

JAMES H. BEAL, Editor.....Scio, O.

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THE WOMEN'S SECTION.

There seems to be considerable discussion among the Branches concerning the Women's Section and its status in the A. Ph. A.

The women constituting the official board of the Section are actively at work in the preparation of the Constitution and By-Laws, and in outlining a program for the annual meeting, and are confident that the initial meeting will reveal the need for such work as will make the Section worth while.

The members at large, however, seem to be cudgelling their brains for a name for this addition to the A. Ph. A. family, forgetting that it was officially christened the "Women's Section" at the Denver meeting, and the women were so keenly appreciative of being at once fully received into the home circle that they will now steadfastly resist any attempt at this late date to reduce them to a mere auxiliary, an adjunct or something outside the intimate pale of the parent organization.

It has been suggested that because a majority of the members of the Section would not be eligible to membership in the Association proper, they should be allowed to affiliate as a "section." In refutation we call attention to the fact that in the House of Delegates, which really wields a power in shaping the Association's actions, there are many who are not members of the Association. Therefore any attempt to dislodge the women from their present position, in which they neither seek nor expect any dictatorial powers or voting privileges in the A. Ph. A. proper, would be discriminating against them.

The position of the women pharmacists who are eligible to and do now hold membership in the A. Ph. A., is a dual one. They are members of the A. Ph. A. and of the Women's Section also.

It has been stated that in some sections of the country there is considerable opposition to the employment of women pharmacists. If this be true, the Section has a good field to work on from the start. These women must be supported in their professional ambitions and the non-professional women of the Section will see their duty in bringing the men of their families to a realization that women are naturally endowed with the qualifications necessary to the successful practice of pharmacy and will be an additional asset to any business employing them.

This opposition does not exist in the A. Ph. A. It has never ignored the women pharmacists. It may not have specifically invited the women in the profession to become members, but this is due rather to methods of soliciting membership than to any studied attempt to discourage women pharmacists. Its doors stand wide open to receive all the women pharmacists in the country into its organization on the same footing as its men members.

The surest and quickest way to overcome such opposition is for the women themselves to seek membership in the A. Ph. A., placing themselves on the same professional level as the men who are employers. What the A. Ph. A. as a whole recognizes as good timber cannot be intelligently opposed by its individual members.

Another work of the Section should be that of inducing all present organizations of women pharmacists to become affiliated with the A. Ph. A. and merge their local meetings with the local Branches. Pharmacy should not be divided against itself, and with the way pointed out the professional women will be quick to recognize the superior strength of the parent organization and that to maintain a separate organization is simply a duplication of effort.

Thus far the needs of the professional women are clear, and it will require all the aid the non-professional ones can give them to secure relief. When this shall have been accomplished, the Association will benefit by the closer organization of the men and women in pharmacy and by an increased membership.

The needs of the non-professional members are not quite so clear, and it is expected that when the Section once gets into convention there will be more ideas and suggestions from the fertile brains of these women than the Section can take care of in the year's work. There are, however, many phases of the drug business in which the non-professional women are deeply interested, in fact all those problems in the trade which bear so closely on the home life, and it is in solving these that the professional women—with their clear understanding of store conditions—will be able to return the assistance given them by their sisters.

The work of the section then will fall into

two grand divisions; the professional and non-professional, but a moment's thought will reveal so many points of common interest, so many places where mutual help will bring mutual results, that the dividing line between the two will be obliterated and these women will be united in a sisterhood which is bound to mean much for the good of pharmacy.

Finally, the Women's Section does not want to be an auxiliary, or subsidiary organization, but it does want to be an intimate working part of the A. Ph. A. It hopes to build its organization so substantially and to become so true a helpmeet that it will be the one indispensable "Section" of the A. Ph. A.

Adelaid M. Godding, President. Anna G. Bagley, Secretary.



RESPECTING THE A. PH. A. OFFICIAL HOME.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Replying to your circular letter in reference to permanent official headquarters, I fully agree that the American Pharmaceutical Association should have a home for a complete and up-to-date library as well as for a laboratory where proposed formulas may be tested.

I sincerely hope that American Pharmacy will be able and willing to meet the expenses of erecting and equipping the structure in question.

> Very respectfully yours, (Mrs.) Clara A. Diekman.

PHILADELPHIA.

Answering your circular letter, will state that it seems to me desirable for the American Pharmaceutical Association to have a permanent home. And I am impressed with the thought that no more appropriate place could be found for such a home than the city of Philadelphia, the home of William Procter, the Father of Pharmacy.

The Philadelphia College of Pharmacy has for some time past hoped to secure a site upon the Parkway (leading from the City Hall to Fairmount Park). If their an-