

The Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association

Volume II

JULY, 1913

No. 7

Office of Publication, 79-89 North Third St., Columbus, Ohio.
Subscription, \$3.00 per annum, within the United States. To Canada, \$3.35. To other foreign countries in Postal Union, \$3.50 per annum. Single copies, twenty-five cents.
Entered at the Postoffice at Columbus, Ohio, as Second-Class matter.

Papers and communications for insertion in the JOURNAL should be sent to the Editor, James H. Beal, Scio, Ohio. Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer, H. M. Whelpley, 2342 Albion Place, St. Louis, Mo.

The Association does not accept the responsibility for the opinions of contributors. Offensive personalities must be avoided.

"ON TO NASHVILLE."

NASHVILLE is the "City of Opportunity," it is the "Rock City" of the "Volunteer State." It is the "Athens of the South," and the Capital of the great State of Tennessee, and it is for one week, August 18-23, to be the home of that great, "homeless" body of pharmaceutical scientists, the A. Ph. A.

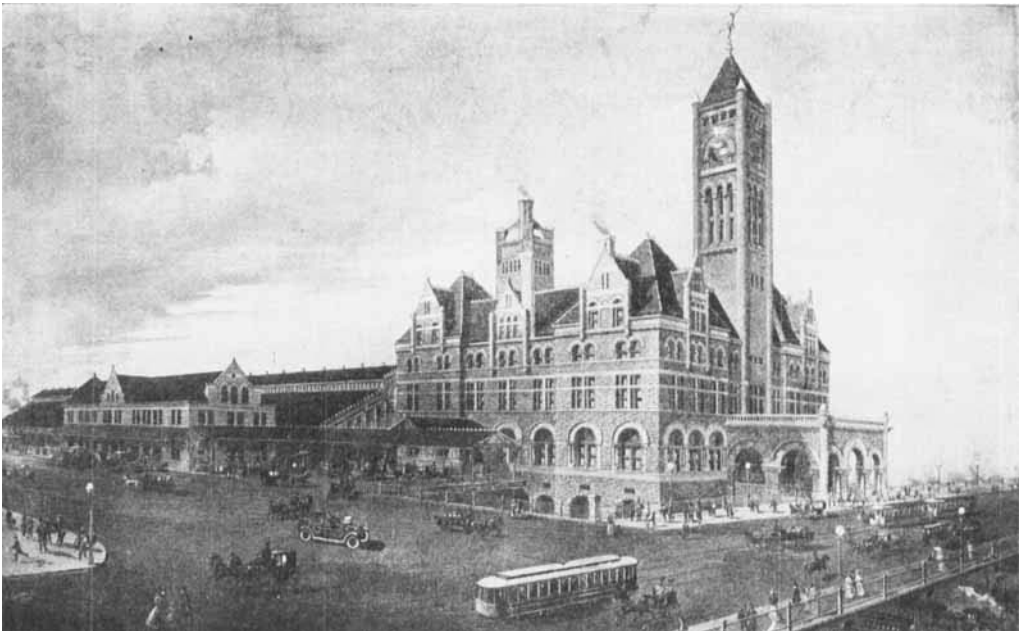
It is our desire to tell you, as best we can, how she came by all these synonyms.

In the first place a hunter by the name of Gasper Mansker and two companions had the "opportunity" of passing through this "Garden of Eden," and finding the scenery so beautiful, game so plentiful and the soil so rich and productive, they spread its praises in every settlement they passed through, and in their wanderings back East, towards civilization, stopped at Watauga settlement, in what is now East Tennessee, near Knoxville, where they passed some little time. Here they made the acquaintance of Captain James Robertson, who, becoming interested in the story, decided, with a few of his fellow-settlers, to investigate. Accordingly, in February, 1779, they started for Big Salt Lick, near Cedar Bluff, on Cumberland river, formerly known as Shawnee river, which had been so glowingly described by Mansker.

After a month's travel, during which time they walked about 500 miles, they arrived at the end of their journey, Sulfur Dell, our baseball park. In Sulfur bottom, between the spring and the river, they cleared away the cane brake and planted the first field of corn, this being required by law to establish their title to the land they had come to settle on. In May, 1780, these settlers met to adopt rules to govern the colony, and the settlement on the Bluff was called Nashboro,

in honor of General Francis Nash, who was killed at the battle of Germantown about three years before. This name it retained until April, 1784, when an act of the N. C. Legislature changed the name to Nashville. Tennessee was admitted into the Union in 1796, and at that time was divided into three districts and eleven counties. The Nashville district was called Mero, in honor of Governor Mero of New Orleans, and was composed of three counties, Davidson, Sumner and Tennessee. The city was incorporated in 1806. The Legislature first met here in 1812-1815 and again in 1826 to 1843, when it was made the permanent capital.

Nashville is an ideal Convention City. Look at it on the map. You will see that it can be reached in a 12-hour ride by one-third of the people of the United States. Its hotel accommodations are adequate and up to date. Its transporta-



UNION STATION, NASHVILLE.

tion facilities are the simplest, cheapest and best in the whole country. You can board a car at any point in the city and go to any other point for one fare, five cents. All car lines in the city and all interurban lines pass through one central station, located on the original Square of four acres, which was set apart in the original plan of the city for public buildings, and on which now stands the County Courthouse, the City Hall and the Market House. This central station is built on the spot formerly occupied by the home of Captain James Robertson.

Nashville is well supplied with assembly hall facilities, which range in seating capacity from 8500 down, and the rooms are well lighted, well ventilated and the acoustics good. Some large organizations have been her guests in recent years, among which have been the Southern Baptists' Convention, the National Organization of T. P. A., the United Confederate Veterans, the International

Society of Christian Endeavor, and has twice entertained the American Medical Association, once in 1857 and again in 1890, at which meeting there were present about 1200 physicians, and others directly and indirectly connected with the Association. The first physician who opened shop in Nashville was Dr. John Sappington, the originator of Sappington pills. He located there in 1785 and did a thriving business until the mystery of his pills was found out, when he lost his practice and standing.

Nashville has always been famous for two things, churches and schools, to which is due her title, the Athens of the South. In an abridged copy of the "American Universal Geography," published March, 1806, I find this entry under the head of principal towns in Tennessee: "Nashville N-lat 36°. The courts for the district of Mero are semi-annually held here. It has two houses for public worship, and a handsomely endowed academy, established in 1786."

As an evidence of her great importance as an educational center, it is only necessary to state that the Trustees of the Geo. Peabody Fund have recently



PARTHENON AND THOMAS MONUMENT, NASHVILLE.

given a million and a half dollars to found a college for Southern teachers to be located here, and the buildings for the same are now being constructed. Andrew Carnegie, during the month of May, gave one million dollars to Vanderbilt University, and the city has many other educational institutions for both white and black, male and female.

A High School building has just been completed at a cost of \$350,000, and Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. buildings have just been completed, costing \$200,000 and \$100,000, respectively, the funds for each of which were raised by public subscription in thirty days' time. The view from the top of the Y. M. C. A. building is magnificent, and will repay every visitor who will take the time to go up there and "view the landscape o'er."

As a manufacturing center, Nashville possesses great advantages, and her enterprises are many and varied. Her jobbing and manufacturing business amounts to \$210,575,000 a year. Cheap fuel, almost without limit, lies right at her doors. There is just now being completed the Hydro-Electric plant of Ocoee, with an estimated horsepower of 160,000, which will furnish her factories with power for every purpose required.

Nashville is one of the greatest hardwood markets in the country, her lumber

interests amounting to \$11,000,000 annually. She furnishes the red cedar for making the famous "Faber pencils." She makes 204,000 stoves annually, which are shipped from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Nashville retail trade amounts to \$35,000,000 a year. The display windows in her retail districts are the wonder and admiration of all strangers who come to the city. A year or two since a noted actor, in passing through the city to fill an engagement at Louisville, Ky., wandered off uptown and became so enchanted with the pretty show windows that he forgot all about his train, and when he came to himself, his train was gone and he had to secure a special to put him in Louisville in time to meet his engagement. In a contest offered by a New York firm, a few years since, for the best looking woman in the United States, the prize was awarded to a Nash-



STATE CAPITOL, NASHVILLE.

ville girl. The first gun fired in the Spanish-American war was fired from the gunboat Nashville, and you may see this same gun when you come to the American Pharmaceutical Association meeting, in the City Hall on the Public Square.

Nashville's parks and playgrounds are adequate and beautiful. The largest of these is Centennial park, near Vanderbilt University, which contains the only exact reproduction of the Parthenon in the world, in the shadows of which was recently enacted the great Greek pageant, mentioned so often recently in the newspapers and magazines. The entire production was a Nashville creation and the play was put on by Nashville talent.

A Nashville protographer enjoys the distinction of having captured first prize

in two national contests. In the council halls of the nation Nashville has furnished some noted men, among whom may be mentioned two Presidents, Jackson and Polk, leaders of distinction before the Civil War, and in recent years two justices of the Supreme Court, Howell E. Jackson and H. H. Lurton; two cabinet officers, J. M. Dickinson, President Taft's secretary of war, and J. C. McReynolds, the present attorney general.

And now to prove that all this praise of Nashville is not "home grown," I must before closing quote what Dr. Winchell, in his "Sketches of Creation," has to say regarding Nashville and her surroundings. He says: "I ascend the cupola of the magnificent State House at Nashville and take a survey of the surrounding country. On every side spread out the broadly undulating fields of grass and corn into the illimitable distance. A finer agricultural scene was never witnessed. A more beautiful landscape—diversified with broad clearings, waving crops, tufts of magnolia and poplar, shining mansions, withdrawing vales and purple atmosphere—it has never been my privilege to gaze upon."

Now, in conclusion, Nashville makes her best bow to the American Pharmaceutical Association and extends a pressing invitation to every member to come on August 18-23 to the Land of the Magnolia and Mocking Bird, where the watermelon is smiling and good fellowship waits, and receive a true and hearty Southern welcome, and, don't forget, "You'll never be happy 'till you see Nashville."

JAMES O. BURGE.



NASHVILLE HOTEL RATES.

MAXWELL HOUSE.

European Plan.....80 Rooms.
 \$1.00 and \$1.50.....Without Bath.
 \$2.00 and \$3.00.....With Bath.

SAVOY.

European Plan.....80 Rooms
 \$1.00 and \$1.50.....Without Bath.
 \$2.00 and \$2.50.....With Bath.

BISMARCK.

European Plan—Gentlemen only.....54 Rooms.
 \$1.00 Without Bath.....\$1.50 With Bath.

HOTEL TULANE.

American Plan.....200 Rooms
 \$2.00 and \$3.00.....Without Bath.
 \$3.50 and \$4.00.....With Bath.

DUNCAN HOTEL.

American Plan.....125 Rooms.
 \$3.00 and \$4.00.....Running Water in Every Room.



HOTEL HERMITAGE, OFFICIAL A. PH. A. HEADQUARTERS.

OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS: HOTEL HERMITAGE.

European plan.

250 Rooms and Bath.....	\$2.00, \$2.50, and \$3.00 per Day.
\$2.00 rooms, 2 persons.....	\$ 4.00
\$2.50 rooms, 2 persons.....	4.50
\$3.00 rooms, 2 persons.....	5.00
Parlor bedrooms	8.00
Parlor bedrooms, 2 persons.....	10.00

WOOD ALCOHOL BLINDNESS.

IN a recent number of the *Journal of the A. M. A.*,* Dr. Hiram Woods, of Baltimore, gives an account of two recent cases of blindness following the use of wood alcohol, one from its external application and the other from taking it internally.

In the first case the disastrous results followed the application of wood alcohol to the muscles of the legs and hips of a person suffering from supposed rheumatism. In the second case blindness followed the drinking of whiskey which contained 30 per cent of wood alcohol.

The paper also refers to a large number of other cases of death or of total or partial blindness following the use of wood spirit.

An interesting and singular feature of the subject is the variation in susceptibility of different individuals, some being injuriously affected by as small a quantity as a teaspoonful, while others can apparently consume large quantities without serious consequences.

The exact way in which wood alcohol acts upon the central nervous system is not well understood. It is known, however, that it is less easily eliminated than ethyl alcohol, and it is believed to be oxidized in the system to formaldehyde. The specific cause of blindness is atrophy of the optic nerve, and probable destruction of the ganglion of the retinal cells.

The poisonous qualities of wood alcohol have been so frequently mentioned during recent years that it would seem impossible that any retail druggist could be unacquainted with them, and a failure on his part to attach a poison label to the substance and a caution against its medicinal use would probably make him legally responsible for damages resulting from its administration.

While it is believed that pharmacists generally observe due caution in the dispensing of wood alcohol, it is a well known fact that many of the toilet waters supplied by barbers' supply houses, and the cheaper brands of flavoring extracts sold to country store-keepers still contain this pernicious article.

Dr. Woods' paper presents the following important conclusions and recommendations:

Methyl, or wood alcohol, in any of its forms, and all methylated preparations as well, are dangerous poisons, menacing both life and sight.

It is used as an adulterant of and substitute for, grain alcohol in cheap whisky and other alcoholic beverages, not to mention Jamaica ginger, lemon extract and many other essences and flavoring fluids.

Methyl alcohol is largely used in the preparation of many proprietary and patent medicines, (?) witch hazel, domestic liniments, as well as bay rum, cologne water, Florida water and other perfumes.

The symptoms of acute poisoning are gastro-intestinal disturbances, more or less severe, accompanied by abdominal pain, general weakness, nausea, vomiting, vertigo, headache, dilated pupils and blindness. If recovery does not occur, there is marked depression of the heart's action, sighing respiration, cold sweats, delirium, unconsciousness, coma and death.

The diagnosis can hardly be mistaken. Methyl alcohol poisoning presents a picture unlike that of any other intoxication. Acute abdominal distress, followed by blindness, should always awake suspicion of methyl alcohol poisoning.

The prevention of poisoning by this insidious drug can only be brought about by prohibiting (or rendering unprofitable) the sale of deodorized wood alcohol in all its forms. The number of deaths may, meantime, be limited by putting all methylated preparations on the

*Vol. LX, p. 1762.

list of poisons and prosecuting all persons adulterating foods and drinks with it. Labeling it with the notice, "This fluid, taken internally, is likely to produce blindness," will certainly have a deterrent effect.

Poisoning by inhalation of the fumes of methyl alcohol generally occurs when the exhalations are mixed with rebreathed air, as in varnishing the interior of beer-vats, closets or small rooms, etc. It is also highly probable that in susceptible subjects repeated or even single methylated "alcohol rubs" may produce poisoning symptoms, through absorption of the spirit by the skin.

With reference to the charge that many proprietary and patent medicines contain wood alcohol, it is only fair to state that the editor has examined the reputed formulas of many such preparations, and has found only one which is stated to contain that substance, this being a veterinary preparation recommended for external use.

J. H. BEAL.



THE FEDERAL ANTI-NARCOTIC SITUATION.

READERS of the *Journal* will have noticed reports of the formation of the National Drug Trade Conference, called in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the Denver meeting, and the minutes of the several meetings of the Conference and of its Executive Committee. The present issue contains a report of the latest meeting of the Executive Committee and a copy of the bill as finally agreed upon by the Committee and Dr. Hamilton Wright, United States Opium Commissioner, who has been largely responsible for the movement in favor of the proposed legislation.

The draft of the bill now in the hands of Dr. Wright will probably be introduced into Congress during the present month and, if legislative conditions are favorable, is likely to become a law without much further modification. Although strikingly different from the Harrison Bill as originally introduced, the present bill is a lineal descendant from the former. The first Harrison bill contained what seemed to the representatives of the drug trade to be many dangerous uncertainties of statement, and at the successive meetings of the Conference was revised in such a way as to make some of the uncertainties certain, and some of the obscure provisions less obscure.

While the bill as thus reframed at the first two meetings of the Conference was far from meeting the wishes of the drug trade representatives, it at least served the purpose of calling attention to the defects of the original draft and had the effect of converting those in favor of Federal supervision of narcotics to the much simpler draft which is now proposed.

Neglecting minor details, the principal provisions of the draft as it now stands are as follows:

Section 1 drops the original cumbersome classification into producers, importers, exporters, wholesale manufacturers, wholesale dealers, and retailers, and embraces all of these under a single class, and requires every one who produces, imports, exports, manufactures, compounds, deals in, dispenses, sells, distributes or gives away any opium or coca leaves, or any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative or preparation thereof, to register with the Collector of Internal Revenue of his district and pay an annual tax of \$1.00. The original bill proposed to

levy a tax of \$100.00 on wholesale manufacturers, dealers, etc., and of \$25.00 upon retailers.

Section 2 provides that the aforesaid drugs cannot be delivered, except in pursuance of an order written upon an official order blank supplied by the Collector of Internal Revenue. The purchaser is required to retain a copy of his order for two years, subject to inspection by the proper officials, and the seller likewise must preserve his copy of the order for the same length of time. These order blanks can be obtained only from the Collector of Internal Revenue, and can be supplied only to persons registered under the Act. It is made unlawful for any other person than the one to whom the order blanks are furnished to use them for the obtaining of the drugs, or for the holder of the blank to obtain the drugs for any other purpose than for use in the regular course of business or professional practice.

This order blank is proposed as a substitute for the elaborate system of special tax stamps, records and detailed reports of purchases and sales provided for in the original bill.

The use of the order blank is unnecessary in the following cases :

(a) For the dispensing of the drugs to a patient by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian registered under the Act, in the course of his professional practice only, when he is in personal attendance upon the patient to whom it is dispensed.

(b) To the dispensing of the drugs by a pharmacist in pursuance of a written, signed, and dated prescription, issued by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian registered under the Act, the pharmacist being required to preserve such prescription for a period of two years.

(c) For the shipment of any of the drugs to a person in any foreign country. The order blanks are to be supplied to registered dealers at approximate cost.

Section 3 provides that the Collector of a district may require of any registered person a statement of the quantity of the drugs purchased and from whom received during the three months immediately preceding the time when the request for such statement is made.

Section 4 makes it unlawful for any person to send, ship, carry, or deliver the named drugs and their preparations, etc., in interstate commerce, but exempts from this provision common carriers, the employes of registered persons, and the delivery of the drugs in pursuance of written prescriptions of physicians, dentists, and veterinarians, who are registered under the Act, to patients who are under the immediate personal care of such physicians, dentists, and veterinarians.

Section 5 provides that the duplicate order forms and prescriptions required to be preserved shall be open to the inspection of duly authorized agents and officers of the Treasury Department, or of any state, territory, or municipality, or the District of Columbia, who are charged with the enforcement of any law or ordinance prohibiting or regulating the prescribing, dispensing, etc., of the aforesaid drugs. The Collector is also authorized to furnish, at a moderate price, to duly authorized officials copies of statements and reports filed in his office, and to furnish to any person a list of the registered dealers in his district.

Section 6 exempts from the provisions of the Act preparations which do not contain more than 2 grains of opium, or 1-4th grain of morphine, or 1-12th of a grain of heroin, or 1 grain of codeine, or their salts or derivatives, in a fluid or

avoirdupois ounce; also, liniments and ointments and other preparations, prepared for external use only, which do not contain more than the above mentioned quantities, provided all of the excepted preparations are dispensed as medicines and not for the purpose of evading the provisions of the Act.

This section also exempts preparations of coca leaves which do not contain cocaine.

Section 7 is simply a declaration that certain laws relating to the collection, etc., of internal revenue taxes, so far as applicable, shall apply to the provisions of this Act.

Section 8 makes it unlawful for any person who has not registered and paid the special tax to have in his possession or control any of the aforesaid drugs, but exempts possession by an employe of a registered person, having control by virtue of his employment, or possession by a person when the drugs have been prescribed in good faith by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian registered under the Act, or possession by warehousemen holding them for a person registered, or common carriers, or possession by Federal, state or municipal officers having possession for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of any law.

Possession by an unregistered person, except as above named, is presumptive evidence of violation, and the burden of proof is placed upon the defendant to show that his possession is lawful.

Section 9 provides a penalty for violation of the requirements of the Act consisting of a fine of not more than \$2,000, or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Section 10 authorizes the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to appoint agents, deputy collectors, inspectors, chemists, etc., for the enforcement of the Act.

Section 11 makes an appropriation of \$150,000 for the enforcement of the law.

Section 12 provides that the Act shall not be construed to impair, alter, amend or repeal any of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act of 1906, or of the act which prohibits the importation and use of opium for other than medicinal purposes.

From a review of the proposed law it will be seen that it does not place any restriction upon the class of persons who may register as dealers in the named narcotic drugs, except in so far as such restrictions are found in the provisions relating to the use of the official order blank, and prohibiting the use of the order blank for the purpose of obtaining them for any other than a lawful purpose, and this for the very good reason that the Federal Government has no power under the taxing clause of the Constitution to do otherwise. A long line of well considered decisions establishes the fact that, while the Federal Government may levy a tax upon any property or occupation, even to the extent of total prohibition, the tax must be uniform, and must be accepted from every one who makes a proper tender thereof. This is apparently the limit of Federal authority under the taxing power.

As a consequence, it follows that any effective limitation upon the sale and distribution of the drugs when made wholly within state territory must be imposed by the states themselves. All that Federal authority can do is to provide the means whereby, through registration, etc., the quantity and character of the

drugs can be traced to the last distributor, and to make the information available to state, territorial and municipal officers.

If the states fail to adopt proper statute regulations, or if their officials fail to properly enforce the local laws, then the Federal enactment will have but little effect in controlling the improper use of the named narcotic drugs.

The benefit of the Federal enactment will, therefore, lie mainly in the requirement that all dealers be registered and make returns when required, and the use of the official order blank, by which means the drugs can be traced from the time of their introduction into the country until they reach the hands of the registered dealer who disposes of them to the consumer.

It is even a question whether some of the provisions respecting the use of the order blank and sales on prescriptions do not infringe upon the state's exclusive police powers, but since the principal law officers of the government are inclined to defend the constitutional soundness of these provisions, the skirts of the drug trade will at least be clear if the courts do not up-hold the legislation.

While it would be unwise to say that every provision of the draft is entirely satisfactory, it is only just to the framers of the bill to add that no provision was inserted without careful consideration and without viewing it from many angles, and it is to be hoped that those who are inclined to find fault with any of the separate details of the bill will suggest provisions which will be equally effective and less objectionable than the ones to which they object.

The Editor will be glad to give space to criticism and suggestions which any members may desire to offer.

J. H. BEAL.



HARRISON BILL PASSES THE HOUSE.

SINCE the preceding remarks were placed in type the news comes from Washington that the Conference Bill, introduced by Hon. Burton Harrison, of New York, as H. R. 6282, has passed the House, with some very minor changes in phraseology which the lawyers of the House thought necessary to make certain of its provisions perfectly plain. None of these amendments affect the general purport of the bill, and there is no apparent reason why the drug trade should not be perfectly satisfied with them.

The passage of the measure through the Senate is likely to be a slower and more difficult operation, though if the President should exert his influence in its favor, which it is expected he will do, the bill will likely become a law before the end of the special session.

J. H. BEAL.