

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to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of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

On February 16th the Baltimore Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was addressed by Dr. David I. Macht, who spoke as a scientific investigator in experimental medicine. He had for his subject "Alcohol and Alcohols."

Doctor Macht gave a brief survey of the prominence of alcohol as a drug. He touched upon the present-day theories regarding the pharmacologic action of ethyl alcohol and its use as a food. He referred to his own researches in this field and related how he had studied the narcotic action of the higher alcohols. Of particular importance was the reference which the speaker made to a European volume dealing with alcohol and a comparable volume recently published in this country—"Alcohol and Man." Because the sociological aspects of the problem are so complex he did not elaborate upon them in his illuminating discussion.

At the conclusion of Doctor Macht's address many of the members questioned him regarding various points he had touched upon. The paper was discussed by Messrs. Solomon, Glassford, DuMez and Reindollar; Dr. Macht graciously commented on their remarks.

Approximately fifty-five attended the meeting. Many students from the School of Pharmacy and the School of Medicine of the University of Maryland were present. It was particularly gratifying to the officers of the Branch to see such a fine attendance.

C. JELLEFF CARR, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

CHICAGO.

The 210th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held on January 24, 1933, at the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy, 715 S. Wood Street.

The meeting was opened with the report of the Committee on Nominations, who submitted the following nominations for officers for the ensuing year:

President, R. E. Terry; *First Vice-President*, G. L. Webster; *Second Vice-President*, R. A. G. Linke; *Third Vice-President*, S. W. Morrison; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Lawrence Templeton.

Committee Chairmen: Membership, Thomas F. Rylanda; *Legislation*, J. Riemenschneider; *Practice*, I. A. Becker; *Medical Relations*, Dr. Bernard Fantus; *Publicity*, Samuel C. Henry.

A unanimous vote was given to adopt the selection of the nominating committee.

President Terry outlined the following programs for the remainder of the year:

February 21st—"Some of the Newer Forms of Medical Practice," by Dr. Leland of the American Medical Association.

March—"Acres of Diamonds," by Prof. Anton Hogstad, Jr.

April—"Plans for Pharmacy at the World's Fair," by H. C. Christensen.

May—"Research on Vehicles," by Dr. Bernard Fantus.

This meeting marked the beginning of the 28th year of the Chicago Branch—the meeting was dedicated to reminiscences of members and occurrences during those many years.

Prof. Clyde M. Snow, of the Pharmacy School, who was a member of the group forming the branch, delivered a very interesting history of the branch during its twenty-eight years of existence. This history contains the names of many men who have had a profound influence on the advance of pharmacy.

Dr. Bernard Fantus expressed the sentiment of the members when he suggested that the history be revised to include more of the work that had been done by the author of the history, Professor Snow. The history is undergoing a revision at this time and will be printed in the near future.

LAWRENCE TEMPLETON, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.

The 211th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held February 21, 1933, at the University of Illinois College of Pharmacy.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. Leland, Director of the Bureau of Medical Practice of the American Medical Association, whose subject was, "Some of the Newer Forms of Medical Practice."

Dr. Leland began his talk by mentioning that the American Medical Association has a council on Pharmacy and Chemistry, showing that the association is interested in the closely associated professions and sciences.

Dr. Leland laid the foundation for his discussion of some present-day practices in medicine by giving some of the early history of health insurance.

Bismark started health insurance in Europe. There are various reports as to its success. Contract practice or health insurance schemes began as long ago as 1790 in this country. As we follow this type of medical practice we find that at the time of the Civil War the plantation owners were employing this for the care of their help.

Railroads, lumbering companies, mining companies, etc., adopted the contract practice for providing for the health of their employees. The American Medical Association does not now condemn all types of contract practice, as it is necessary in isolated districts far away from the urban centers.

Now many hospitals and health organizations have adopted the written contract instead of the implied contract. In some places the contract system has escaped from the control of organized medicine. The objection to commercialism of this type of medical prac-

tice is that soliciting, under-bidding and misrepresentation occurs when the competition becomes too great. This is not a cross section of medical practice to-day, but something which is disturbing the medical practice and growing in some sections.

In Europe, where in some countries health insurance has been adopted, illness has increased. The people feel that they have paid for medical care and that they have something coming, in many cases taking advantage of the situation.

People who have this health insurance many times are not getting what they think they are. In most cases the rates for the insurance are inadequate and are not economically sound. Some concerns are giving good service under the contract system while others are giving terrible service. The profession feels that a promoter should not be placed between the physician and the public.

With the growth of this type of practice there is the possibility of a nation-wide organization of millions of policy buyers. Such an organization could wield an influence on hospitals, doctors, pharmaceutical houses, etc., for favoritism or lower prices.

There is usually a selfish motive in most of the organizations springing up. The doctors who render the services usually get a very small percentage of the intake of these concerns.

There are some organizations formed for the reduction of cost of medical care who are very ethical. The American Medical Association is fighting against those organizations who are trying to commercialize and promote the profession, not for the welfare of the public, but for their own profit.

Dr. Leland closed this very interesting discussion by stating that there are many places where group practice has been successful and the American Medical Association has thought it best not to devise a plan for the entire country, but to handle local conditions as they deem best for the profession and the public.

A vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Leland.

LAWRENCE TEMPLETON, *Secretary*.

DETROIT.

The January meeting of the Detroit Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held in the Y. M. C. A. Building, preceded by a dinner. President Robert Fleisher called the meeting to order, and the

minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary and approved.

President Fleisher then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Claude E. Duchess, of the Medical Service Department of Parke, Davis & Co., who spoke on "Medicine and Pharmacy Interlocking Professions." He said the doctor and the druggist play an important part in the welfare of the community and many opportunities for coöperation present themselves to both professions for the good of the patient and the community.

A general discussion followed led by Dr. G. H. Dikeman, manager of Mutual Drug Co., who took the physician to task for aiding in the exploiting of patent medicines by prescribing them for his patients.

Dr. Duchess said this condition existed because of the vast army of detail men employed by the manufacturer to-day placing information before the physician in this era of new medicines, some of which have merit and have their place.

Dean R. T. Lakey said the type of training given to pharmacy students may have to be revised to meet the ever-changing trend in the art of medication. He said the training given the student to-day does not go far enough into pharmacology. In the modern medicines many changes occur, complicated reactions are affected both chemically and physiologically. Bacteriology and physiology must be developed to a higher degree. He said reformers threaten to revolutionize medical service—the doctor, druggist and dentist must get together to protect interdependent interests.

Mr. Dox compared the old-time physician with the present and referred to the vast changes in the art of prescription writing.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary*.

TESTIMONIAL DINNER TO DIRECTOR E. J. PARR.

Detroit Branch of AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION tendered a testimonial dinner, on February 21st, to Ernest J. Parr, new director of drugs and drug stores. A representative group of pharmacists attended to pay tribute to the Director. All members of the Michigan Board of Pharmacy were present: *President*, Howard Hurd, of Flint; Duncan Weaver, of Fenville; Earl Durham, of Coruna; M. N. Henry, of Lowell, and President Clare F. Allan, of Wyandotte, of the National Association Boards of Pharmacy. Mrs. Dur-

ham, Mrs. Weaver and Mrs. Allan added color to the speakers' table.

The National Association of Colleges of Pharmacy was represented by Prof. Charles H. Stocking of the University of Michigan. The colleges of pharmacy were represented by Dean Edward H. Kraus of the University of Michigan, Dean R. T. Lakey, Prof. J. L. Dorion of Detroit Institute of Technology, and Prof. E. H. Wisner of Ferris Institute. The latter was also represented by E. E. Brown, its new president.

The inspectors were represented by Ed. J. Meyer; the N. A. R. D. by John H. Webster, *former president*; the D. R. D. A. by President J. Walter Runciman; and the U. S. P. and N. F. Revision Committee by Leonard A. Seltzer and J. Ed. Richardson, former president of the Board of Pharmacy.

The attendance at the meeting was considerably increased by the students of the colleges of pharmacy and the pharmacy staff of the University Hospital in Ann Arbor headed by Harvey A. Whitney, who also paid tribute to the new director.

The selection of Mr. Parr for director of drugs and drug stores is very popular. The key-note of the many speakers seemed to be in harmony with an eagerness to coöperate with the new director to bring about better conditions in pharmacy in Michigan and a superb confidence that pharmacy would be greatly benefited under the directorship and guidance of Director Parr.

The meeting of the Branch was called to order by President Robert Fleisher, who introduced Felix Johnson of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan, First Vice-President of the Branch, and extended to him the courtesy of the floor.

The minutes of the January meeting were read by the secretary and approved as read. Mr. Parr was presented at this time by President Fleisher. He paid tribute to the late H. H. Hoffman and Garfield Benedict, the retiring director, for laying the foundation and pledged that he would work to carry on in accordance with some of his ideas and ideals for pharmacy.

The retail druggist must promote legislation to protect public health. He suggested the control of public health through medical, nursing and pharmaceutical associations working in complete harmony. While raising the standards of pharmacy is a step in the right direction, Mr. Parr suggested something should be

done to guarantee the student a fair return for his efforts.

To-day the student has the chain store, the patent medicine store, the vendor and other menaces to contend with; he said the public is beginning to realize the critical condition of the retailer and suggested complete coöperation of all concerned to improve conditions. A study of the National Model Pharmacy Law is being made by Mr. Parr in the hope of bringing about suitable legislation in Michigan. He thanked the assembly for the wonderful reception given to him and invited every pharmacist to make his office at Lansing headquarters when in the Capital City.

Dean Lakey responded and said that Michigan Pharmacy had a real leader in the new director; he also announced that Prof. Anton Hogstad, head of National Pharmacy Week, would be the speaker at the March meeting of the A. Ph. A. Branch meeting.

Dean Kraus said that since hearing Mr. Parr to-night he was more confident than ever in the future of Michigan Pharmacy. He announced plans for the annual May meeting held in Ann Arbor; the date is to be Thursday, May 11, 1933. The speaker is to be Prof. Carl D. LaRue who will give an illustrated lecture on "Some Observations on Drug Collections in the Tropics, Including Sumatra, Java and Brazil." The Pharmaceutical Conference which proved so successful last year will be repeated. The opening address of welcome will be delivered by Dr. Alexander G. Ruthven, president of the University of Michigan. Other noted speakers include Dr. C. W. Edmunds, member of the U. S. P. Revision Committee; he will speak on "Drug Addiction as a World Menace;" Prof. L. L. Watkins, of the Department of Economics, will speak on "The Economic Condition of the World;" Prof. R. W. Bunting, of the School of Dentistry, will speak on "The Decay of Teeth;" H. C. Christensen, of Chicago, will speak on a subject of national importance and Dr. Nathan Sinai will speak on "The Study of the Costs of Medical Care."

This brought to a close one of the most enthusiastic meetings in the history of the Detroit Branch.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK.

The February meeting of New York Branch, of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, was held February 20th, at the College

of Pharmacy, Columbia University, with about seventy members present. The new president, Ernest Bilhuber, presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, also the report of Treasurer Currens.

Chairman Lehman, of the Committee on Education and Legislation, reported that the Capper-Kelly Bill will not come up for action at this session of Congress; the Copeland Bill, amending the Clayton Act, has been postponed; he said repeal of the 18th Amendment seems assured. Relative to state legislation, the chairman reported introduction of a New York State Fair Trade bill (similar to the Junior Capper-Kelly Bill), of an Anti-Discrimination bill (this compels those operating more than one store to maintain the same price on the same goods in all of these stores). The Committee on Education of New York Senate has reported favorably the bill which gives the State Board of Pharmacy jurisdiction over the sales of drugs and preparations, containing poisonous, habit-forming or deleterious substances.

Chairman Lehman referred to lack of support for the Committee on Legislative Matters; Mr. Currens urged that differences of groups be settled before the delegation goes to Albany, and there present a united front.

Hugo H. Schaefer moved that Chairman Lehman address various organizations of the drug-trade activities to form a legislative committee representative of the whole industry. Carried.

Chairman Kassner reported that he was organizing a large committee on membership and urged members to enlarge the membership of the Branch. The application of Harry Handsman for membership in the Branch was submitted and approved. Dr. H. V. Army reported that a branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was in the process of organization in New Jersey. President Bilhuber appointed Dr. Schaefer, *Chairman* of a committee to confer with the interested parties in New Jersey; the other members of this committee are Messrs. Ballard and Lehman; alternate, J. Leon Lascoff.

President Bilhuber introduced Joseph J. Hammer, as speaker of the evening, who spoke on "A Plan for Easing the Credit Situation." He referred to the favorable reception given him, especially by the "Credit Mens' Round Table." The reason for his gratification was, that only through the coöperation of these

men could the plan be put into operation and notwithstanding that he had placed the responsibility for the difficulties on them, they were willing to discuss the matter further with a desire to cooperate with the retailers in stabilizing the industry.

He did not consider the plan a panacea but of value in restoring confidence and to correct certain evils that had crept in. He referred to the large relative number of failures in the retail drug business. The greater part of his address was devoted to the cause of drug store failures and the number of stores that might have been saved. He placed the onus of the evils on the credit managers and in support of his contention referred to a number of actual experiences of arbitrary and destructive conduct. He stated that he was not unmindful of the trials and tribulations of the manufacturers and wholesalers and the number of unscrupulous attorneys. He contended that blind, irrational and hasty rush of creditors seeking the collection of their debts is ruinous to all parties. He considered that in practically all cases, forced liquidation brought little return and resulted in destruction. In his opinion voluntary readjustments through equitable moratoriums, extensions or compositions of debts, presents the only prudent method. Frequently it is the obstruction of minority creditors that prevents settlement. He referred to the plan laid before the fifth annual convention of the New York Pharmaceutical Conference, in which he had provided for the formation of the Pharmaceutical Credit Board—to act as a clearing board of retailers, manufacturers and wholesalers and then, when debtors seek readjustment of their financial affairs with their creditors, they may appear before the Board and submit themselves to its jurisdiction. In such an event, he said, "all member creditors would, *ipso facto*, be stayed and restrained from the legal enforcement of their claims pending the investigation and final determination of the Board." In that way a pharmacist would be permitted to continue in business, the assets would be conserved and the plan developed whereby settlement can be effected and better protection given to all parties concerned. He maintained that the pharmaceutical manufacturer and wholesaler, dealing directly with the retailer, owed a duty to the retailer in the hour of need. He pointed out that manufacturers and wholesalers owed their success largely to the retailer and all that the retailers

ask is cooperation so that they may continue in business. He also called attention of the A1 credit risk given by Dun and Bradstreet in the classification of the retailer. If the average pharmacist is given reasonable encouragement he will do everything possible to meet his just debts. He invited the credit men to make the Credit Board possible and effective.

Mr. Hammer also referred to the fact that the La Guardia Costigan bankruptcy bill is to be passed by Congress. This bill proposes a modification of the bankruptcy law along the lines he had indicated in his remarks. A man in financial difficulties will file a petition with the Federal Court asking for a conference with his creditors with a view of obtaining an equitable moratorium, adjustment arrangement, with his creditors. He also referred to the New York Pharmacy Ownership Law which has been declared unconstitutional.

Lengthy discussion followed Mr. Hammer's address and indicated the great interest in this subject. Several members of New York Credit Mens' Round Table took an active part in the discussion. Mr. Cunningham agreed that if a central credit organization with sufficient authority could be organized, it would be helpful. Mr. Zeitlin pointed out that individual agreements with creditors had been made and worked out satisfactorily.

Mr. Gesoalde suggested that the president of the New York Pharmaceutical Conference and Mr. Hammer meet with the credit men to discuss such a proposed plan and put it into operation, if possible.

Mr. Currens assured Mr. Hammer that the credit men would be willing to cooperate.

A unanimous rising vote was given the speaker.

RUDOLF HAUCK, *Secretary*.

THE ACADEMY OF PHARMACY AND NORTHERN OHIO BRANCH A. PH. A.

The Academy of Pharmacy and Northern Ohio Branch of the A. Ph. A., *Bulletin 1* for 1933, issued to physicians, carried with it two prescription suggestions, one for Cough Syrup and one for an Expectorant Mixture. Three other formulas were included; they are:

"1. Potassium Guaiacol Sulphonate, Ammonium Chloride, and Chloroform in a vehicle of Syrup of Wild Cherry and Red Aromatic Elixir.

"2. *Mixtura Glycyrrhizæ Composita*, Tartar Emetic, Paregoric, Spirit of Nitrous Ether, Glycerin and Water. Sometimes Ammonium Chloride is added to this mixture.

"3. Codeine Sulphate and Diluted Phosphoric Acid in a vehicle of Syrup of Wild Cherry, Codeine Alkaloid. (Codeine Sulphate and Codeine Phosphate may be used interchangeably in a vehicle, as their action is the same and the Pharmacopœia gives the same dose, 0.03 Gm., gr. ss. for each.) Codeine Sulphate contains 76% of anhydrous Codeine, and 1 Gm. dissolves in 30 cc. of Water and in 1280 cc. of Alcohol. Heat increases solubility. Codeine Phosphate contains 67% of anhydrous Codeine, and 1 Gm. dissolves in 2.3 cc. of Water and in 325 cc. of Alcohol. Heat increases solubility. Because of its greater solubility the phosphate should be indicated in highly alcoholic preparations."—THE ACADEMY OF PHARMACY.

Bulletin No. 2 has as a subject, "Sprays." Other formulas are given and reference is also made to the formulas of the National Formulary.

Nebula Aromatica. **Nebul. Arom.** contains 0.2 Gm. each of Phenol and Menthol; 0.1 Gm. Thymol; 0.3 Gm. each of Camphor and Benzoic Acid; 0.2 cc. each of Eucalyptol, Oil of Cinnamon and Oil of Clove; 0.5 cc. Methyl Salicylate (Oil of Wintergreen) in Light Liquid Petrolatum to make 100 cc.

Nebula Mentholis Composita. **Nebul. Menthol Co.** contains 1 Gm. each of Camphor and Menthol; 0.3 cc. of Methyl Salicylate; 0.2 cc. each of Eucalyptol and Oil of Cinnamon in Light Liquid Petrolatum to make 100 cc.

Nebula Eucalyptolis. **Nebul. Eucalyptol.** contains 5% Eucalyptol in Light Liquid Petrolatum.

Nebula Mentholis. **Nebul. Menthol.** contains 2% Menthol in Light Liquid Petrolatum.

One of the most common preparations, used as drops in the nose, consists of Camphor, Menthol and Light Liquid Petrolatum. This is sometimes known as C. M. A. nose drops. The quantity of Camphor and Menthol varies from 2½ grains, each, to the fluidounce to 1 grain of each. One per cent of Ephedrine may be added, if so desired.

Ephedrine is used in the nostrils to shrink the congested mucosa in rhinitis and sinusitis. Local application to mucous membranes . . . contracts the capillaries to a moderate degree and thus diminishes hyperemia and reduces swelling. One per cent, in oil, may be used

for local application to mucous membranes (N. N. R.). See our *Bulletin No. 7*, 1932, for literature upon Ephedrine.—THE ACADEMY OF PHARMACY.

PHILADELPHIA.

The February meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held February 13, 1933, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. The meeting was brought to order at 8:30 by President Stoneback, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and approved. Mr. Douglas Krebs and Mr. George Tushim were accepted as members of the Local Branch.

A Nominating Committee, consisting of W. L. Cliffe, *Chairman*; James C. Munch and Adley B. Nichols, was appointed to consider candidates for the annual election of officers to be held at the next meeting.

J. B. Treichel, chemist to the MacAndrews and Forbes Company, of Camden, New Jersey, as guest speaker of the evening presented a talk on Licorice entitled, "Putting a Weed to Work." Several reels of excellent moving pictures formed an interesting feature. During the course of the lecture Mr. Treichel discussed the history and cultivation of licorice; its chemistry and pharmacognosy; the preparation of licorice extracts; and the use of the waste fibre in making paper, fibre board and other similar materials. Especially emphasized was the use of secondary licorice extract, in combination with certain chemicals, for the production of fire-resisting foam in various forms of fire extinguishers. Mr. Treichel produced typical fires in miniature on the lecture table, and promptly extinguished them with the foam from several forms of apparatus containing the licorice mixture. The spectacular nature of the demonstrations was applauded by the large audience.

E. H. MACLAUGHLIN, *Secretary*.

PITTSBURGH.

JANUARY.

A well-attended meeting of the Pittsburgh Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held January 17, 1933, at the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy. Dr. J. H. Wurdack, president of the Branch, presided. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. A communication from Dr. A. H. Horvath was read. Dr. Horvath was unavoidably detained in New York, consequently his lecture on "Soy Bean" was deferred.

The president appointed the following nominating committee to report at the regular meeting in February: E. C. Reif, A. F. Judd, Louis Saalbach.

The speaker of the evening, Dr. E. C. Reif, was introduced. Professor Reif gave a very instructive talk on "Hypnotics." He considered at length "Barbituric Acid Derivatives" in a manner that was very interesting to pharmacists. Dr. Reif later answered many questions brought up during the discussion that followed.

A rising vote of thanks was accorded Dr. Reif.

FRANK S. MCGINNIS, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.

The February meeting of the Pittsburgh branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held February 21, 1933, at the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy. Dr. J. H. Wurdack presided. Robert W. Taylor was appointed to act as secretary, *pro-tem*. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

President Wurdack introduced Dr. C. Leonard O'Connell. Professor O'Connell reported as delegate to the house of delegates, at the Toronto meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. He considered the resolutions that were adopted at the last convention and discussed those that had a direct bearing upon the activity of the Pittsburgh Branch.

In summarizing, Dr. O'Connell made many suggestions. He indicated to the group the vital necessity of combining our forces, in our metropolitan area, into a strong society of pharmacists, regardless of whether we are engaged in retail capacity, hospital pharmacies, wholesale or manufacturers' distributors, or serving as members of teaching staffs. Dr. O'Connell stressed that the Pittsburgh Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION should be the organization to foster the activity and professional association of pharmacists in our section.

The president then presented Frank S. McGinnis, who read a paper on the findings of the committee on Costs of Medical Care. The available report of the Committee, resulting from a five-year study under the chairmanship of Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, was also considered.

The majority and chief minority recommendations were presented and indication was made that organized medicine had sufficient

reason to support the chief minority recommendations of the committee. Mr. McGinnis further presented a compilation of facts and findings taken from a publication entitled "The Costs of Medicines" by C. Rufus Rorem and Robert P. Fischelis, prepared for the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care. Of the many points brought out it was interesting to learn that the annual bill for medicines in the United States is approximately 715,000,000 dollars. The distribution of this amount of money was made as follows: Home Remedies, \$165,000,000; Patent Medicines, \$360,000,000; Physicians' Prescriptions, \$190,000,000.

Much discussion followed the presentation of the paper. Brought out in the discussion was the fact that at present there are 133,000 pharmacists in the United States. It was deemed necessary that an exerted effort should be made to increase membership in our parent body, the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. It was estimated that of the total number of pharmacists in the United States, about five per cent pay dues to the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The next order of business was the report of the Committee on nominations. Dr. E. C. Reif reported for the committee as follows: *President*, Clarence T. Van Meter; *Vice-President*, Bernard F. Daubert; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Frank S. McGinnis; *Delegate to House of Delegates*, C. Leonard O'Connell. A ballot was cast by Mr. Raymond Hornfeck, unanimously electing the nominees.

Dr. J. H. Wurdack, on retiring from office, urged upon the newly elected officers the opportunity for serving, and the responsibility in developing one of the strongest units in organized pharmacy—the Pittsburgh Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Van Meter assumed the office of president and pledged his effort in developing this strong pharmaceutical society.

ROBERT W. TAYLOR, *Secretary, Pro-tem*.

STUDENT BRANCH.

The Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy Student Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION met Friday, February 24th, with the entire student body in attendance. It was the opening meeting of the new semester and Paul Geer, who presided, introduced the new representatives who had been selected by their respective classes for the ensuing year. The representatives—Mr. Theil, Senior; Mr. Gabig, Junior; Mr. Lewis,

Sophomore; and Mr. Schindel, Freshman—spoke briefly of their plans for the year and requested coöperation from the entire group. The Dean, Dr. C. Leonard O'Connell, asked the students to decide what they wanted their organization to accomplish and offered full coöperation of himself and the professional staff to help attain any end that the organization might have in mind. Dr. O'Connell also pointed out the unique fact that probably no pharmacy college in this country thus far could, like the Pittsburgh Student Branch, have present at one meeting, four duly accredited delegates to four consecutive national conventions. These four men who were present were Mr. Dolyak who was at Rapid City in 1929, Mr. DeBone who was at Baltimore in 1930, Mr. Theil who was at Miami in 1931, and Mr. Zalevsky who was at Toronto in 1932. Mr. DeBone, in concluding the meeting, presented an amusing as well as interesting talk on Chinese Medicine. Adjournment followed.

It is planned that the new class representatives will meet in the very near future to organize and elect officers.

SIDNEY M. ZALEVSKY, *Secretary*.

MARCH 2ND.

At a meeting of the delegates held March second, it was decided that the student branch shall, in the future, hold monthly meetings; new officers were installed and are as follows:

President, John Theil; *Vice-President*, John Gabig; *Secretary*, Greyson Lewis; *Treasurer*, Arthur Schindel.

GREYSON P. LEWIS, *Secretary*.

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH.

A joint session of the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Association and the Northwestern Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held February 8th. Dean Frederick J. Wulling presided with assistance of Ragnar Almin, president of the Branch. Dean Wulling read his address and reports were made by committees: On *College of Pharmacy*, Oscar M. Nordrum; *Drug Plant Culture*, E. B. Fischer; *Practical Pharmacy*, R. H. G. Netz; on *Research*, C. H. Rogers; *Hospital Pharmacists*, Sister St. George; *U. S. P. and N. F. Revision*, F. A. U. Smith; on *Adulteration*, Ragnar Almin; *Public Health*, John Connell; *Fellowship*, N. Vere Sanders; *History and Educational Conference*, Frederick J. Wulling; *Rho Chi*, George Crossen; *Inter-professional Relationships*, Dr. John O. Taft;

Dentists, Dr. C. O. Flagstad; *Minnesota Fellowship*, Karl Goldner; *Drying Drugs and Medicinal Plant Garden*, E. B. Fischer.

Papers were read by C. V. Netz; *Volatile Oil of Chrysanthemum balsamita*, E. B. Fischer and R. F. Voigt; *Some Interesting Rare Sugars*, C. H. Rogers; *Ephedrine*, Miss Laurine Jack. Remarks and Addresses: Dr. David F. Jones, H. C. Kruckeberg, George T. Kermott, Dr. R. E. Scammon, Dr. William A. O'Brien, Frederick J. Wulling; *Historical Pharmaceutical Material*, Willoughby M. Babcock; *The Importance of Experimental Pharmacology*, Prof. Marvin R. Thompson; *U. S. P. and N. F.*, Gustav Bachman. Presentation Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association Scholarship Token, President Iverson.

MERGER OF RETAIL GROUPS.

A merger of five Brooklyn, N. Y., retail druggists' groups under the name of the Brooklyn Pharmaceutical Association was effected February 7th, at a meeting at the Brooklyn Elks Club under the auspices of the New York Pharmaceutical Conference. Nicholas S. Gesoalde, president of the Associated Pharmacists of Brooklyn, one of the five groups to combine, was elected *Temporary Chairman*. The other organizations are the Brooklyn Retail Druggists Association, Brownsville Apothecaries Society, Greenpoint Pharmaceutical Association, and the Pharmaceutical Society of East New York.

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF PHARMACY.

The Academy of Pharmacy elected Dr. C. P. Wimmer, professor of Pharmacy at the Columbia University School of Pharmacy, *President*; other officers were elected, as follows: *First Vice-President*, Dr. William C. Anderson; *Second Vice-President*, Dr. George C. Diekman; *Third Vice-President*, Dr. J. Leon Lascoff; *Treasurer*, F. C. A. Schaefer; *Secretary*, Nicholas S. Gesoalde. The Academy of Pharmacy is an organization devoted to furthering the professional interests of the pharmacist and his relationship with the medical profession.

N. Y. DRUG AND CHEMICAL CLUB.

Election of officers of the Drug & Chemical Club, New York City, held February 21st, resulted as follows: *President*, S. B. Penick; *Vice-President*, C. C. Gardner; *Secretary*, William P. Brinckerhoff, succeeding Joseph Huisking; *Treasurer*, A. A. Wasserscheidt.

NEW PHARMACOPŒIAL VITAMIN
ADVISORY BOARD.

BY E. FULLERTON COOK, CHAIRMAN, U. S. P. XI
COMMITTEE OF REVISION.

When the U. S. P. X appeared in 1925 its vitamin standards for Cod Liver Oil represented the latest and most authoritative knowledge concerning vitamin A and, while the presence of another factor was recognized, it was spoken of as "antirachitic activity" and the term "vitamin D" was only subsequently established. In the rapid development, during the past six years, of the knowledge concerning the place occupied by vitamins in nutrition and health, it has been considered desirable for the Pharmacopœia to announce an Interim Revision of its Cod Liver Oil standards and of the methods for their determination.

Following a well-established policy of the U. S. P. Committee of Revision, a conference on vitamins was announced, and those interested were invited to attend. This group, about twenty-five in number, organized into a U. S. P. Vitamin Advisory Committee and prepared a report for submission to a Vitamin Conference which had been called by the Health Organization of the League of Nations to be held in London, on June 17, 1931. Three of the members of our Vitamin Advisory Committee were in attendance at the London Conference.

When the results of the London Conference were made available a second meeting of the U. S. Pharmacopœial Vitamin Advisory Committee was called in New York.

At this New York meeting the International units for vitamin A and vitamin D, recommended by the League of Nations Conference, were proposed for immediate adoption by the U. S. P. X and these units were subsequently adopted by the U. S. P. Committee of Revision. This second New York Conference also recommended new vitamin standards for U. S. P. Cod Liver Oil, to be expressed in International A and D units, and also detailed assay methods for their determination. It was further recommended that there be provided for distribution to manufacturers of products having vitamin A or D potency, a "Reference Cod Liver Oil" of known vitamin A and vitamin D potency, expressed in International units, to be used in a basis of comparison in vitamin assays.

This entire plan subsequently received the

approval of the U. S. P. Committee of Revision and Board of Trustees.

In the meanwhile the League of Nations Committee had arranged for the distribution to all countries interested in vitamin standardization, a limited amount of the International units, consisting of "carotene" for vitamin A and a special irradiated ergosterol for vitamin D, these having been prepared by the National Institute for Medical Research, London, England, under the supervision of Sir Henry Dale.

It was hoped at the start that the Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Agriculture at Washington would be in a position to distribute in this country both the International Vitamin units for scientific purposes, and the "Reference Cod Liver Oil," of known potency, for the standardization of commercial vitamin products; but this was found to be impracticable, so that the *Pharmacopœial Vitamin Advisory Board* was organized, with the approval of the U. S. P. Board of Trustees, for the preparation and distribution of vitamin standards within the United States. The U. S. P. Vitamin Advisory Board consists of:

- Dr. Lafayette B. Mendel, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
- Dr. H. C. Sherman, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.
- Dr. E. M. Nelson, Protein and Nutrition Division, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
- E. F. Kelly, Baltimore, Md., representing the U. S. P. Board of Trustees.
- E. Fullerton Cook, Philadelphia, Pa., representing the U. S. P. Committee of Revision.

Plans have now been developed by this Board, which make it possible to announce at this time the following program for the *Distribution of Vitamin Standards in the United States*:

Scientific Laboratories and Research workers may obtain the International Standard Carotene, for Vitamin A, also the International Standard Irradiated Ergosterol, for Vitamin D, and the International Standard Activated Clay for Vitamin B, either through Dr. E. M. Nelson, Protein and Nutrition Division, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, Depart-

ment of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or through the U. S. Pharmacopœial Vitamin Advisory Board, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia.

The International vitamin standards are issued to serve only in vitamin assays. The quantities distributed are suitable only for assays with small laboratory animals such as rats, pigeons and mice.

These International vitamin standards, sent to this country by the Permanent Standard Commission of the Health Organization of the League of Nations, are issued without cost but only for scientific research.

The "Reference Cod Liver Oils" of known vitamin A or vitamin D potency, expressed in International units, will be distributed only by the U. S. Pharmacopœial Vitamin Advisory Board, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., and are the only standards available for the use of the commercial laboratories of the United States for the standardization of products containing vitamin A and vitamin D.

The U. S. P. Vitamin Board had also assisted in securing an authentic lot of U. S. P. Cod Liver Oil, through the Bureau of Fisheries at Washington, and this oil is being packaged in 30-cc. glass containers and will be kept constantly under refrigeration. This oil will now be assayed for its vitamin A and vitamin D potency in comparison with the International Units and its vitamin activity determined by the new U. S. P. assay methods, which will be strictly followed. When this is done these "Reference Oils" will be ready for distribution for the standardization of Cod Liver Oil and other vitamin-active products.

The chairman of the Revision Committee wishes to here acknowledge the splendidly helpful coöperation rendered the Pharmacopœia by the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils and the Food and Drug Administration and by the many scientists and firms in this country and in Europe who have assisted in the development of this program. The Vitamin Committee of the American Drug Manufacturer's Association has freely contributed its records and experience in the preparation of the new assay methods, and in this final step, namely, the first standardization of the "Reference Cod Liver Oils," a large group of laboratories have volunteered their services.

Those who have already offered to conduct assays on the "Reference Oil," are:

Dr. E. V. McCollum, Johns Hopkins University, School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland

Dr. H. Steenbock of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin

Dr. Walter H. Eddy, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Dr. Katherine H. Coward, the Pharmacological Laboratory of the British Pharmaceutical Society, London, England

Dr. E. Poulsson, of the State Vitamin Institute, Oslo, Norway.

The members of the A. D. M. A. Vitamin Committee:

Abbott Laboratories (Dr. Carl Nielsen)
Eli Lilly and Company (Dr. H. W. Rhodhamel)

Parke, Davis and Company (Dr. A. D. Emmett)

E. L. Patch Company (Dr. Arthur D. Holmes)

E. R. Squibb and Sons (Dr. John F. Anderson)

Frederick Stearns and Company (Dr. Robert L. Jones)

Also

The Health Products Corporation, through Dr. Henry T. Mason

The International Vitamin Corporation, through Dr. J. K. Marcus

The Maltine Company, through Dr. E. J. Quinn

Mead Johnson and Company, through Dr. Charles E. Bills

The Winthrop Chemical Corporation, through Dr. Charles W. Hooper.

Uniform report blanks will be supplied by the U. S. P. Vitamin Board for the use of the laboratories coöperating in the standardization of the Reference Oils. All reports will be listed under a code number and all laboratories participating will be sent all reported results.

It is expected that until the Board has secured more data on the subject of vitamin deterioration in Cod Liver Oil, the "Reference Oils" will be re-assayed each six months.

The Baltimore Drug Exchange, at its meeting of February 3rd, elected Leroy Oldham *Treasurer*, succeeding the late J. Emory Bond.