

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

BY C. THURSTON GILBERT.

Mr. Chairman, Members of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy and Guests:

It is my duty and also a pleasure to address you as your president on the thirty-first anniversary of our Association. This honor befalls few men and comes but once during the span of life.

We are privileged to meet in the greatest Capital on earth, the city that has imbued one hundred and twenty million people with hope of a *New Day* and a *New Deal*. Washington is the one city that every American longs to visit. The historic, scientific, governmental, judicial, political and economic phases of our daily life are all exemplified here. We are particularly fortunate to meet in Washington at a time while Congress is in session, which presents the opportunity of witnessing its activities from the galleries of the House and the Senate.

It is customary for the president to present to the membership an outline of the activities of our Association for the year entrusted to his stewardship. It has been my endeavor to carry out these duties and responsibilities in a manner that would best serve our Association. I hope in this particular that I have given satisfactory service. My administration has been short, owing to the change in the convention date. Therefore, I shall not burden you with a lengthy address but shall confine myself to the more important matters only.



C. T. GILBERT.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHARMACY.

On Wednesday morning the pharmacists of this country will dedicate the greatest monument that has ever arisen to glorify our profession. After many years of careful study and planning, Pharmacy now has a *Home*, truly representative of our profession and of which we may be proud—a source from which our centralized efforts in the future may emanate. It will be the high privilege of those present at this convention to witness the dedication of this temple of Pharmacy.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES.

For several years past, our organization, not unlike other associations, has been confronted with a lack of capital to carry on the several activities which we had undertaken to keep pace with the rapidly changing conditions affecting pharmaceutical education and registration. We have had to curtail some of these activities until the economic situation returns to normal. We all feel that this time will come soon.

Like individuals, business men and other associations, we have had to readjust ourselves to a greatly reduced income. During the past ten months, we have demonstrated that this can be done, for we have carried on the most essential activities without drawing on our capital account. From present indications, we shall close our fiscal year on June 30th without a deficit. The reports of the Executive Committee, the secretary and the treasurer will give you the details. We have had to leave some things undone that I should have liked to have seen done but, in common with the rest of the world, we are learning some valuable lessons.

More of the business details will be covered in the report of the Executive Committee by Chairman W. M. Hankins. The mid-year meeting was again omitted, the annual meeting of the Committee being held here in Washington just prior to the opening of this convention.

No association can function successfully as a national organization through its officers alone. Although this has been a short year, your president has found little time for anything else than the affairs of the Association. However, at this time, I wish to pay special tribute to the many Committee chairmen, District chairmen and fellow officers for the loyal and whole-hearted coöperation that they have displayed. It is this loyalty and this devotion that has made the N. A. B. P. one of the outstanding organizations in Pharmacy.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

My first thought in assuming the presidency was to impress upon the membership the necessity for and importance of district meetings. The loyal response which I received from the vice-presidents in response to my appeal for meetings has been most gratifying to me. Eight of the nine districts promised a meeting for this year, and these meetings would have materialized were it not for the fact that the early date for our annual meeting upset the plans of several of the districts that had made plans for meetings in April or May. These plans were abandoned so as not to interfere with convention attendance.

On March 12th and 13th, I had the pleasure and good fortune of attending the meeting of District No. 2 in Baltimore; and on March 14th and 15th, the meeting of District No. 1 at Boston. Certainly no person who listened to the programs developed at these meetings could be otherwise than impressed and encouraged by the high purposes and aims of these meetings.

On March 21st and 22nd, District No. 6 held a meeting at Fort Worth, Texas; on March 26th and 27th, District No. 7 met at St. Petersburg, Florida; and on April 16th and 17th, the first meeting of District No. 8 since 1924 was held at Salt Lake City, Utah.

One of the encouraging things about these meetings is the ever-increasing numbers who attend. Each year the interest manifested in these meetings swells the attendance record to a new high point.

LEGISLATION.

Comparatively few state legislatures were in session. In addition to the few regular sessions, there were a number of extraordinary legislative sessions.

The primary aim of this Association in so far as legislation is concerned is to have the pharmacy law of every state in our nation require college graduation for entrance to board examinations. It has taken nearly thirty years of patience to achieve the high standards under which we now labor, and at this time only eight states have not as yet enacted college requirements. We should therefore lend every effort to assist these member states in enacting this very necessary and desirable legislation.

Other states have college prerequisite laws that are not satisfactory, as they require only a year or two of attendance at a recognized college instead of graduation from the four-year course now prescribed by the Syllabus. These states should also endeavor to amend their laws as soon as is expedient.

In the past, we have had success by setting a certain date as the goal when a certain thing shall be accomplished.

Therefore, I recommend that every member board at present without a college graduation requirement immediately and seriously undertake to work for the enactment of such legislation, setting the year 1940 as a goal when every board shall be operating under a compulsory graduation requirement.

Again it is the duty of the president to remind the membership that there are forces constantly at work for the consolidation of boards of pharmacy with other professional and even occupational boards into licensing departments or bureaus. This type of legislation should be fought vigorously by our boards when it is proposed, also soliciting help from the other professions that are involved. In states where consolidation has already been accomplished and is not functioning satisfactorily, every effort should be made to separate the Pharmacy Board from such ties. Protection of the public welfare is the first duty of the Pharmacy Board and when the system under which the board is operating places the public welfare in jeopardy, then it becomes the duty of the board to call attention to the condition so as not to become a party to the act.

The N. A. B. P. having gone on record as favoring the abolition of the grade of *Assistant Pharmacist* certificate should take a further forward step by outlining a definite plan for accomplishing this. Strong opposition should be made to any attempts to grant a higher grade of license to assistant pharmacists by legislative amendment than that originally intended. "Professional service cannot admit graded responsibility."

Therefore, I recommend that the Legislative Committee be instructed to make a study of the problem of abolishing the assistant grade of certificate under the various state laws and present a definite outline or uniform plan for accomplishing this, without granting to the holders of outstanding assistant licenses any privileges other than those originally conferred by the law.

RECIPROCITY.

Each year the president devotes some time in his address to this subject. And the theme is usually *Tolerance*, as it rightly should be. The benefits of reciprocity have again been proved this year by the slow but steady increase in the

number of applications issued, thus providing pharmacists with an opportunity to practice their profession under more favorable conditions and habitats during these changing times of economic readjustment.

Possibly at no time during the existence of the N. A. B. P. have more friendly relations between the member boards prevailed. Reciprocity is in effect between all the states except California and New York; also with the District of Columbia, Alaska and Puerto Rico—a total of 49 active member boards. Inasmuch as both New York and California are college prerequisite states, they should become active members of the N. A. B. P. May these two great states, separated by the broad expanse of our country, soon answer the call and join with us in our problems and joys. Our responsibility is to make every effort to get them to join the ranks of this great *National Association of Boards of Pharmacy*.

PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY.

It has been decreed, and properly so, that Pharmacy shall be classified as a profession. Certainly the work as taught in our colleges is professional. Now that we demand four years of college and offer a degree in science in Pharmacy, the time has come to develop a wider field of professional practice.

We are all familiar with the complaint that there are too many commercialized drug stores and that the graduate has difficulty in finding employment in professional pharmacies. May this condition not be due to the fact that for many years we have been registering as pharmacists persons whose only credentials were four years of training in a more or less commercial store? The very fact that our graduates are looking for professional openings is an indication of what we may expect in the future. I therefore feel that this Association in coöperation with the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION should lend them encouragement by making every effort to develop more professional pharmacies. The strictly professional pharmacy is already flourishing in the larger centers. But we need the same type of pharmaceutical service in the smaller centers which cannot support it without adding some commercial lines. If a high standard of professional service is rendered and stressed, there can be no harm in limited merchandising of allied lines. The N. A. B. P. has an opportunity to perform an important service for both pharmacy and the public by defining and designating pharmacies that can be safely entrusted to render such service.

PHARMACY EXHIBIT CENTURY OF PROGRESS.

Pharmacy received its major publicity of this age the past year at the Century of Progress in Chicago. This exhibit was visited by millions of people from every corner of the globe and was invaluable in stressing the service pharmacy renders in the field of public health. The exhibit is to be continued in 1934 and its value further extended.

This Association should feel particularly proud that the man whose efforts made this exhibit such an outstanding success is one of its officers. Mr. Christensen has already been honored for his work in behalf of the exhibit but will receive greater mention as the years go on and the value of the exhibit is realized. Every pharmacist in America owes it to himself and to his profession to visit the exhibit before the Century of Progress passes into history.

HOME OFFICE.

Those members who have not visited our home office should avail themselves of the opportunity whenever possible: Only those who have done so can visualize and appreciate the amount of work that is handled there each day and the competent and efficient manner in which thousands of inquiries are dispatched. The home office is a place where all of us have access to statistical data on all phases of the profession which it has taken many years of labor and study to compile. The information is available to those who ask for it.

The personnel is of the highest efficiency and can at all times be depended upon to give the maximum of service. They are to be commended for the work they are doing for Pharmacy and the Association.

IN MEMORIAM.

Each year it becomes the sad duty to report the names of our beloved members that have laid down their tools and answered the call of Him who reigns in the place from whence no man returneth. Death must come to all of us. During the past year, the following members have passed into the Great Beyond:

Thomas C. Coltman, Colorado
Oscar C. Draper, Delaware
John E. Jackson, Virginia.

CONCLUSION.

I now wish to express my deep appreciation to you for conferring upon me the highest honor within your power to bestow—the presidency of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

I have tried to serve you in a manner that would reflect credit upon the Association which is nearer to my heart than any of the multitude of bodies with which I am affiliated.

If I have been successful in only a small way and have contributed something to the upbuilding of the N. A. B. P., I shall feel well paid for my efforts.

To my successor, I wish a full measure of success and happiness, and I pledge him my loyalty and support in his administration of this high office.

To-morrow, when I lay down the gavel of office and return to the ranks, I will deem it a pleasure and a privilege to continue to work for the lofty ideals of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

ABSTRACT OF PAPER PRESENTED BEFORE SCIENTIFIC SECTION, A. Ph. A.,
WASHINGTON MEETING, 1934.

“The Stabilization of Syrup of Ferrous Iodide, U. S. P. X,” by William J. Husa and Lyell J. Klotz.

A study was made of the mechanism and rate of decomposition of ferrous iodide solutions and syrups. The decomposition involves a partial hydrolysis of ferrous iodide, oxidation of iodide ion and oxidation of iron. The oxidation of iodide ion was found to be a reaction of the first order with a specific reaction rate of 3.2×10^{-6} . An intensive study was made of the deterioration of Syrup of Ferrous Iodide, U. S. P. X. It was found that a stable syrup may be prepared by using dextrose in place of sucrose.