

EDITORIAL

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SYMBOL OF A TREND.

THE *Washington Evening Star* of May 2nd, presented an editorial under above caption, of which the first paragraph is quoted:

"The beautiful new home of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, Constitution Avenue at Twenty-Second Street, has a significance exceeding even the important scientific purposes to which it will be dedicated. It represents a tide which is working in the affairs of men. It is a symbol of a trend."

The *Star* indicates the message in the last paragraph of the same editorial.

"The city founded by the Father of His Country and proud to bear his name, it seems clearly indicated, is destined to be the Athens of the Western World, the heart of Western Civilization. The trend is manifest."

Many applications can be made of the thought on pharmaceutical trends. Probably, never in the history of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was there such evidence of strong desire to firmly establish professional pharmacy so that it may serve fully its purpose in rendering public health service, to work coöperatively with the professions engaged in the interest of public health. The aims and purposes of the American Institute of Health, so ably expressed by Chairman H. A. B. Dunning, evidence the strong desire and determination to move pharmacy upward and forward.

President R. L. Swain in his closing dedicatory remarks, retrospects and looks forward in the closing words:

"As we become aware of the vastness of this project, as our hearts begin to beat in harmony with its great ideals, as we catch a glimpse of the immensity of the principles for which it stands, let us, too, become dedicated to the great tasks remaining before us. Let us resolve that this edifice shall really be our image. Let us be determined to be worthy of it. May we never forget that the American Institute of Pharmacy is dedicated to those who have contributed their knowledge and endeavor to the preservation of public health and to the further advancement of science in pharmacy."

Chairman P. H. Costello said in substance that we must be guided by past experience in order to make it possible for us to render a greater service in the future.

There are differences of opinion relative to the codes, opposite views, and there are evidences that these sometimes find expression in prejudiced opinions. Few, if any, comprehend the full significance of the new deal; in some cases it can be shown that it is detrimental and has not improved conditions. President R. L. Swain said in his annual address that "the NRA program, the whole code effort, as imperfect and contradictory as it undoubtedly is, is simply the first manifestation of forces seriously devoted to the task of creating a new economic system which will be more responsive to the social impulse. Much of what is being done is highly controversial."

A view relative to the trend is referred to by him in these words:

"I am certain that in due course, and time must be given to working out any fundamental concept, the general principles recognized in the codes will be shown to be advantageous to all branches of industry and society."

President L. D. Havenhill may have pointed to a trend in pharmaceutical education when he closed his address in saying that the modern intellectual development of any young man or woman falls quite naturally into two main divisions: *first*, a non-technical, non-professional, so-called cultural part, and *second*, a technical or purely professional part. After discussing the subject he concludes that "a program of this sort is in line with practices in other professions, and the sooner we enter their company and adopt their point of view the sooner we shall enter into our professional birthright and take our proper place with the professions of medicine and dentistry in helping solve the great problems of health and disease which are so very fundamental and important to our age in civilization."

We are not so much encouraged by conditions as they exist as by the trend toward developing opportunities and the evidence of greater interest in professional pharmacy.

THE PROPOSED NATIONAL PHARMACY COUNCIL.

"LET US RAISE A STANDARD TO WHICH THE WISE AND HONEST CAN REPAIR. THE EVENT IS IN THE HANDS OF GOD."*

IN the proceedings of the Washington meeting, printed in this issue of the JOURNAL, will be found the outline of a suggestion made at the Second General Session of the ASSOCIATION, when an invitation was given to present new plans for the American Institute of Pharmacy. In response to this proposal there seemed to be a feeling that it presented a great opportunity for American Pharmacy.

A study of the tentative plan reveals that registration becomes a voluntary step, open to every trained pharmacist. Registration will insure an immediate recognition for high professional standing. This is the encouragement and support for which hundreds of pharmacists, who have remained true to the ideals and the standards of the profession, have been waiting.

While the standards for pharmaceutical service must be established and maintained at a high plane of efficiency, nothing that seems impossible or impracticable is proposed. The details, so far as tentatively drafted, embody only those features which most pharmacists are now claiming as their right and as their present objective—a properly trained pharmacist in charge, adequate medical stocks satisfactorily maintained, a suitable professional and a true professional and ethical policy is the entire story. But its compliance must be real.

The cost would not be prohibitive. No matter how small or how large the organization the establishment of such a professional department would be possible. Being truly professional, however, in its basic principles it would of necessity be established only upon the personal integrity of the pharmacist in charge so that the standing and registration of a pharmacy would have to be based upon the application of an individual. It is for American pharmacy to study this opportunity.

"After a general consideration by the Council the Chairman of the Council was authorized to appoint a special committee to consider the proposal and, later, to report to the Council." The committee appointed is composed of the following members: E. N. Gathercoal, Robert L. Swain, H. V. Arny, Edward Spease, Rober R. Gaw, E. F. Kelly, R. P. Fischelis, C. B. Jordan and E. Fullerton Cook, *Chairman*.

* George Washington. Constitution Convention—1787.