

of the best known physicians of his time, settling in Geneva, Switzerland. Spongia Usta, or burned sponge, was largely used at that time against scrofula and goiter and Coindet suspected that iodine was its active constituent, the same as in sea weed, which was verified by Jean Baptiste Dumas (1800-1884), the celebrated pharmacist-chemist of Geneva and Paris. Coindet thereupon promptly introduced iodine and preparations of iodine into therapy for the same purpose with great success. J. G. A. L. Lugol (1786-1851), the celebrated physician at the Hospital Saint Louis in Paris, was also instrumental in introducing iodine into therapy and his name will live forever in pharmacy and medicine on account of Lugol's solution.

Rewards.—In the case of iodine, science has been thankful to the pharmacist who discovered the substance, and also to the physician who introduced it into medicine. In 1832 the Academy of Science in Paris awarded 6000 francs to Bernard Courtois, who had been ruined financially in 1815 by the competition of natural, duty-free saltpeter from Chili with artificial saltpeter, or sodium nitrate, which he was manufacturing. However Courtois became a spendthrift and died in poverty in Paris in 1838.

The Academy of Science also awarded a prize of 3000 francs to Coindet, the physician who had so promptly made medical use of the discovery of Courtois.

Conclusion.—May this story of the discovery of iodine and the determination of its elementary nature, just one hundred years ago, serve as an example of the interesting history of pharmacy and chemistry! May it arouse and strengthen the interest in the history of our noble profession and may the discoveries and work of the "fathers of pharmacy," men actively engaged in the drug business, be an everlasting credit to pharmacy!

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE ALBANY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

WILLIS G. TUCKER, M. D., AND ALFRED B. HUESTED, M. D.

The idea of organizing a school of pharmacy in Albany originated with two gentlemen interested in pharmaceutical and educational matters in the late seventies. A conference, at which several representative pharmacists were present, was held November 18, 1878, and it was decided that a meeting of the pharmacists of the city should be called for the purpose of determining whether it was advisable to form a pharmaceutical association with a view to the establishment of a school of pharmacy to be conducted by such association. A meeting was called by Dr. Willis G. Tucker, of the medical college faculty, and Mr. Gustavus Michaelis, of the Albany Pharmaceutical Company, for December 2, and at this meeting, which was held in the chemical lecture room of the medical college and attended by about twenty Albany pharmacists, a committee was appointed to prepare a plan of organization. So little interest, however, was shown in the matter that no subsequent meeting was called, nor was any further action taken to secure the organization of a school by the Albany pharmacists.

In the fall of 1880 the project was revived, and Dr. Tucker and Mr. Michaelis

consulted with Archibald McClure, Esq., a wholesale druggist and representative public-spirited citizen, Dr. Jacob S. Mosher, then registrar of the medical school and one of its professors, and Joseph W. Russell, secretary of the board of trustees of the medical school, and it was decided that a better plan of organization than that previously proposed would be to establish a department of pharmacy in Union University. Under the charter of 1873, power was given to the board of governors of Union University "to establish such departments of science and learning in, or in connection with, said (Union) university as they may deem proper." A plan of organization was drawn up by Dr. Tucker, approved by the others, and presented by them to Dr. E. N. Potter, then president of the university. He heartily approved the project and presented it to the board of governors of the university, and at the annual meeting of this board, held June 21, 1881, the Albany College of Pharmacy was created to constitute the Department of Pharmacy of Union University. A board of trustees was immediately appointed and the school incorporated as the Albany College of Pharmacy, conformably to the laws of the state, August 27, 1881.

The original board of trustees consisted of Joseph W. Russell, president; Louis Sautter, vice-president; Luther H. Tucker, treasurer; Eliphalet Nott Potter, D. D., LL. D., Jacob S. Mosher, M. D., Charles Newman, Archibald McClure, Alfred B. Husted, M. D., Edward P. Waterbury, LL. D., and Addison A. Keyes, with Dr. Willis G. Tucker as secretary *ex officio*. The board organized promptly and appointed the following faculty: Jacob S. Mosher, M. D., Professor of Botany and Materia Medica; Willis G. Tucker, M. D., Professor of Chemistry, and Gustavus Michaelis, Professor of Pharmacy. Dr. Mosher was made president and Dr. Tucker, secretary, of this faculty. A circular was promptly issued to the pharmacists in the state and neighboring territory, announcing the organization and opening of the school, permission having been obtained from the faculty of the medical college to use the lecture rooms and chemical laboratory in the college for purposes of instruction. This privilege rendered it possible for the new school to enter at once upon its work with little preparation and under most auspicious circumstances. And the school owes much of its subsequent and continuous success to the kindly and liberal co-operation of the medical school which has permitted it to carry on the larger part of its work in the medical college building. At a later date a pharmaceutical laboratory was established elsewhere, but the greater part of the work of instruction has been carried on in the medical college and this has been of inestimable value to the school.

In 1881 when the school was organized there were, according to the report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, but 14 colleges of pharmacy in the United States with but one, in New York city, in the state, and none nearer to Albany than this old school and those in Boston, Pittsburg and Cincinnati. On the north the nearest school was at Montreal so that Albany seemed to the founders of the school an excellent location for such an institution.

The first course of lectures opened October 3, 1881, with 21 students in attendance, three of whom having attended courses elsewhere, constituted a senior class and were graduated with the degree of Ph. G., at the end of the session. These first graduates of the college were Albert R. Griffith, Gustave Kreutzer and John

S. Phillips, all of them now deceased. During the second session 32 students were in attendance and a class of ten was graduated, and during succeeding years the attendance has varied from 37 to 105. The number of graduates has been as follows: 1882, 3; 1883, 10; 1884, 13; 1885, 8; 1886, 10; 1887, 18; 1888, 11; 1889, 22; 1890, 18; 1891, 26; 1892, 22; 1893, 14; 1894, 18; 1895, 17; 1896, 16; 1897, 23; 1898, 27; 1899, 20; 1900, 31; 1901, 29; 1902, 16; 1903, 25; 1904, 21; 1905, 27, and 1906, 36.

The first secretary of the faculty was Dr. Tucker, who resigned the position in 1884, and was succeeded by Dr. Alfred B. Husted, who in 1883 had been appointed Professor of Botany and Materia Medica to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death in August of that year of Dr. Jacob S. Mosher. Dr. Mosher had been a member of the original faculty and his death was a great loss to the school in which he had from the outset taken the deepest interest and to the success of which he had in no small measure contributed. Dr. Tucker was made his successor as President of the Faculty and afterward its Dean, the designation of the presiding officer of the faculty having been changed to the latter title in conformity with the established usage in the other departments of the university. No further change occurred in the professorships until 1903 when Professor Michaelis resigned the active professorship of pharmacy and Garret V. Dillenbeck, Ph. G., was appointed Associate Professor in this department. Other additions to the teaching staff have been as follows: Frank P. Husted, Ph. G., director of the pharmaceutical laboratory, 1892; Edward J. Wheeler, A. B., instructor in chemistry, 1893; Frank Richardson, Ph. G., instructor in materia medica, 1893; Andrew MacFarlane, M. D., lecturer on microscopy; Frank Richardson, Ph. G., director of the pharmaceutical laboratory, 1895; Theodore J. Bradley, Ph. G., lecturer on pharmacy; De Baum Van Aken, Ph. G., instructor in chemistry; Thomas W. Jenkins, M. D., instructor in microscopy, 1896; De Baum Van Aken, Ph. G., lecturer on pharmacy; Theodore J. Bradley, Ph. G., instructor in chemistry, 1899; T. J. Bradley, Ph. G., lecturer on physics and pharmaceutical mathematics; G. V. Dillenbeck, Ph. G., lecturer on pharmacy; T. W. Jenkins, M. D., instructor in materia medica and pharmacognosy; Edwin C. Hutman, Ph. G., director of pharmaceutical laboratory, 1903; Arthur T. Laird, M. D., instructor in microscopy; James E. Husted, instructor in materia medica and pharmacognosy, 1904; William A. Larkin, Ph. G., instructor in physics, in 1906. In 1896, De Baum Van Aken succeeded Dr. Husted as secretary of the school, resigning the position on leaving Albany in 1901, and being succeeded by Theodore J. Bradley.

In 1883 a board of examiners, consisting of A. B. Husted, M. D., Archibald McClure and Louis Sautter, was appointed to represent the trustees in the final examination of candidates for graduation and successive members of this board, which was abolished in 1903, have been, Charles H. Gaus, Frank Richardson, De Baum Van Aken and Edwin F. Hunting. Additions to the board of trustees to fill vacancies occasioned by death or otherwise have been: John M. Bigelow, M. D., 1883; William J. Walker, 1889; Harrison E. Webster, LL.D., successor to Dr. Potter as president of the university; Douw H. Fonda, and Charles H. Gaus, 1890; Andrew V. V. Raymond, D. D., LL.D., successor to Dr. Webster as president of the university in 1896; Otto Scholz, 1897; Willis G. Tucker, M. D., 1898;

Arthur L. Andrews, 1899; Samuel B. Ward, M. D., 1903, and Edward N. McKinney, 1904.

The course of instruction at the present time covers two years as at the outset, but the sessions have been lengthened from 21 to 28 weeks and the amount of instruction by lectures, recitations and laboratory exercises has been increased over fourfold. When the school was organized its graduates were legally entitled to engage in the practice of pharmacy, but at a later date a State Board of Pharmacy was created and all graduates, or other persons, desiring to enter upon the practice of pharmacy, were required to appear before this board for examination and secure from it a license. In 1904 a law was enacted in the state which required all candidates for license appearing before the State Board of Examiners to be graduates of a college or school of pharmacy registered by the Board of Regents of the State of New York, and which requires not less than fifteen Regents' counts or their equivalent, as a condition for entrance. This law took effect January 1, 1905, and its effect has been to elevate very materially the standing of pharmacy as a profession in this state.

In 1883 an alumni association was organized, and this association has grown in strength and influence and aided very materially in promoting the work of the college and in encouraging social intercourse among its members. It holds an annual meeting on commencement day and a dinner on the evening of that day at the close of the commencement exercises. During recent years this dinner has been attended not only by the members of the association but by their friends of both sexes. The school being co-educational, and having had a number of women in its classes many of whom have taken high rank, this plan has proven very satisfactory and has done much to promote interest in the work of the association.

In 1910 the college was able to secure excellent accommodations at 43 and 45 Eagle street. These rooms were remodeled at an expense of several thousand dollars and the laboratories, pharmaceutical and microscopical, were more completely and thoroughly equipped. In 1911 the senior chemical laboratory was also accommodated in the new quarters, so that now the lectures, all of the laboratory work and exercises of the college, except the junior chemical laboratory, are held in the new quarters.

The school is now excellently and quite permanently located, in quarters well adapted for its needs, and can offer accommodations and instruction for those desiring to become graduates in pharmacy equal to the advanced requirements of the present day. Credit for the present excellent housing and equipment of the college is due to the wisdom and foresight of Theodore J. Bradley, whom we were sorry to lose, but glad to see advanced to the position of Dean of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy. His loss has been compensated by the addition to the teaching force of Manser T. Stone and Leroy G. Mathews, graduates of a few years since, and Dr. Alfred B. Husted has again taken the position of secretary.