

tinge of yellow. Dry the precipitate in an air oven at from 140° to 150° C., to constant weight. From the weight of lead chromate obtained calculate the per cent of lead by multiplying weight of lead chromate by the factor 0.6410.

#### SUMMARY.

The volumetric solutions employed in assaying Solution of Lead Subacetate for its lead content must be frequently restandardized; a gravimetric method employing potassium chromate as the precipitant is submitted with directions for making the analysis.

The method is accurate, rapid, easily carried out and has everything to commend it.

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CHARLES RICE.\*

BY VIRGIL COBLENTZ.

The U. S. Pharmacopœial Revision of 1880 was memorable in that it served as a transition from the old to the new, embodying innovations in admissions and the introduction of a more advanced scientific treatment and arrangement of text. In fact, our present Pharmacopœia represents the development of policies instituted by Charles Rice. His comprehensive grasp of general principles with an unusual mastery of minute details, eminently fitted him as pioneer in this line.

No Pharmacopœia has as yet appeared that compares with the U. S. P. in systematic arrangement and scientific treatment of its text, due chiefly to the foresight, unusual scholarly attainments and executive abilities of Charles Rice.

In order to properly estimate the abilities of this scholar, let us not overlook the following facts. During his time, all correspondence relative to revision work was carried out personally in long hand, all communications and reports were sent out in hektograph copies. I recall the



CHARLES RICE.

time when one set of manuscripts, which he was running off, all stuck so firmly to the gelatin pads, that they could only be removed in shreds. Patiently he re-wrote the entire set and then made up a new gelatin composition, one set of pads for summer use and another for cold weather.

He conducted many experiments in order to verify reports coming in. In addition to this work, the onerous and exacting duties of his position as chief chemist and apothecary to Bellevue Hospital and allied institutions connected with the De-

\* Some reminiscences relative to Pharmacopœial Revision and his private life.—Section Historical Pharmacy, A. PH. A., Baltimore meeting, 1930.

partment of Charities of the City of New York, demanded time, care and attention. He was up at 5:00 A.M. attending to the examination of all the milk deliveries, then practically all supplies used in the various charity hospitals, as well as sterilization of cat gut ligatures, followed by manufacture of most galenicals used in any quantity.

Dr. Rice rarely erred in the selection of his leaders in Pharmacopœial Revision work. The less active, or those of limited usefulness, received due attention, and as he once whispered to me with a smile, "I shall place these men where they can do the least harm."

Nothing pained him more than petty disputes and jealousies which were sure to occur; however, with his keen insight into human nature and considerate kindness for the feelings of others, such matters were adjusted satisfactorily with consummate tact.

Dr. Rice was never quite satisfied with his work on the Revision text—for, as he said, "we must proceed with our new ideas slowly and cautiously in deference to others, and if we find favor, then let us go ahead and expand. Further, after all of us are through, some school-boy will come along and point out errors."

Owing to his extreme modesty and aversion to speaking of himself and his accomplishments, it was only through very frequent contact during the last ten years of his life, that I obtained an insight into this noble character.

Charles Rice, born in Munich in 1841, showed unusual abilities in languages and the sciences at early age. In some way or other, he attracted the attention of the then archbishop of Munich, who was instrumental in sending him to the Jesuit College in Paris.

Here he acquired his thorough schooling in oriental and classic languages and mathematics. He was able to read at least 20 languages, including Sanscrit in which he was an authority, as well as Coptic, Cuneiform, Persian, Turkish, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Hebrew; was thoroughly conversant with Dutch, Italian, French, German and took up Russian in later years. His English was simply perfect, in fact it was a genuine pleasure to hear him speak, because of his clarity of expression and perfect diction. Dr. Rice was an adept in mathematics and chemistry, and through his past experiences, perfectly at home in practical pharmacy and pharmacognosy.

Dr. Rice's favorite flower was the lilac, Mozart his favorite composer and favorite cigar—the "Henry Clay." Recreation with him was a change in *kind* of work. At night he retired to his library and found supreme pleasure in his Sanscrit and Latin books. On hot summer nights he took pleasure in taking a ride on the old green "Boulevard" horsecars, riding out to 125th St. and back to his hot quarters at Bellevue.

For anyone in search of assistance, Dr. Rice always had time and patience; not even a student was turned away. Saturday afternoons were devoted usually to the library of the N. Y. College of Pharmacy, in which he took much pride. Its selection in books of reference was the best of any educational institution at that time in New York. He found time to devote in assisting the editing of *The American Druggist*, *The Newer Remedies*, as well as proof-reading for the Index Catalogue of the Congressional Library.

Dr. Rice's intense devotion to his many and exacting duties, coupled with close confinement, undermined his apparently robust constitution. Although he had

been suffering, without complaint, from what was then considered as intercostal neuralgia, he continued with his work until late one night in April 1901, I was called to the city and found him suffering intense pain. Fearing that his end was near, he dictated his wishes. He was specially concerned over the status of the work of Revision (1900), that it should suffer no interruption and change in policies. After a few days, he rallied and resumed his usual routine. Realizing that this would not continue, I wired Professor Remington to come on at once under guise of a friendly call.

It was not a day too soon, for Dr. Rice was again suffering intensely, but still able to detail the situation so that Professor Remington could take up the work uninterrupted. Taking all the books and manuscripts with him, the Pharmacopœial headquarters were then finally transferred to Philadelphia. Dr. Rice passed away a few days later. No more able man could have been found as successor in continuing the policies initiated by Charles Rice.

The memory of Charles Rice will always be cherished because of his scholarly attainments, activity in Pharmacopœial work, great kindness and unusual tact.

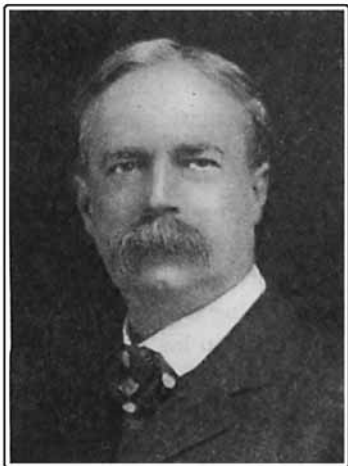
A memorial volume entitled "In Memoriam—Charles Rice" was printed by the J. B. Lippincott Co. and issued for private circulation in 1904.

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### JOSEPH PRICE REMINGTON—1847-1918.\*

BY IVOR GRIFFITH.

Born in 1847 of early Philadelphia Quaker stock—his father Isaac Remington a well-known physician, and his mother a descendant of Townsend Speakman, a famous Quaker apothecary of the same city—Joseph P. Remington came naturally upon an inheritance rich in scientific attributes. That he capitalized to the utmost his ten talents is written large upon the worthy record which he has left behind him.



JOSEPH P. REMINGTON.

The high lights of his busy and useful life may be summarized in the following staccatoed notes.

1862. His father died when the son was only fifteen years of age.

1863. Entered pharmacy as clerk with Charles Ellis, Son & Co., Charles Ellis then the president of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

1866. Graduated from the College. Thesis: "Our Alma Mater, Its Rise and Progress." (Little dreaming of the part he was destined

to play in its later progress.)

1867. Entered the employ of Dr. Squibb.

1868. Joined AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

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