PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council." —Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

Article III of Chapter VII reads: "The objects and aims of local branches of this Association shall be the same as set forth in ARTICLE I of the Constitution of this body, *and the acts of local branches shall in no way commit or bind this Association, and can only serve as recommendations to it.* And no local branch shall enact any article of Constitution or By-Law to conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association."

ARTICLE IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meeting of the Local Branches shall be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

BALTIMORE.

The February meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Emerson Hotel on Tuesday, the 24th. President Frank L. Black presided.

Eugene C. Brokmeyer, of Washington, Attorney for the National Association of Retail Druggists, was the speaker and had for his subject: "The Present Status of the Capper-Kelly Bill."

Mr. Brokmeyer presented his subject in a forceful and comprehensive manner. He traced the history of the Capper-Kelly Bill from its first presentation before Congress to its present status. He pointed out the unfair competition existing in the present chain store and agency methods of distribution, the false and misleading nature of the so-called "price cutting sales," and emphasized the seriousness of such monopolistic practices for the independent retailer. Mr. Brokmeyer urged closer coöperation, better development of organization and, as most important, education of the public to a realization of the abuse they receive by such a system. In concluding he stated that the Capper-Kelly Bill, while not a panacea, is the closest solution of the problem that Congress has yet received. The aims and objects of the Capper-Kelly Bill were further discussed by H. H. Robinson, who recommended that a determined effort be made to present the real merits of the Bill to the public before Congress convenes in December. The subject was further discussed by W. J. Lowry, Miss Cole and others.

Reports were then received from the Secretary-Treasurer, and from the various chairmen, and standing committees.

The following officers were elected and installed for the ensuing year:

President, Aquilla Jackson, 402 Roland Ave., Baltimore, Md.

Vice-President, Andrew F. Ludwig, Baltimore, Md.

Secretary-Treasurer, Wm. F. Reindollar, 2411 N. Charles St., Baltimore, Md.

At the suggestion of Dr. R. L. Swain, a vote of thanks was accorded to Miss B. Olive Cole, the retiring *Secretary-Treasurer*, whose able and efficient services, extending over the past decade, have been a vital factor in the welfare of the Branch.

President Jackson appointed the following committees:

Committee on Membership: *Chairman*, B. O. Cole, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland; N. M. Chandler, 26 E. Mt. Vernon Place; Frank Black, Charles and Chase Sts.; Sam Harris, Lombard and Poppleton Sts.; Louis Schulze, 2245 Eastern Ave.

Committee on Professional Relations: *Chairman*, E. G. Eberle, 10 W. Chase St.; Dr. J. Carlton Wolf, 401 S. Broadway; Lawrence Williams, 1300 N. Caroline St.

Committee on Science and Practice of Pharmacy: *Chairman*, Dr. Glenn L. Jenkins, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland; Dr. John C. Krantz, Jr., 2411 N. Charles St.; Dr. Fitzgerald Dunning, Charles and Chase Sts.

Committee on Education and Legislation: *Chairman*, Dr. A. G. DuMez, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland; Dr. R. L. Swain, 2411 N. Charles St.; R. E. L. Williamson, Candler Building.

WM. F. REINDOLLAR, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

CHICAGO.

The 195th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, held on the evening of February 17th, started with a dinner for Dean H. V. Arny, the speaker of the evening; about 45 were in attendance. Following the dinner they met with 100 others at the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy to hear Dr. Arny speak on "Organizing Prescription Pharmacists."

President Hynes dispensed with the reading of the minutes and introduced Mr. H. M. Emig, who gave a summary of the contents of both the November and December issues of the JOURNAL.

Dean Day was then called upon to introduce the speaker of the evening; he said in part:

"Dean Arny was born in Philadelphia, but was reared in New Orleans where his family moved during his early years. Here he entered the employ of a well and favorably known pharmacist, F. C. Godbold, who, later, was an honorary president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. He returned to Philadelphia to receive his pharmaceutical education and then went back to New Orleans. Later, he became secretary of his state association. Then he went to Germany where he studied for four years and received his Ph.D. degree; returning, he was elected dean and professor of Pharmacy at Western Reserve University in Cleveland. From there he went to New York, as professor of chemistry and associate dean of the College of Pharmacy of Columbia University. On the retirement of Dean Rusby, Dr. Arny was offered the deanship, which position he now occupies. He has interested himself in all pharmaceutical organizations and has been honored by holding the highest offices in many of them—president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, member of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, member of the Council of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, member of the Board of Pharmacy of New York State. He has also been editor of *The Druggists Circular*. Dr. Arny has written many pharmaceutical papers on every phase of pharmacy; he has been member of two U. S. P. Revision Committees, of the N. F. Revision Committee and chairman of the Committee on Pharmaceutical Research, and chairman of the National Conference on Pharmaceutical Research."

Dean Arny started his talk by complimenting Dean Day for his ability to get appropriations, and he stated that this year sees the University of Illinois School of Pharmacy with an enrollment greater than that of Columbia College of Pharmacy.

"Everybody in the drug world is more or less pessimistic at the present time. This is all right if it is not so deep as to be despair, for Pharmacy as an art is one of the most important callings.

"Without the sick person there is no reason for the existence of the pharmacist. What does the sick person do to try and get well? The chart shows that most of the sick end at the druggist. (See below.)

"It is not surprising that Pharmacy is being commercialized, for look at the changes in medicine to faith cures, etc. So is the field of the druggist to real medicine changing. But, how far will it go? The druggist has fallen into the line of least resistance and what effect will it have? By it, the general public has discovered that Pharmacy is selling its birthright to commercialism in order to keep up with the overhead. Organizations have tried to have laws passed limiting the sales of patent medicines to the registered pharmacists, but some states have ruled against this, claiming that it does take pharmaceutical knowledge to make the preparations, but not to sell them. Several important men in the pharmaceutical field have predicted that there will be an increase in the number of ethical drug stores, the operators of which will have to be highly specialized for the new things which are being discovered daily. Then we shall have the

Sick Person.							
Self medication.		Medical attention.				Hospital patients.	Cults and isms.
Pat. Med's.	Domes. Rem's.	Surgeons and other specialists.	Regular. Rx writers.	Practititioners. Dispensers.	Homeopaths. Dispensers.		
Druggist.	?		Druggist.	Manufacturers.	Manufacturers.	?	?

commercial type of store—run by salesmen who depend upon speed, pep and a smile to bring their business.

"The retail man is not the only one worrying about the future. Look at the position that the wholesaler is in! Look at the changes in the manufacture of preparations! In 1880 most of the manufacturing was done in the back room of the drug store. Some manufacturers were in business, but only a few of them. From 1880 to 1890 came a change with the arrival of fluidextracts and the introduction of tablets to take the place of hand-made pills. The latter was particularly objected to by the retailer. From 1900 to 1910 things were again changed, partially by the introduction of the Pure Food and Drugs Act. Previously the selling point of the manufacturers was that their preparations were assayed—others were not, therefore, theirs were better. Then assay standards were set by law and made compulsory, so that all manufacturers were on the same basis. Thus their old argument for their products was destroyed. Bio-assays were introduced at this time. From 1910 to 1915 the large manufacturers started putting their specialties on the market, rather than making only U. S. P. and N. F. preparations. Now the Association of Manufacturers has a great job on its hands—how to advertise to dispensing physicians and the medical profession in general and still secure lay sales and at the same time remain ethical. What is to be the fate of the U. S. P.? Each revision is an improvement on the preceding; the pharmacist is better trained, yet the physician uses more and more specialties. What is the remedy?

"From a study of the prescription business, it has been found that not one out of fifty existing drug stores could exist on that alone. There is no objection to the sale of good patents or toilet goods. The drug store is the proper place for them to be sold. Research by McQuade and Parke, Davis Co. shows very similar figures in the percentages yielded by the different departments of the stores; the N. W. D. A. did some work along the same line, but its work was confined to the city stores.

Drug Business Statistics.

Total.	P. D. 11/4 billion dollars.	McQuade 2 billion dollars.	N. W. D. A.
Drugs, chemicals and prescriptions	10%	14%	33%
Toilet goods	10%	15%	15%
Patent medicines	22%	28%	28%

"In 1914 the American Institute of Prescriptionists was formed, but it has been dormant, because, though it is ingenious, it is not practical. The standard set for membership was: The member must be a registered pharmacist, a graduate, a majority owner of the store holding membership, and the store must show that 90% of its business is done in the prescription department. The store must have a good location and the pharmacist must be capable of carrying on U. S. P. tests and analyses. The term was three years in length and renewable at the end of that time if the pharmacist could prove that the conditions were the same as when admitted.

"The A. I. P. should start with 1000 members. Who will constitute it? Not men who can be pointed out as having done magnificent work in the prescription field, for these will object to others who have not been so successful being classed with them. It will be composed of young men who wish to build up a prescription business, rather than one based on commercialism. The American Institute of Surgeons is of like character as is the American Institute of Engineers, the American Chemical Society and the Guild of Opticians. How can it be organized? From $25,000 to $100,000 will be necessary, and a young ambitious man will be on full time to run it. What will it do for the members?—Advertise them as men to whom prescriptions may be trusted. The basic object is to let the physician know that the members wish to fill prescriptions. Will this work? Perhaps not, for one member would not trust others to fill prescriptions even though they all belonged to the organization. Booklets should be sent to physicians, telling them of the members, standards, etc. Acquaint the medical profession with the many preparations which should be freshly made and assure them that these would be properly taken care of. This would help keep prescriptions away from the secrets and open to U. S. P. and N. F. remedies. Also remind the doctors that fresh powdered drugs put into capsules often get proper results. Suitable charges could be made for such service so that the pharmacist could get his just dues for his professional knowledge. If this organization is run on an honest basis the physician would respond enthusiastically, for he prefers freshly prepared medicaments to machine made.

"Another suggestion has been this—Certified Pharmacies, endorsed by medical associations, for in 1914 if the physician did not give his personal endorsement to two or three stores, the patient was liable to get unpleasant results from the medicine taken."

Dean Arny then pointed out that personality is the basis for the whole thing, citing instances of successful stores owned by either physicians or pharmacists, which finally failed because the owner had other interests, and those in whose management the stores were put did not have the personality back of them to keep up the good quality of the stores.

Quite a bit of interest was taken in the discussion following the talk, Wm. Gray, G. L. Webster, S. Shkolnik and several others participating in it. Professor Gathercoal pointed out that a man who has been in a city of about 95,000 has developed a prescription business of such value that last year he filled 50,000—and he developed this in only eight years. The other druggists in the same city did as much prescription business last year as they had done previously, showing that this live wire had simply stimulated the physicians to write more prescriptions.

Following the discussion, a rising vote of thanks was given Dean Arny, and the meeting adjourned.

LEWIS F. MARTIN, *Secretary.*

DETROIT.

Following a chicken dinner, which was served at 6:45 P.M., February 17th, President John E. Webster called the business meeting of the Detroit Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to order at 7:40 P.M. The minutes of the meeting of January 15th were read and approved.

The Membership Committee report was given by Mr. Joseph J. Burniac, who turned in eight applications for membership. The latter also reported that he had sent a letter to Secretary E. F. Kelly asking his opinion of the emblem idea as submitted at the last meeting and that he had approved the idea. Mr. Burniac also reported that he is working out a proposed A. PH. A. label and that he will have a sample of this for the next meeting.

The President then called upon James E. Early, Chief Pharmacist at the Receiving Hospital, as the speaker of the evening, who spoke on the subject "Hospital Pharmacy." In his opening remarks Mr. Early mentioned that Receiving Hospital originally had been planned ten years ago to take care of 160 patients, but that it has now grown to accommodate 800 patients.

In 1930, the speaker said, the Emergency Department at the Receiving Hospital had accommodated 40,000 patients, while the Out-Patient Department had served more than 160,000. He explained that this number was accounted for by the fact that patients are served on an average of 4.1 times. The Out-Patient Department is operated mostly by staff physicians from the Detroit College of Medicine.

"The Pharmacy Department," Mr. Early said, "is not called upon to render a large volume of service to the General Surgery, Orthopedic and G. U. Departments, but the greater amount of service is rendered to the Department of Gynecology."

In mentioning skin diseases, the speaker said there were two classes of patients coming to the Receiving Hospital, those who have scabies and those who are going to have and, in reference to this, he mentioned two embryo physicians who were asked what they intended to specialize in when they began practice. One said he would specialize in skin diseases, because the skin never gets better and the patient never dies. The other young man said he would also specialize on the skin and everything inside of it.

In his 15 years of experience in Hospital Pharmacy, Mr. Early said, that little pharmacy service was required for psychopathic cases and that these requirements were mostly special formula sedatives. He explained that at the Receiving Hospital, Pharmacy they do not purchase liquid sedatives or cough mixtures and that they endeavor to keep away from proprietaries by the use of standardized formulas. While in reference to the quantity of Spiritus Frumenti used in the Hospital and in what quantities it is used for the prevention of delirium tremens in alcoholic cases he told of the Irishman who was brought to the Hospital after having fallen three flights from a building and being badly shaken up, but not otherwise injured, was given two drachms of "Spiritus Fermenti," who, when he had "tossed it off" said, "Begorra, how far would a man have to fall to get a drink?"

"The purchasing of supplies for the Pharmacy Department," Mr. Early said, "is a big problem and one in which the Purchasing Department is unable to understand why it is not possible to do all purchasing required, by placing orders twice a month." He pointed

out that buying is done by bids and that by the time the bids are in and accepted it takes from three weeks to five weeks to get supplies, which fact, of necessity, must be offset by quantity buying and that no one can foresee conditions accurately enough to place orders for delivery so far ahead without running short of some items, unless the orders are placed in quantities entirely out of proportion to the needs. Hence, frequently, it becomes necessary to place orders more often than twice a month.

The cost of treatment of patients at Receiving Hospital is borne by the taxpayer unless the patient is found to be able to pay. All persons coming to the Hospital are treated first and then, if able to pay, are charged the standard fee of $5.00.

In the practice of Hospital Pharmacy the pharmacist must be prepared to handle X-ray, laboratory and other work in addition to his own profession, but the speaker said this is offset by the more congenial hours than those served by the pharmacist in the store.

The speaker was thanked by President Webster and following his splendid talk, Mr. Early answered a number of questions from those present. One question propounded was as to whether it was true that the Out-Patient Department was filling several thousand prescriptions a day. Mr. Early explained that it was not the Out-Patient Department at the Receiving Hospital, but the City Physicians Department and that he understood there were from 1200 to 1400 prescriptions filled per day at this department, and that these were mostly proprietary.

Prof. C. C. Glover, of the University of Michigan, College of Pharmacy, when called upon for a comment, suggested that the facts brought out at the meeting seemed to indicate a development toward state medicine and pharmacy; "a development," he said, "which seems to be coming rapidly along with standardization of costs in medical care."

There was no further business to be transacted and upon motion of Leo J. LaCroix and Professor Glover a vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Early for the splendid talk and the discussion which followed.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK.

The February meeting of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University, on Monday, the 9th, the chair being taken by President Robert P. Fischelis. About 100 members were present in spite of the inclement weather.

The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

The President submitted the following recommendations and resolutions:

"While it has not been customary for the new presiding officer of this Branch to present any formal communications to the members upon assuming office, it appears to me, after having read the Constitution and By-Laws of this Branch, that it would be helpful if you would concur in a number of recommendations which I would like to make to assist us in conducting our meetings during the ensuing year.

"I find among the list of committees, that no provision has been made for a Committee on Resolutions. Quite frequently, the papers presented at our meetings, and the discussions resulting therefrom, have led to the offering or suggestions for action of one kind or another. We must remember that we are a Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and that Article 3 of Chapter VII of the By-Laws of the parent body provide that 'The acts of local Branches shall in no way commit or bind this ASSOCIATION, and can only serve as recommendations to it.' For this reason, any resolution passed by this Branch, or any action taken by the Branch, should receive the most careful consideration. It appears to me that unless a matter is of immediate local importance, it is unnecessary to hastily pass a resolution bearing upon it at the same meeting at which the matter is first brought up for discussion. I would, therefore, recommend that the Chair be authorized to appoint a committee of three, to be known as the Committee on Resolutions, and that all resolutions presented to the Branch, or suggestions for definite action by the Branch, be referred to the Committee on Resolutions for consideration before they are acted upon by the Branch.

"I have in mind that a resolution presented at one meeting of the Branch would be referred to the Committee and that their report, which would, of course, give the resolution as recommended by them, be made a part of the notice of the next meeting so that each member of the Branch would have an opportunity to read what is to be acted upon. Action would be taken at the meeting following the presentation of the resolution unless the Branch decrees

otherwise. If a matter of immediate local importance should arise and it is deemed necessary to have action by the Branch at the same meeting, the Resolutions Committee could retire and bring in its report later in the course of the same meeting. Such occasions will be rare, and it will be up to the Branch to decide when there is need for immediate action at the same meeting. It seems to me that a procedure of this kind is calculated to be fair and in the interests of avoiding snap judgment or precipitous action.

"A second recommendation I should like to make is that the Committee on Progress of Pharmacy present to us, through one of its members or the Chairman, at each meeting, a brief summary of pharmaceutical events, as portrayed in the pharmaceutical press during the preceding month. This summary should not include matters of education and legislation, which will be handled by the committee having such matters in charge, but it should give us briefly the trend of progress in professional and commercial Pharmacy. It is possible that the Committee may be able to interest advanced students at the various Schools of Pharmacy in compiling such summaries, and if so, I believe that this would be an excellent method of encouraging surveys of pharmaceutical literature on the part of these students. It would also lighten the work of the Committee, as its function would then be one of 'boiling down' the material prepared and editing the content of such a survey.

"A third and final recommendation which I should like to make is that in discussions upon papers, each person entering the discussion should limit his remarks to five minutes, that no person should speak a second time until all others who desire to be heard on the subject have had an opportunity to speak. Persons especially invited to discuss a paper would, of course, not be limited to the five-minute period, and if at any time the Branch desired to extend the time of any person entering the discussion, this could be done by the consent of the meeting.

"These recommendations are submitted in the interests of an orderly procedure at these meetings, and to furnish a guide for the presiding officer in the fair and equitable distribution of the time available for the presentation and discussion of matters of vital interest. I ask your approval of these recommendations as submitted.

"Respectfully submitted,
"ROBERT P. FISCHELIS, *President.*"

Dr. Rusby moved that these be referred to a Committee of Three to bring in a report at the next meeting.

The President, Dr. Schaefer and Mr. Currens discussed the recommendations; Dr. Newcomb seconded Dr. Rusby's motion and this was carried.

Treasurer Turner F. Currens reported a balance on hand of $552.07, and requested that the books be audited. He asked the President what district was covered by the jurisdiction of the New York Branch and was informed that, according to the By-Laws, the district covered included the states of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut; he requested that the Secretary send this information to Secretary E. F. Kelly.

A motion was made to receive the Treasurer's report and to ask the Auditing Committee to audit the books.

Mr. Lehman, chairman of the Committee on Education and Legislation, reported on the bills as follows:

1. Federal Bill. The Capper-Kelly Bill passed the House of Representatives, but with several amendments; not passed by Senate but will probably be held over till next session.

2. State Bills.

   (*a*) Judge Larkin, of the Supreme Court of the State, at Buffalo, in the Pratter Case, decided that the Pharmacy Ownership Law is unconstitutional; any person may own and operate a pharmacy or drug store, provided that it is in charge of a registered pharmacist or licensed druggist; the Attorney General for the State of New York will appeal.

   (*b*) Senator Love's Bill forbids the sale of food to be eaten on the premises, in pharmacies or drug stores; penalty loss of license, fines not to exceed $500.00 or imprisonment for violations; condemned as too severe; probably unconstitutional.

   (*c*) Hastings Bill to allow the State to formulate regulations for the sale and dispensing of medicinal liquor by physicians, and to permit physicians to prescribe and dispense without limit; disapproved on account of conflicting with the federal law.

(*d*) Bill to prevent the sale of all medicines, official or proprietary, which contain poisonous, habit-forming, deleterious or potent drugs, except in stores or institutions registered by the Board of Pharmacy; approved.

(*e*) Bill to prevent the sale of medicines containing proscribed drugs for resale, to such persons or firms who are not licensed to sell them. Approved.

(*f*) Bill exempting female registered pharmacists from the restrictions of the Labor Laws; no action.

(*g*) Bill forbidding the sale of bichloride of mercury; action to depend upon those who are affected, as such regulation is already in effect in New York City.

(*h*) Bill requiring the marking of the quantity of content of barbituric acid and its compounds, same as required for opium, chloral hydrate, etc.; approved.

Mr. Groisser, in commenting upon Senator Love's Bill, thought that the idea of eradicating the soda fountain and luncheonette from pharmacies was an excellent one; he said that the main support of the chain stores was the luncheonette counter, and in the interests of the profession of pharmacy he was willing to sacrifice the fountain from his store as he considered it the greatest evil of the drug store of to-day. He felt that the State Association could work out a suitable bill with Senator Love.

Mr. Lehman held that it was just as unsanitary to have a luncheonette in a 5 and 10 Cent Store as it was in a Pharmacy, and said that if it was in the interests of the public health to exclude luncheonettes from pharmacies, they should also be excluded from 5 and 10 Cent Stores and all stores that handle food on the luncheonette principle.

Dean Dandreau, for the Membership Committee, reported progress.

The Secretary reported that he had received applications for full membership in the Branch from Messrs. George R. Christ, Alfred B. Robertiello, Julius A. W. Luck and Louis Schneider. These were approved.

Dr. Schaefer, chairman of the Committee of Three, appointed at the January meeting to consider the advisability of the Branch joining the N. Y. Pharmaceutical Conference, said that as yet he had no report to submit.

Under the heading of New Business, Dr. Schaefer reported that he had received information from the railroad company offering reduced rates of transportation to persons attending the A. PH. A. Convention at Miami, and that he would forward this information to the chairman of the Committee on Transportation of the A. PH. A.

Chairman Lewis N. Brown, of the Committee on the Progress of Pharmacy, read abstracts from the current literature on the Cultivation of Camphor in Florida, the Introduction of a Practical Examination for the Licensing of Pharmacists by the Kansas Board of Pharmacy, the Limitations of Phenol-Coefficients of Coal Tar Disinfectants and the Emulsification of Liquid Paraffin Preparations; he quoted from a paper on Aspirin poisoning, saying that Hungarian statistics covering 752 cases showed only 4 deaths, the average poisonous dose taken being from 300 to 450 grains; the minimum lethal dose is between 450 and 600 grains; the reason for the low mortality is the insolubility of aspirin, and the fact that large doses produce vomiting. He referred to a newspaper editorial commenting upon the world's supply of heroin; in spite of the fact that only 1738 lbs. are needed per year for legitimate medical use, in 1929 not less than 30,000 lbs. were manufactured.

The President then called upon Prof. H. H. Rusby, M.D., D.Sc., to read his paper on "Some Questions of Pharmacopœial Interpretation," which is here quoted in full. (A paper by Dr. H. H. Rusby, submitted prior to the meeting, was submitted to the JOURNAL, and is printed elsewhere.)

SOME QUESTIONS OF PHARMACOPŒIAL INTERPRETATION.

"1. Questions of interpretation of the language of the Pharmacopœia should be decided in the light of the objects and purposes of that instrument, most important of which is the securing of efficiency and uniformity in drugs and medicinal preparations.

"The importance of securing the official acceptance of a correct interpretation of the U. S. P. provisions can hardly be overestimated. If a fair interpretation provides for or even permits the use of adulterated drugs for the production of adulterated medicinal preparations, the Committee that supplied such language faces a grave responsibility for having failed to perform the office for which it was appointed. If, on the other hand, such a charge cannot be maintained, the language of the Pharmacopœia being such as to insure

the accomplishment of the intended purpose, then excuses or palliation of a failure to conform to that language should cease. Court questions of this kind usually go before judges and juries who are not versed in the technicality of the subject and who, therefore, may easily be misled into the rendering of wrong decisions. This makes it imperative that such bodies as our own, which are supposed to possess full knowledge of the subjects involved, should investigate and determine such questions, and should so place our decisions on record that they can serve for reference by those who are less qualified.

"For these reasons, I have stated my propositions in the form of numbered resolutions, and I shall call upon this meeting to express its opinions as to the correctness of the interpretations which I here submit.

"2. The official requirements for drugs and medicines relate to the articles themselves, and are uniformly applicable thereto, regardless of who is concerned in their production or distribution.

"In order to make clear the importance of a correct decision on this point, I must state that the Chief of the Food and Insecticide Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has claimed and has debated the subject at length, that he has authority to exempt from the observance of the U. S. P. requirements those manufacturers whom he characterizes as 'reputable.' No explanation is given of the standards by which he would designate those who are reputable, nor what method he would employ to formulate a list of those who are disreputable. In this connection, it must be remembered that the Pharmacopœia has been prepared and formulated on the assumption that any pharmacist is authorized to obtain the crude drugs and to make his own preparations in small lots. It is obvious, therefore, that if the Food and Insecticide Division is to exercise such a selective method of administration of official requirements, it would be necessary for that Division to be acquainted with every retail pharmacist in the United States, as to whether he is reputable or disreputable.

"3. 'In the manufacture of products and preparations on a large scale, deviation in detail from the official processes is permissible, provided the finished products conform to the definitions, descriptions, tests and standards prescribed by the U. S. Pharmacopœia, Tenth.' (U. S. P., General Notices, page 1, fifth paragraph.)

"Two questions have been raised regarding the interpretation of this provision.

"First, do 'processes of manufacture' begin with the selection and purchase of the crude drug, or only after that drug has been introduced to the laboratory and manufacturing operations on it have been begun?

"Second, if the former is true, can the choice of an adulterated drug for such purposes be classed as a 'deviation in detail?'

"My answer to both of these questions is based on my knowledge of the history of the adoption of this paragraph, and the reasons for which it was adopted. When the question arose, in the laboratory of Parke, Davis and Company where I was employed, as to whether large manufacturers should be compelled to manufacture in the small lots prescribed by the official formulas, and, if not, whether they were justified in using apparatus that was more economical in large operations, and to vary the methods to suit convenience under such circumstances, Professor Remington was appealed to clarify this situation by the introduction of an appropriate provision in the Pharmacopœia and this paragraph was the result.

"I greatly doubt whether any well-informed and disinterested critic will claim that the selection of a crude drug constitutes a part of the manufacturing process, in the sense intended by this provision.

"Should a different view prevail, I am still sure that it would not be held that the selection of an adulterated drug for the making of an official preparation could be regarded as a 'deviation in detail,' but as a serious alternative, to be adopted only for some very cogent reason. I therefore submit the following conclusions.

"4. The term 'official processes in manufacturing' cannot be construed as applying to the selection of the drug before any manufacturing process has been begun.

"5. The term 'deviation in detail' cannot be construed to include the use of a drug that does not meet the specified requirements for that drug.

"6. 'The official definitions and standards for vegetable drugs apply to all forms in which they may enter commerce, whether whole, cut, ground, powdered, or otherwise prepared for use, unless specifically exempted in the monograph or admitted under authority for manufacturing or for a special purpose.' (U. S. P., General Notices, page 4, first paragraph, under 'Vegetable Drugs.')

"The importance of securing an authoritative interpretation of this paragraph is found in the fact that it has been claimed that the phrase 'specifically exempted by authority for manufacturing' empowers the administrative officers of the Food and Drugs Act to authorize the use, for this stated purpose, of drugs that do not meet the requirements of the U. S. P. as to quality and standard. When this claim was questioned, the authority given for it was the Chairman of the Revision Committee of the Pharmacopœia and, so far as I know, this reference has never been denied or questioned. It is impossible to understand how anyone familiar with the elements of the English grammar can find any reference in this exemption to quality or standard. The statement expressly says 'the forms in which they enter commerce.'

"It was claimed further that this paragraph empowered those officials to authorize the use of adulterated drugs for the making of official fluidextracts. Assuming that it did relate to the use of such drugs, instead of to the forms of the drug, it could not relate to the manufacture of official fluidextracts, since this would destroy the entire purpose of the standards of the Pharmacopœia. Both the quality of the drugs and the forms in which they are to be used for making fluidextracts are definitely specified by the Pharmacopœia in every case. In short, this exemption clearly refers to the form of the drug when it is to be used for extracting the alkaloid, or for some similar manufacturing purpose. I therefore submit that the paragraph in question (*a*) refers only to the physical forms of the drug and not to its quality; (*b*) that the 'manufacturing purposes' referred to does not include the manufacture of any galenical preparation.

"7. 'Official preparations are to be made only from drugs that conform to the pharmacopœial standards, definitions, and descriptions.' (U. S. P., General Notices, page 1, fourth paragraph.)

"It is claimed that this paragraph means that preparations may be made from vegetable drugs that do not conform, as stated, provided that a larger amount of such drug than is directed is used, in order to cause the preparation to be of the normal strength. For example, that opium containing only half the required percentage of morphine may be used, provided a double quantity of it is taken.

"I submit that this claim is denied by the Pharmacopœia itself when it directs that opium of a lower strength shall be mixed with opium of a higher strength to produce a mixture of normal strength, before the manufacture of the preparation can be started. In this case, the drug itself which does not conform to the requirement is made to conform before it can be used. This is an entirely different process from that of making the preparation from it while still defective, even when a larger quantity is employed.

"It has also been claimed that the defective drug could be used in the amounts specified by the Pharmacopœia and that alkaloid can subsequently be added to the preparation to bring it to the required strength. To many persons, it appears that such a procedure is unobjectionable and should be permitted, but that is not the question before us, which is as to whether this present paragraph offers such a provision. It assuredly does not.

"(*a*) I therefore submit that this statement can mean only that a drug that does not so conform shall not be used for making the preparation specified, so long as its nonconformity continues. If it is to be used at all, it must be made to conform before the manufacturing process is commenced.

"(*b*) It does not provide for the use of a drug that does not conform and afterward causing the preparation made from it to conform.

"8. 'Vegetable drugs are to be as free as practicable from insects or other animal life, animal material or animal excreta. They are to be free from moldiness and show no discoloration, abnormal odor, sliminess, or deterioration due to any cause.' (U. S. P., General Notices, page 4, last paragraph.)

"It is claimed that if the objectionable animal matter here referred to is removed by 'reconditioning' from a drug that contains it in excess, the quality of that drug will then not be objectionable. Conceding that it might not be objectionable, I maintain that this does not necessarily follow. The presence of the animals or animal matter may itself have produced an injurious change in the drug; also, the condition which caused the animal matter to appear in the drug may have damaged the drug as well.

"In the case of moldiness, discoloration, abnormal odor and sliminess, it must be assumed that chemical changes have occurred in the drug, and it is for this reason that the paragraph declares that there shall be 'none' of these conditions. Moldiness cannot occur without dampness and dampness is almost certain to tend to deterioration.

"Discoloration due to dust or other deposited substance may be harmless, but when due to chemical destruction of the original coloring matter, there must have been chemical change. The same is true of abnormal odor and sliminess. I therefore submit that

"(*a*) This statement cannot be construed as meaning that if insects and other animal matter that has been present in excess is removed by reconditioning, the drug is then necessarily fit for use.

"(*b*) That, in the case of 'moldiness, discoloration, abnormal odor, and sliminess,' no allowance is made for these defects to any extent. Nevertheless, it would be physically impossible to determine absolute absence, as that not one spoiled seed existed in a ton. Even in chemical assaying, a variation up to five or ten per cent from the requirement has always been allowed, under the recognized compulsion of necessity. This requirement cannot be construed as to the existence of one or more individual fragments or units, but to the lot of 'vegetable drug' as a whole; that is in reference to its general character. If a considerable part of it shows even a little defect, the lot of 'vegetable drug' is defective, whereas if only a few particles are defective, even much so, the lot of 'vegetable drug,' as a whole, is not defective.

"9. Without presenting a direct quotation, I refer next to the well-known official specifications for the making of fluidextracts, by the use of 1000 grams of drug for making 1000 cc. of fluidextract, as for example, type B, it is provided that if the preparation so made is of excessive strength, it shall be appropriately diluted. I have not succeeded in finding any person who can show me any authority in the pharmacopœia for the use of more than 1000 grams of drug for making 1000 cc. of the fluidextract.

"10. 'In order to facilitate the adoption of the biological assay standards of the Pharmacopœia, and to provide a greater degree of uniformity in their application, the Bureau of Chemistry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., has indicated its willingness to supply standard substances conforming to the pharmacopœial requirements.' (U. S. P., General Notices, page 4, first paragraph under 'Biological-Assay Standards.')

"The phrase 'to facilitate the adoption of the biological assay standards of the Pharmacopœia' constitutes clear evidence that the Bureau of Chemistry has no authority to fix or adopt such assay standards, this responsibility resting wholly with the Committee of Revision, which is provided with specialists in all lines to insure accuracy in this work.

"The phrase 'to supply standard substances conforming to the pharmacopœial requirements' implies that the Revision Committee, to whom they are to be supplied, is to determine whether or not they do conform to the pharmacopœial requirements.

"The question here presented is probably the most important of any of those that are engaging our attention, for it appears that all proceedings regarding certain drugs that have been taken under the present Pharmacopœia have been illegal. No fact is more definitely assured and less capable of being questioned than that the Revision Committee is the only body that can legally fix and determine the standards that are embodied in the Pharmacopœia. In the case of such a drug as ergot, they must decide what kind of ergot is to be adopted as a standard, to determine the tests for its identity and purity, to designate its physical characteristics and requirements, to select ten samples from which the standard fluidextract is to be made, to make or cause to be made that standard fluidextract, to determine whether it conforms to requirements and to determine the amount of it that shall be required to produce the designated effect on the comb of the rooster. What the Bureau of Chemistry has been authorized to do by the action of the Revision Committee is merely to 'supply standard substances' thus designated by the Revision Committee, and substances 'conforming' to the U. S. P. requirements, which are to be accepted by the Revision Committee only after that Committee shall have determined that they do so conform. If any of the above procedures on which the character and quality of the official drug or its preparation depends shall be left to the judgment of the Bureau of Chemistry or any other body, it follows that the Revision Committee is not the party that is fixing the standard.

"Not only is this view in accordance with the language of the paragraph quoted, but there are the soundest reasons why it should be so. The Revision Committee has been selected and organized for the purpose of supplying every form of service necessary to insure the most perfect results in the fixing of its standards. While they may properly seek outside information and advice and secure outside technical assistance, they cannot properly shift the ulti-

mate responsibility in matters of decision to any outside parties, and certainly not to an outside party that fixes as a standard the quality of a defective drug or preparation, with the result that all manufactured products conforming to that standard must of necessity possess the defects of the standards itself."

At the conclusion of his paper Dr. Rusby asked for the following resolution to be adopted:

> "Resolved that it is the sense of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION assembled at this meeting that the above interpretation of the language of the Pharmacopœia is correct."

Dr. Rusby said that it was his intention that each of his interpretations should be considered separately with this introduction.

The President asked that the consideration of the resolution should be held over until after the discussion had taken place. He then called upon Chairman E. Fullerton Cook, of the U. S. P. X and XI Revision Committees, who had been invited to take part in the meeting.

DISCUSSION BY CHAIRMAN E. FULLERTON COOK.

Professor Cook said that he had received an abstract of Dr. Rusby's paper for consideration prior to the meeting and had prepared the following statement of his views: "It is not one of the duties of the Chairman of the Committee of Revision of the U. S. P. to interpret the precise meaning of provisions of the Pharmacopœia, which may be in dispute. That ultimately must rest with a court if an authoritative interpretation is to be reached.

"It is of course the privilege of any one who may care to do so to express an opinion. You have just heard such an opinion from Dr. Rusby.

"I shall not attempt to predict the decision of a court should it be asked to rule upon the question raised, but it may clarify the situation somewhat if certain elements are reviewed.

"The Foods and Drugs Act among its other provisions prohibits the importation of adulterated or misbranded drug products. The Act itself adopts the standards for drugs laid down in the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary. Drug products offered for importation into the United States under names recognized in these authorities must conform in strength, quality and purity with the requirements established therein. The statute provides, however, that a drug which does not meet the specifications of the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary shall not be deemed adulterated, *'if the standard of strength, quality or purity be plainly stated upon the bottle, box or other container thereof, although the standard may differ from that determined by the test laid down in the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary.'* The law itself, therefore, authorizes the importation of substandard drug products under appropriate labeling. This provision will be found in Section 7 of the Act.

"This provision within the Federal Food and Drugs Act itself would therefore permit the importation of substandard drugs, providing they are properly labeled to show their deviation from the Pharmacopœial requirements. Under such conditions what control over their distribution for use would there be after such substandard drugs had once been entered?

" 'Regulation 30' was devised as a means whereby such substandard drugs could be utilized through legitimate channels and the public protected against the free importation and promiscuous use of inferior drugs.

"Note that Regulation 30 permits the use of such substandard drugs only by firms of established integrity and then only under bond and for the manufacture of preparations of standard strength. The products are not to be released for sale or distribution until the Government has evidence of the official character of the preparations made from the substandard drugs and only then is the bond returned.

"I am informed that the practices embodied in Regulation 30 have been permitted from the earliest days of the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act and, so far as I can learn, its application was never seriously questioned until recently. Certainly, for at least two decades it was known to be a Government policy by those on the U. S. P. Committee of Revision who were familiar with the subject of fluidextracts, extracts and tinctures and no one on the Committee considered it improper or at least protested against it.

"It was my personal understanding that one of the 'General Notices' already quoted covered the situation. It reads as follows:

" 'The official definitions and standards for vegetable drugs apply to all forms in which they may enter commerce, whether whole, cut, ground, powdered or otherwise prepared for use, unless specifically exempted in the monograph or admitted under authority for manufacturing or for a special purpose.' (U. S. P. X,

page 4.) By omitting the words which apply to another provision, also covered by the paragraph, its direct application to Regulation 30 will be more clearly seen.

"Let us read it again so abbreviated:

" 'The official definitions and standards for vegetable drugs apply to all forms in which they may enter commerce . . . unless . . . admitted under authority for manufacturing or for a special purpose.'

"No one has questioned the clear mandate of the Pharmacopœia that the ultimate product, the one administered to the patient, shall be of full strength and efficiency.

"This is brought out under the formulas themselves when such products are capable of standardization, and remember that only standardizable drugs are allowed entrance under Regulation 30. Take for instance Fluidextract of Hyoscyamus, the requirement reads: 'Fluidextract of Hyoscyamus yields from each 100 cc., not less than 0.055 Gm. and not more than 0.075 Gm. of the alkaloids of Hyoscyamus.'

"When the Sub-Committee on Proximate Assays fixed 'not less than 0.065 per cent of the alkaloids of hyoscyamus' as the U. S. P. X standard for hyoscyamus leaves, they used the best information available concerning the average alkaloidal strength of a good grade of hyoscyamus leaves, but such judgment is not infallible and nature does not obey the laws of man, so that, so I am told, much of the hyoscyamus leaves imported within the last few years, though authentic hyoscyamus leaves of good quality, have not contained as much as 0.065 per cent of alkaloids.

"Under such circumstances what is to be done? There are at least three possibilities.

"1. These substandard leaves could be refused entrance and sent back to Europe.

"2. Or, under the provision of the Food and Drugs Act, they could be labeled to show the deficiency in alkaloidal content and admitted without any further control as to their use or sale.

"3. Or, under Regulation 30, they could be sold to a reliable manufacturer, under bond, for the purpose of making an extract, fluidextract, or a tincture of full Pharmacopœial strength.

"What is the logical course to follow with every interest considered? Does the patient who is the first to be thought of suffer from following the third possibility? Would the patient, needing therapeutically active hyoscyamus be served by following either the first or second policy? Of course, if there is any specific instance in which the application of this third policy would be dangerous or injurious to the patient, that drug should be specifically exempt from any such treatment.

"This brief discussion will serve to indicate the many problems involved in the wise administration of a law such as the Food and Drugs Act. There must ever be kept in mind the unvarying purpose of the Act as exemplified by the man who is rightly called its 'Father,' Harvey W. Wiley. The passion of his life was 'truth and honesty.' We must endeavor to meet the actual situations forced upon us by natural and economic laws and handle these wisely so that the ultimate end is reached, which, in the case of the Pharmacopœia, means *standard and efficient therapeutic agents made readily available for the prevention and cure of disease.*

In commenting upon Dr. Rusby's paper, Prof. Cook said that he believed Dr. Rusby's interpretations were mainly correct; however he held that if Section 7, paragraph 1 of the paper or paragraph 6 of the abstract reading *"Official preparations are to be made only from drugs that conform to the pharmacopœial standards, definitions, and descriptions"* (U. S. P., General Notices, page 1, fourth paragraph)) were the only clause of its nature, the use of nothing but standard drugs would be enforceable, but its meaning was modified by Section 6, paragraph 1 of the paper (or paragraph 4 of the abstract reading, *"The official definitions and standards for vegetable drugs apply to all forms in which they may enter commerce, whether whole, cut, ground, powdered, or otherwise prepared for use, unless specifically exempted in the monograph or admitted under authority for manufacturing or for a special purpose"* (U. S. P., General Notices, page 4, first paragraph, under "Vegetable Drugs")) which permits the use of substandard drugs by reputable manufacturers under Regulation 30 of the Food and Drugs Act.

Professor Cook also explained in detail how the Bureau of Chemistry, which was charged with the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act, had given its coöperation to the Pharmacopœial Revision Committee by issuing standardized materials conforming to the standards of the U. S. P.; this was work which, for financial reasons, the Pharmacopœial Revision Committee could not carry out itself.

REMARKS BY E. L. NEWCOMB.

The President now called upon Chairman E. L. Newcomb, of the Sub-Committee on

Botany and Pharmacognosy of the U. S. P. X and XI Revision Committees, who was one of those invited to take part in the discussion.

Dr. Newcomb's remarks were as follows: "It is unfortunate that the English language permits of such varying interpretations. It always has been so, and probably always will be.

"Two distinctly different interpretations have been placed on Section 6, paragraph 1 of the paper (or paragraph 4 of the abstract), as submitted by Dr. Rusby. The Sub-committee on Botany and Pharmacognosy of the last Revision Committee I am very sure placed a somewhat different interpretation than has been thus far outlined here this evening.

"First, let me say that it is my recollection that Section 6, par. 1 of the paper (or par. 4 of the abstract) and Section 7, par. 1 of the paper (or par. 6 of the abstract), as submitted by Dr. Rusby, were part of some general principles submitted to the former Sub-committee on Botany and Pharmacognosy by Dr. Alsberg. The former Sub-committee spent a great deal of time studying these declarations, and I believe was responsible for Section 7, par. 1 of the paper (or par. 6 of the abstract), as submitted by Dr. Rusby, being included in the present Pharmacopœia. I feel certain that it was the thought of the Sub-committee that all U. S. P. preparations, that is, tinctures, fluidextracts or extracts, should be made only from drugs that conform to pharmacopœial standards, definitions and descriptions. The former Sub-committee did not feel that the clause in Section 6, par. 1 of the paper (or par. 4 of the abstract)—'admitted under authority for manufacturing or for a special purpose'—necessarily permitted the use of sub-standard drugs for making pharmacopœial preparations. Our interpretation of this clause was that such exemption would permit, under proper authority, the allocation of sub-standard drugs for manufacturing non-pharmacopœial preparations. Very large quantities of drugs, standards for which are provided in the U. S. P., are used in the manufacture of preparations, standards for which are not included in the Pharmacopœia. It is true that Section 6, par. 1 of the paper (par. 4 of the abstract) does not specifically state 'for manufacturing non-pharmacopœial preparations,' but Section 7, par. 1 of the paper (par. 6 of the abstract) does specifically state that drugs used for making official preparations must conform to the standards. In other words, the exemption provides for use of sub-standard drugs for limited manufacturing purposes. The former Sub-committee did not feel, with this interpretation, that the two paragraphs were necessarily in conflict.

"It seems to me that we should not lose sight of the fact that with all of the discussion which has taken place on these principles, there has been very little criticism of the principles as a whole. For the most part they are undoubtedly sound and proper, as both Chairman Cook and Dr. Rusby have stated. If there is a lack of understanding, then it is fortunate that the subject is now being discussed, as it is the duty of the present Revision Committee to so change the principles that there may be no misunderstanding as to what is the intention."

The meeting was now thrown open for discussion and Professor Cook pointed out that it was impossible to get Benzoin that conformed to the solubility requirement of the U. S. P. and that the drug had been released under Regulation 30. Dr. Newcomb said that there was an error in the monograph on Benzoin. Dr. Rusby held that the Pharmacopœial Convention gave authority to the Revision Committee to change the standards of the Pharmacopœia at any time, and these should be changed if they are in error, rather than that the Bureau of Chemistry should take action under Regulation 30.

OTHER SPEAKERS.

Chairman J. P. Snyder, of the Contact Committee of the American Drug Manufacturers' Association, said that he could confirm the general statements of Professor Cook; he did not think it advisable to act upon the resolutions of Dr. Rusby's paper without a representative of the U. S. Department of Agriculture being present.

Dr. Rusby pointed out that Professor Cook's remarks about the law and the regulations did not, in his opinion, bear on the subject since his paper referred solely to the language of the Pharmacopœia. He also felt that the standards of the U. S. P. X should be adhered to, until changed; and that he would like the incoming Pharmacopœial Committees to get the benefit of the evening's discussion.

Dean Arny stated that he had heard the matter of this evening's meeting discussed for the past three years and still felt that it was so highly technical that it was difficult to vote upon.

Professor Cook said that he was glad the matter had been placed before the new Revision Committee and that Dr. Rusby's paper would be submitted in full, together with all information gathered at this evening's meeting, to the members of the Committee.

The President asked Dr. Rusby if he would consider referring his resolutions to a Committee of Three on Resolutions as he had suggested at the beginning of the meeting, saying that he would give Dr. Rusby the privilege of selecting the three members. Dr. Rusby said that he was leery of referring resolutions to committees and that he wanted an expression of opinion from the meeting as a whole.

Dean Arny asked Dr. Rusby if he would accept a substitute motion which would read as follows: "That the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION here assembled approves of the sentiments expressed in the printed abstract of Dr. Rusby's paper" (which had been prepared by him and circulated among the members present). Dr. Rusby was unwilling to accept this.

President Fischelis said that he would only entertain resolutions in accordance with Article III of Chapter VII of the By-Laws of the A. PH. A. governing the actions of Local Branches. The Chair was sustained in this matter by a vote of 6 to 5, the remaining part of the large audience abstaining from voting.

Dean Dandreau expressed some comments on the two conflicting paragraphs that had been the crux of the discussion and felt that the ambiguity as brought up, should be clarified.

Dr. Rusby then rose and said that he was not interested in referring his resolutions to the parent body for action, but that he only wanted an expression of opinion of the New York Branch, as here assembled, and he thought that it was competent to voice an opinion on the matter. He felt that, as things had turned out, he had lost all interest in the matter.

A motion was made and carried to thank Dr. Rusby for his paper, and Professor Cook and Dr. Newcomb and others for participation in the program. The meeting then adjourned.

HERBERT C. KASSNER, *Secretary.*

NORTHWESTERN.

A joint meeting of the Northwestern Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and the Scientific and Practical Section of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association was called to order at 9:00 A.M., Thursday, Feb. 19th in the convention room of the Lowry Hotel, St. Paul, Minn.

Talks upon subjects of general interest were given by President L. D. Coffman of the University of Minnesota, H. C. Christensen, president of the A. PH. A., and D. F. Jones, past-president of the A. PH. A.

Beside the customary committee reports and historical papers, the following papers of scientific interest were either presented or read by title.

"The International Standard for Digitalis," F. A. U. Smith.

"Adventures in Botany," G. J. DeMars.

"Research in Pharmaceutical Education," Dean F. J. Wulling.

"The Present Necessity of the Minimum Four-Year Course," J. A. Lacher.

"Post-Graduate Study in the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota," Prof. C. H. Rogers.

"The Changing Order of American Pharmacy" (illustrated lecture), A. Hogstad, Jr.

"Disintegration of Aspirin Tablets," D. D. Turner.

"Drug Store Types as Seen by an Outsider," C. E. Smyithe.

"Proposed Method for Quantitative Analysis of Solution of Sulphurated Lime N. F.," Laurine Jack, Prof. G. Bachman.

"Hydrogen-Ion Concentration. The Meaning of the Term and Its Application to Pharmacy" (illustrated), C. V. Netz.

"Digitalis. Growth, Collection and Assay at the College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota" (illustrated), Prof. E. Fischer.

The meeting was attended by three hundred members of the A. PH. A. and the Minn. S. Ph. A. Dean Wulling presided with the assistance of Rugnar Almin, chairman of the Northwestern Branch.

The papers presented at this meeting will be printed in the "Proceedings of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association" for 1931.

C. V. NETZ, *Secretary.*

A joint meeting of the Northwestern Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and the Wulling Club of the College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota, was called to order at 3:30 P.M. in the auditorium of the College of Pharmacy, on Feb. 16th.

About two hundred members of the Northwestern Branch and student body welcomed the speaker, N. Vere Sanders of Albert Lea,

president of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association, who talked upon "A Druggist's Responsibility to His Community."

C. V. NETZ, *Secretary.*

ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRACTICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SECTION.*

BY FREDERICK J. WULLING.

The past year has been replete with pharmaceutical progress. Additions to the materia medica have been numerous; advancements in educational and practitional standards have been noteworthy; a definite trend back to professional practice became more definite and emphatic; a new decade of pharmacopœial and National Formulary revision and improvements was inaugurated at Washington, D. C., in May; successful attempts to improve the contacts and relationships of medicine and pharmacy can be recorded; a more extensive and satisfactory coöperation of all pharmaceutical interests, especially of the Boards and the Colleges, was signally stimulated and a general uplift of things pharmaceutical became apparent to all observers. To enumerate all of these progressive steps would require more time than is at the disposal of the Section. They have all been recorded in the current pharmaceutical press and I refer you to the published accounts.

It is the purpose and function of this Section to stimulate every endeavor and agency helpful in the development of our profession. The work of the Section is exemplified in the program offered for this meeting which ought to prove of value not only to Minnesota pharmacy but to pharmacy everywhere. The work of the Section is concerned primarily with the present, but also with the past and the future. We should learn many lessons from the past and apply them to the present and to the future. A study of the past reveals the fact that many of our present problems owe their existence to a lack of foresight. It is often less difficult to prevent or obviate problems than to solve them after they have arisen, but foresight and forethought are necessary to prevent them. In this respect pharmacy has been lacking in the past. Shall we of to-day continue in the old way of living from day to day or should we begin to look forward to the future and take steps to formulate forward-looking programs? The necessities of to-day include, I am convinced, a careful and wise consideration of the future, so that following generations need not waste their energies in combating evils which could have been prevented, but utilize their energies and forces for constructive and generally useful and affirmative work.

To formulate an inclusive and complete program for the future requires more than one head. Each of us could contribute something toward it. A few of my suggestions are:

1.—A loose federation, not a merger, of all the present pharmaceutical organizations to do needed things collectively and which no one group or association can do alone. Some of the things such a federation could do are: (*a*) procure more uniform state laws insuring greater uniformity in professional, practitional and educational standards; (*b*) better faculties and colleges and eliminate cramming schools; (*c*) secure higher quality of Board personnel; (*d*) hasten the slow transition now going on toward professional rehabilitation; (*e*) establish a pharmaceutical corps in the U. S. Army; etc.

2.—Of the things we should do here in Minnesota I mention a few: establish (*a*) a pharmaceutical library that will be as representative as any; (*b*) a pharmaceutical museum that will save for future generations a physical picture of the progressive history of Minnesota pharmacy; (*c*) a gallery of photographs or portraits of the pioneers and pharmacists of prominence of the present and following generations; (*d*) a central pharmaceutical laboratory for the State Board, with which could be combined experimental and research work; (*e*) a suitable building erected and maintained at state or private expense to house the library, museum, gallery and laboratories and offices of the State Association and the State Board. There are such buildings or similar ones. I have in mind the building of the American Medical Association in Chicago; the building of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain in London; the building now in process in Washington, D. C., to be known as the American Institute of Pharmacy, and others.

3.—At the University there should be created at the College of Pharmacy: (*a*) five or more scholarships comparable with the present M. S. P. A. scholarship; (*b*) five or

* Read at the Joint Meeting of the Northwestern Branch, A. PH. A., and the Scientific and Practical Section, Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association, St. Paul, Minn., February 9, 1931.

more fellowships carrying annual sums of from $500 to $2500 for research, teaching, etc., relating to the good of the profession and not commercial in nature; (c) endowments or assured annuities to create sufficient incomes for the scholarships and fellowships.

This is only a partial program. Is it too ambitious? I think not. Pharmacy is one of the well-to-do professions. It could well afford the necessary expenditures without overmuch sacrifice. Willingness and a sufficient amount of justifiable pride are necessary. We should create both. It is not my purpose now to indicate how this can be done, but only to point to the possibility. But we ought to make a beginning at once by establishing a few more scholarships and certainly several fellowships. I have many times suggested doing this, the first time in 1893. It is high time that the Association which represents Minnesota pharmacy in its entirety, should give serious consideration to these matters. The first problem will relate to the raising of the necessary money, preferably for sufficient endowments. I earnestly recommend the appointment of a committee to give these suggestions serious study and to report at our next meeting.

WESTERN NEW YORK.

The December meeting of the Western New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, was held Thursday, the 11th, in Foster Hall, on the University of Buffalo campus. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The following new members were introduced: Karl Smither, Alexander Kovach, Harold F. Jones and James J. Dargan.

The entertainment committee reported that Leon M. Monell was preparing something of interest in show-card writing, to be ready probably in February or March.

Mr. Freeman announced that efforts were being made to hold a joint meeting with the Erie County Medical Association.

Mr. Seibert stated that noteworthy things in Pharmacy are being performed daily around us without recognition, and suggested that some method of noticing such things could be devised.

Dr. Lemon called attention to the Academy of Pharmacy in New York City. Mr. Seibert replied that the intention was to give attention and recognition to individual efforts for bettering the conditions in Pharmacy locally. Dr. Lemon suggested that one award could be made yearly at a banquet.

Mr. Freeman appointed the following committee to investigate the desirability of such a proposition: *Chairman*, Mr. W. L. Seibert, Messrs. Karl Smither, R. David Allen, John A. Handy and Dr. A. B. Lemon.

The program of the evening was introduced by movies, secured by Dr. Lemon from the E. R. Squibb Co. entitled "Sunshine from the Sea."

George W. Fiero, the speaker of the evening, presented as his topic—"The Pine Board Drug Stores." He said, in part, that these stores evolved from "cut rate" tobacco stores, slowly adding such items as razors, shaving creams, etc., to their line. Their name is derived from the fact that the fixtures in some stores consisted of unpainted pine shelving and tables.

Most of these stores feature a comparatively small line of active-selling, nationally advertised preparations, very few "long-shots," use cheap help, carry no drugs and have no prescription department, although some have a pharmacist in charge, merely to enable them to use the name "Drug Store" in their advertising. They usually have a small store, not on a corner, are closed at night, and have huge piles of stock, which are dumped into paper sacks when sold.

The profit in pine board stores averages 10 to 15 per cent, but little money is invested, and a huge turnover enables them to operate. They also buy bankrupt stocks, and in large quantities, in some cases controlling wholesale houses. They buy their goods chiefly in Chicago and New York from brokers, etc., and in some cases from retail pharmacists. To fight these stores, wholesale houses in one city cut their prices so that the retailer was enabled to compete, finally running the pine board stores out. In another town, 42 druggists banded together, opened a pine board store of their own, and drove the other out. This was helped by newspaper and radio appeals to the citizens to aid home industry, etc.

The pine board side of the question is this—they are legitimate merchandisers, obeying the law. They can make money and supply goods to the consumer for less money. A survey showed that only 22 per cent of pharmacists have definite selling plans. Should they be compelled to help the less active pharmacists?

After considerable discussion following the presentation of this subject, the meeting was adjourned.

L. D. LOCKIE, *Secretary.*

FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO.

On April 30, 1931, the students, faculty and alumni will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the University of Buffalo's School of Pharmacy and at the same time will pay honor to Dean Willis G. Gregory. Dr. Gregory has been associated with the School since its founding and has been its Dean since 1890.

A banquet will be held at the Hotel Lafayette. The speakers of the evening will be J. W. Sturmer, Dean of Science of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, and Dr. Samuel Paul Capen, Chancellor of the University of Buffalo. Guests of honor will be: President H. C. Christensen and Secretary E. F. Kelly, of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION; Assistant Commissioner James Sullivan, of the State of New York for Higher and Professional Education; W. W. Charters, professor of Education of Ohio State University. Other honor guests will include the deans of the N. Y. State Colleges of Pharmacy: H. V. Arny, Columbia; W. C. Anderson, Brooklyn; Jacob Diner, Fordham; W. Mansfield, Albany and J. L. Dandreau, St. Johns; the deans of the University of Buffalo: Edward W. Koch, *Medicine;* Carlos C. Alden, *Law;* Daniel H. Squire, *Dentistry;* Julian Park, *Arts and Sciences* and C. S. Marsh, *Business Administration.*

All alumni and friends of the University are cordially invited to attend. Reservations may be made by writing or calling Dr. M. C. Swisher, Foster Hall, University of Buffalo, Cresent 9300.

OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

A resolution was adopted by the Executive Council of the Optical Society of America on October 30, 1930, as follows:

"It is the sense of the Executive Council of the Optical Society of America that the need for better organization of those interested in the description and specification of color which found expression at the 'Color Conference' held in Washington, May 14, 1930 (at which conference the Optical Society was officially represented) can best be met by the formation of a joint council consisting of officially designated representatives of the several national societies and associations interested in the description and specification of color.

"It was further decided that the President should write a letter to Prof. E. N. Gathercoal explaining the attitude of the Optical Society and calling attention to the colorimetry program to be held in New York on February 26, 1931 as offering a favorable opportunity for a further conference on the subject."

Those who attended the Pharmacopœial Convention will recall the interesting and educational color exhibit which impressed the importance of color standardization.

On February 26th and 27th, the Optical Society of America held its regular sp ing meeting in New York City. Several sessions were devoted entirely to papers dealing with colorimetry and color specifications. A program of invited papers on colorimetry, color specification and spectrophotometry was arranged. Many of these papers dealt specifically with practical applications of color measurement and specification in various industries.

FIRST MARIJUANA CHARGE IN DALLAS COUNTY.

A Mexican was placed in the county jail January 28th after a charge of selling marijuana had been filed against him in Dallas County Criminal Court, the first time in history of that body such a charge has been brought against a defendant.

Penalty in Texas, for selling the Mexican dope weed is a fine of from $25 to $500 or a jail sentence running from one month to one year.

RETIREMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL STITT.

Rear Admiral Edward Rhodes Stitt, medical corps, U. S. Navy, inspector of medical department activities in the San Diego naval district, and former chief of the bureau of medicine and surgery, Navy Department, has been granted leave from his present duties, preceding his retirement August 1, 1931, upon reaching the statutory retirement age.

Rear Admiral Stitt was born in Charlotte, N. C., July 22, 1867, and was appointed an assistant surgeon in the Navy in 1889. He is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, the University of Pennsylvania and of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.