

important responsibilities of pharmacy in relation to the people and to public health, and because, through such distribution, an activity foreign to its purposes and ethics would be introduced."

CALIFORNIA'S APPALLING DISASTER.

THE world sympathizes with Southern California, because of the recent seismic disturbance, which resulted in the loss of more than one hundred lives, injuries to several thousand of its citizens, and property loss mounting up to many millions of dollars. As citizens, the members of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION extend their sympathy in the great loss and trials, and to those of the drug-trade activities who are sharing in the suffering and financial distress it expresses hope for early recovery.

The courage exhibited by the people of San Francisco after its experience in 1906 gives assurance that the citizens of Southern California will meet their affliction with fortitude and hopefulness. The rapid restoration in San Francisco astonished the people of other sections; within a very few years the city was restored and assumed even a greater prominence in the affairs of state and country than before the fire.

It was this writer's duty, in 1909, to preside at the Los Angeles meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, because of the serious illness of President Oscar Oldberg. He recalls with appreciation the many courtesies extended in the beautiful "City of the Angels." A delicate touch of sentiment was lent to the California welcome accorded when a committee of ladies and gentlemen met the incoming visitors twenty miles out from Los Angeles in the midst of orange-groves and almond-orchards, with not only words of greeting, but gifts of fruits and flowers.

The situation of the present intensifies that occasioned by the earthquake, by the destruction and misery that accompanies such disasters. The country pauses to sympathize with Southern California and is hopeful that the courage which characterizes its people will abide with them during the restoration period. Those who are suffering will find little comfort in discussing the cause of the disturbances that upset the earth's equilibrium, as delicately poised as the pharmacist's weights and drugs on a prescription or analytical balance. Our hope is that misery may be relieved and financial burdens lightened.

BETTER CONDITIONS ARE FOUNDED ON YESTERDAY'S EXPERIENCES.

THIS comment is founded on hope and encouragement to give determined support to the efforts being made to restore confidence. It seems to be an easy matter to come to a decision as to who should make such a change possible, but suggestions as to how this can be brought about presents the great difficulty.

Selfishness has been most influential in developing the conditions complained of—greed, disregard of fairness, honorable methods and questionable means for