

EDITORIAL

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COMPLETION OF THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING.

THE records of the ASSOCIATION show that a home for the organization has been an ideal for many years. A place where its efforts could be consolidated and enlarged and where its valuable records and possessions could be collected and preserved. American pharmacy has lost materially by not having such a central home. The proposal has been considered and discussed on many occasions.

After twelve years of continuous arduous labor the Headquarters Building, the first unit of the American Institute of Pharmacy, is completed and will be occupied before the end of the year. During the interval, very important work has been done for pharmacy, much of which is not apparent. The beautiful building and its splendid location are the visible results and fully justify all the thought and effort and expense that have been so generously given to the undertaking.

Every one interested in pharmacy, either as a profession or as an industry, should carefully read Council Letter No. 3 as printed under "Association Business" of this issue of the JOURNAL. Here is recorded, in brief, the final results of the struggle to erect a headquarters building and to locate it in keeping with the ideals and accomplishments of the profession and the industry.

The Federal Government has shown its confidence in pharmacy on several occasions by entrusting very important duties to the profession. In permitting the ASSOCIATION to occupy this site and in cooperating with it so effectively toward completing the undertaking on a much more splendid basis than had been originally planned, the Government has complimented and assisted pharmacy in a very handsome and practical manner.

To bring all this about has called for much planning and effort and as is usually true of worth-while work, some friction and misunderstanding. Patience and a just cause have brought a most satisfactory result.

The following quotation taken from a letter from Chairman Charles Moore of the Commission of Fine Arts to the secretary indicates that the governmental authorities are also pleased with the result:

"The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, had pleasure in visiting the headquarters building of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, designed by John Russell Pope. The Commission can congratulate you and through you, the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, on the successful completion of this difficult and at times perplexing project. The building is an adequate and fitting portion of the frame of the Lincoln Memorial. For the hearty cooperation the ASSOCIATION has shown to bring about this result, this Commission express their appreciation and thanks."

American Pharmacy now has a home beautiful in design and practical in construction, located for its purpose in one of the most commanding and probably the most desirable sites in the national capital. It is in the midst of the several govern-

mental institutions devoted to public health and in a district visited annually by thousands of persons from every section of this nation and from every country in the world.

Beyond the utilitarian value of the institution no effort could contribute more to a better understanding of pharmacy and its service to the public and to the stability and strength of the profession.

As was reported at the Madison meeting a splendid building and equipment for the Research Laboratories will be furnished by a devoted and generous member of the ASSOCIATION, after the central building is occupied. When this is completed, the institution will have a Reference Library, an Historical Museum and a Research Laboratory, as well as working offices for the ASSOCIATION and its related organizations, in keeping with its part in public health and public service.

When American Pharmacy dedicates the first building, in 1934, it will not only mark the completion of a splendid undertaking but will, through this equipment and contact, take its rightful place among the public-health professions.—E. F. K.

THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY AND YOURS.

AS president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, I recognize and accept the responsibility that goes with this high office. I shall do all in my power to uphold the principles to which the ASSOCIATION has long been devoted. I shall lend every possible aid and assistance to the advancement of Pharmacy, and to a betterment of the conditions under which the pharmacist carries on his work. It shall be my pleasure to participate as completely as I know how in every plan for the professional and economic uplift of Pharmacy. The presidency, as I see it, should be embraced as a great opportunity for serious and careful work.

First of all, I shall seek to arouse increased interest in the work of the ASSOCIATION among the pharmacists of the country, to invite a greater number of them to become members, and to urge them to take an active part in its affairs. I shall do this because I feel deeply the great need of making pharmacists as a class more familiar with the ideals and principles which have guided the ASSOCIATION through the years. There never was a time when pharmacists needed to see things from a more fundamental point of view. There is grave danger that Pharmacy may be permanently impaired by unregulated and unrestrained commercial exploitation. There are tendencies which must be curbed if Pharmacy is to measure up to its public and professional obligations. There are forces which must be subordinated if the drug store is to continue to merit public confidence and esteem. The future of the drug store, in my honest and deliberate opinion, depends almost entirely upon its ability to move in the direction the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has from time to time pointed out. The ASSOCIATION must be seen in the light of its great service in the past, and as the embodiment of the ideals which must be accepted as a guiding force in the future.

The ASSOCIATION should embrace a greater number of retail pharmacists. An increase in membership will enhance the value of the work which the ASSOCIATION is doing. A larger membership will also put the ASSOCIATION in a stronger position,

and will enable it to do a more effective work. While every one looks instinctively to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION to point the right direction, to build professional prestige and to maintain sound professional standards, the ASSOCIATION has not had the numerical strength in keeping with the task it is confidently looked to to perform. The inconsistency between the great importance of the work of the ASSOCIATION and the size of its membership constitutes a challenge which must be met.

I believe that once pharmacists are made more fully acquainted with the work of the ASSOCIATION they will give it magnificent support. With the completion of the headquarters building in Washington, the ASSOCIATION enters upon a career of widened influence and greater usefulness. It should be possible to develop the ASSOCIATION so as to include many services which have not been possible heretofore. Plans are now being worked out for making the ASSOCIATION more vital to the work of the pharmacist. These plans will be greatly aided by increased membership, by more adequate financial support and by a more earnest interest and coöperation upon the part of pharmacists as a class.

The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION deserves the whole-hearted support of every one interested in the development of Pharmacy on sound professional and economic lines.

As president, I earnestly urge you, as members, to coöperate with me in bringing the ASSOCIATION more closely to the attention of the pharmacists of the country. Your responsibility is fully as great as mine.—ROBERT L. SWAIN, *President*.

CRAWFORD W. LONG, PHYSICIAN-PHARMACIST, DISCOVERER OF ETHER ANESTHESIA.

MANY articles have appeared in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, a number of greater length by the late Joseph Jacobs, an apprentice in the pharmacy of Dr. Long in Athens, Ga.—on priority of the use of ether anesthesia in surgical operations. Reference is made at this time, because in an article of the public press Dr. W. T. G. Morton was given the credit which rightly belongs to Dr. Long. The latter was the first one (1842) to use ether for producing surgical narcosis, the former was the first to demonstrate its use (1846) before a professional gathering. Let it be remembered, however, Dr. Long performed several surgical operations prior to 1846, in Jefferson, Ga., two on James Venable.

Physicians and surgeons of other countries acknowledged Dr. Long's priority in the use of ether for anesthesia; for example, when King Edward VII had recovered consciousness after an operation, he asked: "Who discovered anesthesia?" The answer which he received from the surgeon was: "Dr. Crawford Long, Your Majesty."

Dr. Long graduated from the University of Georgia in 1835 (then Franklin College); he attended Transylvania University (Lexington, Ky.) and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1839. After practicing in New York Hospitals for 18 months, he returned to Georgia (Jefferson) and in 1851 moved to Athens, where he practiced until his demise, June 16, 1878, aged 63 years.