

EDITORIAL

E. G. EBERLE, EDITOR

10 West Chase Street, BALTIMORE, MD.

ORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH.

THE last Congress enacted two laws which have great possibilities in the promotion of Public Health activities. The National Institute of Health was created by the enactment of the Ransdell Bill and the purpose is to engage in pure research investigations of diseases and other matters pertaining to Public Health. The author of the bill, former Senator Joseph E. Ransdell, repeated, in substance, remarks—made by him in Congress, when he recently addressed the Parent-Teacher Association in Washington—that “Here, under a commander-in-chief, will be marshaled the Nation’s army of experts in the science of medicine, surgery, psychiatry, dentistry, chemistry, physics, biology, bacteriology, *pharmacy* and all allied professions in a concentrated drive to prevent disease by ascertaining the cause and applying preventive measures in advance of its outbreak.” In other words the public health profession and all branches of science will concentrate upon the problems pertaining to the health of man. While pharmacy has not received recognition in the appointments mentioned below, Senator Ransdell, who is the executive director of the Conference Board, had the importance of pharmacy in mind when he prepared the legislation which has provided for the National Institute of Health and will, no doubt, in coöperation with the Surgeon General, who has repeatedly expressed his favorable opinion relative to the important service of pharmacy, see that pharmaceutical service will have due recognition, as the work of this great undertaking progresses.

It will be recalled that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION passed the following resolution at the 1930 meeting, held in Baltimore:

“WHEREAS, the Parker Bill, recently passed by the Congress and signed by the President, provides for the formation of an Advisory Council in the United States Public Health Service, and

“WHEREAS, pharmacists render a valuable service in connection with the preservation and improvement of the public health, be it

“Resolved, that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION suggest to the proper officials of the Government the advisability of including a representative pharmacist in the membership of the Advisory Council.”

Similar action was taken by other National and State pharmaceutical associations.

The members of the new National Advisory Health Council, created by the act of Congress in the passage of the Parker Bill, to advise with the Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service on matters pertaining to the health of the country at large, have been appointed. Four members of the advisory committee of the old Hygienic Laboratory who will serve on the council are: Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; Dr. M. P. Ravenel, professor of bacteriology at the University of Missouri; Dr. M. J. Rosenau, professor of public health and hygiene at the Harvard Medical School, and Dr. William H. Welch, of the Johns Hopkins University. The other members are: Dr. W.

S. Leathers, dean of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; Dr. Haven Emerson, professor of public health and hygiene at Columbia University; Professor S. C. Lind, head of the department of chemistry, University of Minnesota; Dr. W. H. Howell, director of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene; Dr. C. E. A. Winslow, professor of public health at Yale University, and Dr. Alfred Stengel, professor of the practice of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Executive Director Joseph E. Ransdell has recently announced the members of The Conference Board of the National Institute of Health, an unofficial, voluntary body to assist the Public Health Service, as follows: Francis P. Garvan, president of the Chemical Foundation; Dr. C. H. Herty, Consulting Chemist; Dr. W. H. Welch, Johns Hopkins; Dr. H. H. Young, Baltimore; Dr. Frank Billing, Chicago; Dr. J. C. Merriam, head of the Carnegie Institute; F. A. Delano, philanthropist and civic worker, Washington.

The hygienic laboratory of the Public Health Service was turned over to the National Institute of Health and adjoining land will be used for additional buildings. This will become the third institution created by Congress that will be allowed to receive donations for specific or general purposes in connection with the work; the other two are the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress. Donations of \$500,000 or more are to be acknowledged by suitable memorials. The Chemical Foundation has given the Institute \$100,000, for chemical research relating to health. The work of the National Institute of Health will come under the direction of the Surgeon General and the Public Health Service, and research problems relating to diseases of man will be studied throughout the world by delegated specialists.

The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has an interest in everything that promotes public health service and has been pleased to coöperate in the promotion of the measures commented upon. The site for the American Institute of Pharmacy building is in close proximity to that of the National Institute of Health.

PHARMACY WEEK.

CHAIRMAN Robert J. Ruth is busily engaged for the Pharmacy Week of 1931. One of the features will be another map—the third; the first map was a drug map of the World; the second a chemical map of North America; the one of this year will show the United States and the southern portion of Canada. On the face of the map will appear the names of all cities where colleges of pharmacy are located. Under the name of each college a brief history will be given, together with the investments represented by each institution.

On the face of the map will be half-tones of the deans and around the border of the map pictures of the schools and colleges of pharmacy, campus, laboratories, etc. The names of the schools will be given in alphabetical order, and the investments represented thereby for training pharmacists to serve and protect the public and in the interest of public health.

The Committee has given publicity to other features of Pharmacy Week and others will be announced later; the purpose of this comment is to direct attention to the educational value of the observance.

PHARMACY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES AND THEIR ALUMNI.

COMMENCEMENTS mark periods in the lives of men and women and of the activities in which they are engaged. "Each graduate who goes out is either an asset or a liability to the institution and to the profession for which he has been educated." The two statements speak, in a degree, for what pharmacy may be or will be; it is a potential relation for shaping pharmacy provided the institutions and the alumni work together, with the public as an influence that must be taken into consideration. The status of a profession cannot be changed over night, for present conditions are to a large extent due to the activities of pharmacists who preceded and pharmacy of a decade hence is being shaped by pharmacists of to-day. The question—"what will you make of pharmacy?"—is one that can only be answered jointly, by both the educational institutions and the alumni. Each alumnus is either an asset or a liability to the institution and to the profession, and this measure can be reversely applied.

An incident is recalled; seemingly it was an incident, for acts of the kind do not occur very often. This young man had worked his way through college and several years after graduation gave to his Alma Mater \$1000 "as an expression of his gratitude" to the institution that gave him the educational equipment with which he faced the world. "His attitude of mind may not be unusual, but his practical exemplification of his theory goes much further than most baccalaureates are willing to carry their loyalty."

YOUNG MEN TO THE FRONT.

ON TWO recent occasions I have had my attention called to the number of young men who were interesting themselves in the organization work of the sciences of chemistry and pharmacy. At the Indianapolis meeting of the American Chemical Society, I was impressed with the great number of young chemists that attended, closely followed and took part in the programs of the different sectional meetings. It occurred to me that such a condition augurs well for the future of that Society. At a recent conference of pharmacists, a goodly part of the program was handled by young men of the profession and these young men acquitted themselves splendidly.

Wisdom is usually associated with age, and age surely tempers impetuosity and over-enthusiasm, bringing them to the point where their efficiency is at its best. However, when one of our most important universities selects for its president a man in his early thirties, we are constrained to stop and consider whether age is not used too much as a criterion for usefulness in the organizations of pharmacy.

All of us are aware of the fact that when we attend a meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, National Association of Boards of Pharmacy or the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION we meet the "old wheel horses" of these organizations and we are all glad that this is so, because these older members have a guiding hand in the operation of these organizations that is necessary to their successful function. If we were to select ten of the most active from each organization, I believe we would be surprised to find that we have selected most

of the active participants in their deliberations. Is this for the best interest for the future of these organizations and of pharmacy?

The younger members of our organizations are not as regular in attendance as we would wish and as they should be for the best interest of pharmacy. This is perhaps due to the fact that the younger members feel that they are not in a financial position to pay the expenses of attendance. I am sure that no youthful member has ever had a reason to believe that he is not welcome to attend and to participate in our deliberations. However, are we doing our full duty in urging these younger men to attend and participate in the activities of these organizations, or are we content in allowing the official reports of these meetings to satisfy their youthful enthusiasm for our profession? If the latter be true, I believe we should not be surprised that their ardor cools with time.

The inspiration that a young man will receive by attendance on and participation in our deliberations is immeasurable and we cannot afford to let any opportunity to secure his attendance pass without doing our full share toward securing such attendance and participation. Let every regular attendant at these meetings pledge himself to do his utmost to bring at least one of the younger and enthusiastic neophytes of our profession with him to our next meeting and see to it that he has the opportunity to meet and associate with the men who are in the forefront of the work. If this be done, American Pharmacy will reap ten-fold benefit for any effort that it costs.—C. B. JORDAN, *Chairman*, House of Delegates, A. PH. A.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS.

The annual meeting of the American Association of Museums will be held at Pittsburgh on May 21st-23rd, according to *Museum News*. General and group sessions are designed for delegates from museums of all kinds throughout the country. A general session each morning will be devoted to a topic of equal interest to museums of art, science, history and industry. Each afternoon session will be given over to a single paper introductory to inspection of one of the host museums or of some other branch of the Carnegie Institute. On two evenings six groups will hold separate sessions. At these group sessions more specialized topics will be considered, but in the aggregate a wide variety of subject matter will be covered. The groups are the technical section, the scientific section, the superintendents' section, the art group, the educational group and the public relations group.

Important features of the meeting will be the 25th anniversary dinner on the third evening, and the exhibit of the technical section.

The exhibit will be open for inspection throughout the meeting.

The general session of the first morning will take up branch museums with papers on the different kinds of branches already to be found and general treatment of the needs and future. The second morning session will be on international outlooks, with presentations from the European and the American standpoints and a critical comparison of views. The third general session, on the last morning, will take up outdoor education from the standpoints of science, history and art museums. At this session also there will be a single paper and discussion on a particular field—that of industrial museum exhibits.

Proposals for participation in the technical section exhibit are being received by Remi M. Santens, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, vice-chairman of the section. The exhibit will include models, miniature groups, manikins, photographs, drawings, paintings, case displays and designs. All members of the section who desire to submit objects for display should communicate with Mr. Santens.—Through *Science*, May 1st.
