraught with such horrible dangers? Is the question of dollars and cents to be forever balanced against human life and happiness?

Even if we grant that these cases are rare, it seems to me that one well authenticated case should be enough to make every true pharmacist do all in his power to banish the poison *entirely* from the drug store. There is no justifiable use for methyl alcohol in or about the pharmacy, much less for its sale. The mission of the pharmacist should be to aid in the saving of human life, not in its destruction.

Yours truly,  
HORATIO C. WOOD, JR., M. D.

[Resolution 6, adopted at the Nashville meeting, reads as follows:

*Resolved*, That the American Pharmaceutical Association go on record in favor of legally requiring methyl alcohol to be sold under a name that will differentiate it from ethyl alcohol or spirits generally, and under a poison label.

The subject was also discussed editorially in the July issue, page 817, where a case of blindness following the external use of wood alcohol was referred to.—J. H. B.]

### MAKING EXCUSES.

The moment you have to make excuses to yourselves for anything you do or intend to do, that moment you are standing on a rotten piece of ice, that may break from under you at any time, and leave you struggling in very deep, cold water!—water that is full of long weeds, too, that will twist around your legs, and drag you down deeper the harder you try to swim. For it is the kind of water you have no right to be in; it was not intended for swimming, as you find when you get into it. You fellows who have been caught in the weeds well know what I am driving at and the fellows who haven't had better keep out.—Robert Lloyd.

## Proceedings of the Local Branches

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be *plainly* written, or type-written, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.



### THE PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

The 1913-14 series of meetings of the Philadelphia Branch had an auspicious beginning at the first meeting which was held at the Drug Club on Tuesday evening, October 7, 1913, with President Cliffe in the Chair.

An informal dinner was served in the Drug Club Cafe, which was followed by a well-attended and enthusiastic session. Two new members were elected, Messrs. James A. Ferguson and Elmer H. Hessler.

Final action was taken on an Amendment to the By-law defining the fiscal year of the Branch, which was thereby changed to correspond with the calendar year.

Invitations offering meeting accommodations were extended the Branch by the Departments of Pharmacy of the Medico-Chirurgical College and Temple University, and by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Upon motion the invitations were accepted and the Executive Committee instructed to arrange and schedule the meetings to be held at each place.

Mr. Franklin M. Apple, First Vice President-elect of the A. Ph. A. tendered his resignation as the member of Council from this Branch, and Dr. F. E. Stewart was elected to fill the vacancy.

Treasurer Fischelis reported the deficit of last year wiped out and a comfortable working balance in hand.

The programme included reports of Association proceedings as follows:

"The Convention of the A. Ph. A.," by George M. Beringer.

"The Convention of the N. A. R. D.," by Mr. Samuel C. Henry.

"The Convention of the Pennsylvania Ph. A.," by Mr. R. H. Lackey.

"Joint Report—Convention A. Ph. A.," by Mr. J. W. England.

"The Convention of the A. M. A.," by Dr. F. E. Stewart.

"The National Drug Trades Conference," by Mr. Clarence M. Kline.

"The A. Ph. A. Commission on Patent Medicines," by Mr. C. E. Vanderkleed.

The reports of Messrs. England, Stewart and Vanderkleed are published in full elsewhere.

President Beringer paid an eloquent tribute to the many-sided character of the American Pharmaceutical Association and expressed his entire satisfaction with the results achieved at the Nashville Convention. Many interesting and valuable papers were read and particular interest was displayed in legislative and educational work. The speaker expressed his satisfaction with the work performed by the House of Delegates, since it facilitated materially the work of the Convention and still gave proper representation to all concerned. The speaker referred to the tendency for organizing new Sections as being a fertile topic for discussion in the Branches. He thought too great a number of Sections would be unwieldy, and too much subdivision of the topics made it difficult to maintain proper interest. The organization of a Woman's Section was a splendid thought, as such a body would unquestionably constitute a valuable aid in maintaining and arousing new interest in the work of the A. Ph. A.

The speaker thought too few practical pharmacists were in the habit of attending such conventions, and a special effort should be made in the direction of a fuller representation at the meeting next year. This could be accomplished, he thought, by arousing more interest in local Branch matters; and in this connection he suggested an interchange of ideas by those Branches already established, and bespoke the interest of organized Branches in establishing others. He referred to the importance of keeping up interest in propaganda work. It was through efforts along this line that the confidence of the physician could be gained by the practicing pharmacist, and in this connection he spoke of the advantages of holding joint meetings of pharmacists and physicians. The

speaker made cordial reference to the good reception provided for the visitors to the Nashville Convention and felt that they had been well entertained.

Mr. Henry, of the Executive Committee of the N. A. R. D., thought the Cincinnati Convention had been the most successful of any yet held by the N. A. R. D. The organization indicated that it was stronger than ever and was bound to go forward and make its influence felt for the good of the retail trade generally. He expressed himself as believing that the outlook for the future of the N. A. R. D. and its members was extremely encouraging. Legislation was a topic discussed with keen interest and the speaker expressed his satisfaction with the attitude of the body towards the National Anti-Narcotic Bill. The speaker referred to the earnest efforts made by the P. A. R. D. delegation to have the 1914 Convention of the N. A. R. D. held in Philadelphia. He described the social features of the Convention as being all that could be desired and the political side as having its usual interest to those politically inclined.

Mr. Kline, reporting for the National Drug Trades Conference, gave an interesting history of the inception of this body and described it as being a child of the A. Ph. A., conceived at the Denver Convention. The creation of this body, in the mind of the speaker, was well planned, in that it gave opportunity to get the ideas of allied drug bodies on relevant topics, at the same time and place, doing away with the necessity for voluminous correspondence and the consequent loss of time. He said that the first actual convening of the body was over the Harrison Bill. He described the facility with which the various elements, having an interest in this legislation, were enabled to arrange for hearings, present their arguments and have prompt disposition made of the same. In this connection the speaker made graceful recognition of the courtesies extended to the N. D. T. C. by Representative Harrison, whom he described as a liberal and broad-minded legislator. While the opportunity so far had been limited, the N. D. T. C., the speaker thought, would exert a powerful influence in the direction of securing uniform State legislation.

Mr. Lackey, President of the Penna. Ph. A., said that the last Convention of the Pennsylvania body had been most profitable and

interesting. Many valuable and interesting papers were read and followed by instructive discussions. Instructive reports were presented by the various Committees, the speaker making special reference to the report on Drug Adulteration by Prof. Vanderkleed. The speaker also complimented Secretary Heffner upon the promptness with which the proceedings of the Convention were placed in the hands of the members. While it appeared, during the Convention, that a marked advance had been made in Anti-Narcotic legislation, this was subsequently nullified by the Governor's veto. Entire harmony reigned throughout the Convention and the visitors were well entertained.

The reports were discussed at length by those present, especial interest centering about the need for propaganda work, and the proposed A. Ph. A. building referred to in Mr. England's report. In this latter connection a motion by Mr. Gordon was unanimously carried. The motion authorized the President to appoint a committee from this Branch to consider a favorable location for an A. Ph. A. headquarters. A reference to the advisability of establishing headquarters at the National Capital brought Messrs. Beringer, Kraemer and others to their feet with an eloquent appeal in favor of Philadelphia. Following this patriotic outburst, another motion, by Dr. Fischelis, was adopted. This motion directed the Philadelphia Branch Committee on A. Ph. A. Building to inquire into the facilities offered by, and the advantages resulting from, the establishment of the A. Ph. A. Building in Philadelphia. The possibilities involved in having this stronghold of pharmacy for National headquarters was discussed enthusiastically until a late hour.

In discussing propaganda work, Mr. Henry stated that more than half of the propaganda literature issued had not brought results. This was not due to any fault in the literature, but because of the indifference of the retail druggists.

Among those taking part in the discussions were: Messrs. Apple, Gordon, Matusow, Subin, Fischelis, Minehart, LaWall, Pollard, Cook, Lowe, Leedom and others.

AMBROSE HUNSBERGER, Secretary.  
1600 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa.



### NASHVILLE BRANCH.

The regular monthly meeting of the Nashville Branch of the American Pharmaceutical

Association was held Thursday afternoon, October 9, in Furman Hall at Vanderbilt, with President J. O. Burge in the Chair. After the reading of the minutes, W. R. White, Chairman of the Program Committee, submitted the following subjects for the ensuing term: "Articles for Quick Dispensing," "Window Dressing," "Prescription Incompatibilities," "Stopping Leaks in Business," "Board of Pharmacy Questions," "Shorter Hours," and "Bacteriological Products."

Dr. Lucius P. Brown then gave a very exhaustive explanation of the recent laws passed by the legislature that affect the pharmacist. He first told of the passage of a law identical with the Shirley amendment to the national pure food law which prohibits the use of false claims of the curative and therapeutic properties of medicines. He then told of the passage of a net weight law identical with the federal law on this subject, both of which go into effect September 3, 1914.

The amendment to the sanitary food law, altering the administrative section, was then explained. Justices of the peace can try the case, but if the defendant does not like the decision he is entitled to a new trial with new evidence in the circuit court. The commissioner is authorized to apply to the district attorney and secure an injunction closing a business on the grounds of being a nuisance. Dr. Brown then referred to the amendment to the milk bill which defines standards and prohibiting the presence of any visible dirt in milk after filtering through cotton.

The weight and measure law, a very lengthy measure, was then explained. Provision is made in this law for state, county and city sealers, all to be employed on a salary basis, the fee system being abolished.

Sealers are made special deputies, and it is their duty to see that all weights and measures in use or to be sold are correct. The president of the state university is given charge of the standards and will test any weights and measures at small cost.

The most important bill, according to Dr. Brown, passed was the anti-narcotic law, which goes into effect January 1, 1914. This law is to be enforced by the pure food and drug commissioner and the secretary of the state board of health. This law relates to the sale of preparations or derivatives of opium and coca and provides that they can be sold

only on the prescription of a licensed physician to be filled on the same day written, and a complete record of all sales is to be kept on file. Preparations containing less than two grains of opium in each ounce are exempt. No druggist is allowed to have more than five ounces of cocaine on hand at a time, and is allowed to sell it only in solution which shall not be stronger than five per cent. Physicians, veterinarians and dentists are exempt from the law, except that they must keep duplicates of the prescriptions they write.

This law is modeled after the Harrison bill which has passed in the House of Representatives, and is expected to pass the Senate soon.

Dr. Brown cheerfully answered the many questions asked him, and was heartily thanked for the lecture.

Dr. J. O. Burge then read a report of the recent meeting of the International Pharmaceutical Congress, held at The Hague, after which the Branch adjourned to meet again November 13 at the same place.

W. R. WHITE, Secretary.

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#### CINCINNATI BRANCH.

The regular monthly meetings of the Cincinnati Branch of the A. Ph. A. were resumed October 14th, 1913, at The Lloyd Library.

Prof. John Uri Lloyd presided.

After disposing of the routine business, the President introduced the Speaker of the evening, Dr. J. H. Landis, Superintendent of the Cincinnati Health Department, who chose for his subject, "The Organization and Work of the Cincinnati Health Department."

Dr. Landis spoke of the different divisions of his department, laying particular stress upon the milk supply and dairy inspection, citing numerous cases, where the work of the department bore fruit in furnishing a purer supply of the product, cleaner stables and healthier cows.

He also called particular attention to our present water supply from our new fifteen million dollar water works, citing, however, the deplorable condition of Millcreek, which has been for years polluted by the waste allowed to be discharged into this stream by the factories, located along its banks, causing untold inconvenience and serious sickness to the inhabitants of the adjacent territory.

The doctor further emphasized the good

work done by the department for the inspection of food in general, especially meats and market supplies, as well as Confectionery stores, lunch stands, soda fountains and other places, where food and drink are offered for sale or given away.

He also called attention to the efficient manner and promptness, with which cases of infectious diseases are handled, such as smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc.

Furthermore he commends the good work done by his inspectors, relating to the Dental Inspection of the children in our Public Schools.

Referring again to the subject of milk, he praised the thorough inspection of milk and the establishment of municipal milk stations, particularly in the poorer sections of the city.

Child Hygiene is given some attention, but the Doctor points with great pride to the well equipped and managed Municipal Laboratory and shows what a valuable aid the Laboratory furnishes to the Physician, in examination of sputum, diphtheria cultures, blood counts, etc.

Another valuable division of the department is the Division of Vital Statistics, which enables us to obtain proof of birth, proof of naturalization, age of consent, age of working and certificate for burial.

Another very important division is the house to house canvass by the Sanitary Officers of the Department.

While I have given just a few of the major points, elucidated by Dr. Landis, he went into details, giving statistics and results accomplished by his department.

The lecture was well attended, a number of the students of the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy and the Eclectic Medical College being interested listeners as well as by a goodly number of members and their families of the Cincinnati Branch.

At the conclusion of the lecture, President Lloyd responded heartily on behalf of the Association, thanking the Lecturer for his kindness and courtesy in giving us such an instructive exposition of a very interesting subject.

Further brief responses were given by Mr. F. H. Freericks, Prof. C. T. P. Fennel, Mr. Louis Heister and others, each voicing their appreciation of the very efficient manner with which Dr. Landis treated the subject.

CHAS. A. APMEYER, Secy.

### SAINT LOUIS BRANCH.

At the second annual meeting of the Saint Louis Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: J. A. Wilkerson, president; A. C. Schulte, first vice-president; O. J. Cloughly, second vice-president; Julius C. Hoester, secretary; J. W. Mackelden, treasurer; Advisory Board, N. Emory Williams, Francis Hemm and Frederick W. Sultan.

The annual address of the retiring president contained a number of suggestions and recommendations some of which were adopted by the Branch.

In the discussion of the president's suggestions, Mr. Arthur Schulte remarked that in his estimation the Branch had not been a decided success for the reason that the meetings were not as well attended as they should have been, and that a number of the older members have shown very little interest in the organization. Continuing Mr. Schulte recommended that we endeavor to inculcate more enthusiasm in the older members, especially those who take an active part in the parent body.

The remainder of the evening was taken up in discussing general plans for the next year's work.

JULIUS C. HOESTER, Secretary.



### NEW YORK BRANCH.

The first of the season's meetings of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held on the evening of October 13th, Vice-President H. V. Army presiding.

For the committee on legislation, Prof. W. C. Anderson reported that the only State legislative matters of interest were contemplated measures. He mentioned two of these. One was that proposed in a resolution at the conference during the drug trade exhibition, in which it was sought to put all registered pharmacists, physicians, and dentists into the employ of the State at an annual salary of from \$1200 to \$3000. The other measure was advocated by a medical organization of Brooklyn and would make it unlawful to refill any prescription. Professor Anderson did not believe that it was necessary to have a law to procure respect for the prescriber's wishes relative to refilling.

In considering national legislation, Pro-

fessor Anderson reported that the Harrison anti-narcotic bill was dormant in the Senate. Although he was of the opinion that the criticism of the measure indulged in by the National Association of Retail Druggists at its Cincinnati Convention had little if any part in delaying the passage of the bill, he expressed a regret that the drug trade had not more strenuously advocated its enactment. It was, in his opinion, because of the passive opposition of interested trades that the federal authorities had issued the treasury decision regulating the traffic in cocaine. If this venture proved feasible, he predicated an extension of the supervision of the government until it embraced all narcotics and probably many other drugs.

This report was discussed by Messrs. Diekman, Diner, Craig, Lehman, Raubenheimer, Hostmann, and Army. Subsequently the report was duly adopted.

As chairman of the committee on the progress of pharmacy, Dr. G. C. Diekman outlined the requirements and the curriculum of the department of pharmacy of the University of the Philippines. The entrance requirements are 15½ counts for the course leading to the degree of graduate in pharmacy, a three-year course with daily sessions during eight months of the year. The degree of graduate in pharmacy and two years' study in German are prerequisite to the higher course of four years, which leads to the degree of bachelor of science in pharmacy. The report also had to do with the production of radium in this country and the application of radium emanations in therapy.

Following a brief discussion by Messrs. Wimmer and Raubenheimer, the report was adopted.

Reporting as chairman of the delegates to the Nashville meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, Hugh Craig recounted briefly the transactions of that convention. He told of the discussion of anti-narcotic legislation, and the creation of a proprietary medicine commission and a committee on educational standards. He outlined the resolutions adopted and also those defeated. The striving of the commercial section for better recognition was related and some shortcomings of the method of nominating officers were pointed out. Mr. Craig also stated the results of the elections and the nominations.

A brief report of the 1913 meeting of the

New York State Pharmaceutical Association was also made by Mr. Craig. In this was reviewed the action of the Association relative to the ownership of pharmacies by licensed persons alone, the adoption of a distinctive name for methyl alcohol, the certification of pharmacies, the creation of a State department of pharmacy, and the safeguarding of the sales of poisonous tablets.

Otto Raubenheimer reported as a delegate to the meeting of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association. He laid particular stress upon the number and excellence of the papers presented. Attention was given to the report of the board of pharmacy and the fact that only about one-third of the applicants examined for registration were successful. Mr. Raubenheimer stated also that the Association planned to work strenuously for an education prerequisite for registration.

Messrs. Diekman and Hostmann spoke relative to several points in Mr. Raubenheimer's report. Dr. Diekman said that the difficulty of the New Jersey examinations had been attributed to the fact that many questions were based upon long practical experience which, obviously, the unlicensed person seldom had. Professor Hostmann told of the activity of the New Jersey Board against the illicit traffic in narcotics.

A synoptical resumé of the transactions of the National Association of Retail Druggists at the Cincinnati Convention was given by Prof. W. C. Anderson. Particularly he dwelt upon the legislative discussions. He also gave the gist of the principal resolutions adopted.

Mr. Raubenheimer told briefly what had been done at the Drug Trade Exhibit and Conference.

Criticising the action of the parent association in disapproving a resolution asking for the recognition of the name "castile soap" as a synonym for the pharmacopœial soap, Prof. J. L. Mayer declared that there was a need for some standard for castile soap and better tests for the determination of the official soap. John Roemer agreed and offered a resolution calling upon the pharmacopœial revision committee to adopt some standard for castile soap. After some affirmative comment by Messrs Raubenheimer and Craig, this resolution was passed.

HUGH CRAIG, Secretary.

## Obituaries and Memorials

Persons having information of the death of members of the A. Ph. A. are requested to send the same promptly to J. W. England, 415 N. 33d St., Philadelphia, Pa. Information as to the age, activities in pharmacy, family, etc., of the deceased should be as complete as possible. When convenient a cabinet photograph should accompany data.



### WILLIAM THEODORE WENZELL

William T. Wenzell, of San Francisco, died at the age of eighty-four years, on July 31, 1913, at Lane Hospital. He had been actively engaged in his work as chemist in



WILLIAM T. WENZELL.

the Appraiser's Stores, San Francisco, up to the time of his short illness.

Mr. Wenzell was born at Muhldorf, Germany, in 1829, and came to this country when a child, graduating from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1855. In 1864 he received the M. D. degree from the La-Crosse Medical College, Wisconsin. He also received the M. D. degree from the Medical College of the Pacific in the year 1876. In