

EDITORIAL NOTES

A CORRECTION.

Throughout the article "The Absorption of Calcium," *JOUR. A. PH. A.*, Vol. XXIII (1934), 7, 656, "Inosite Hexacalcium Gluconate" should be "Phosphate."—A. R. B., Jr.

THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY'S EDUCATIONAL POLICY.

H. N. Linstead, Secretary and Registrar of the British Pharmaceutical Society, whose visit in this country—when the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION held its annual meeting in Toronto, 1932—will be remembered by many who made the acquaintance of this well and favorably known pharmacist. He discussed the Society's educational policy at a meeting of delegates on July 17th. Before introducing his subject, he referred to the principal changes in the examination regulations as follows:

1. The dividing of the old botany of the Preliminary Scientific examination into botany and zoölogy.

2. The abolition of chemistry and botany as such from the Pharmaceutical Chemist examination.

3. The introduction of physiology as a subject of both the Chemist and Druggist and Pharmaceutical Chemist examinations.

4. The reversion to the old system whereby the Chemist and Druggist course becomes the first year of the Pharmaceutical Chemist course.

5. The abolition of a period of apprenticeship for the Pharmaceutical Chemist qualification and the substitution of two years' practical experience before or after the examination but before registration.

In discussing the need of wider education for pharmacists he presented the question by references and comments to the work which comes within the pharmacist's province:

1. It is the function of the pharmacist to furnish the physician with the medicaments he requires;

2. By its charter, the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is expressly charged with the duty of "advancing chemistry and pharmacy;"

3. If we do not participate in this work, but leave it to others to perform, we are inevitably going to reduce ourselves to the position of mere dispensers, and in course of time mere handers-out of ready compounded articles;

4. Unless pharmacy provides the facilities for this type of work, the best students will either never enter our ranks, or, if they do, will leave us to seek the opportunities for additional education and research elsewhere;

5. For the benefit of every person on the pharmaceutical register we want to see within the Pharmaceutical Society all the best brains engaged on pharmaceutical work; we know that there is scope within pharmacy for the very best students turned out by the secondary schools and universities.

In his closing remarks Mr. Linstead said:

"I am conscious that there are many of you who feel that we are to-day, as a calling, more than fitted for our daily needs. That that is so I am not prepared to admit. Judging by the standard of the work that falls to a large number of pharmacists to-day, there may be some truth in that statement. But if we look at the problem from the point of view of what pharmacists might be doing or ought to be doing, then it becomes clearer that we cannot give too much attention to the scientific development of pharmacy. Unless pharmacy is scientific it has no reason for its existence."

Nearly one hundred years ago Jacob Bell wrote in *The Pharmaceutical Journal*:

"In conclusion, it may be as well to recapitulate the moral which may be drawn from our past history, namely, that, political controversies and mercenary disputes are injurious to the interest and character of all parties—that the most effectual method which any class of men can adopt for securing their political rights, and advancing their professional standing, consists not in disputation and warm argument, but in a steady and persevering attention to intellectual improvement, and the establishment of such regulations as are calculated to ensure collective privileges by increasing the amount of individual merit.'

"There is a good deal of smug Victorianism in that, but the main object is clear. Those words are true to-day, and always will be true..."

REVISION OF THE NRA.

In the order of development, it was to be expected that the NRA would have to undergo revision. It is not a fault of the Administration, but a second phase of the development; a very important one, if it is to mean permanent establishment. While admitting failures, the new deal can certainly claim successes. In the revision it is the task of the Recovery Administration to discard the bad and retain the good and not over-complicate by adding complications. It is hoped and rightfully expected that the public will be patient and give the NRA time to vindicate itself; confidence and faith in the Administration's efforts, and fair dealing and direction on the part of the Administration offices are not only important but essential.

PHARMACISTS' PART IN ETHER AND CHLOROFORM ANÆSTHESIA.

David F. Jones, former president A. PH. A., on the occasion of the State meeting of South Dakota physicians and surgeons installed a window representing a miniature operating room, which caused much favorable comment. We do not know whether Dr. Jones brought into his exhibit historical references to the part pharmacists had in the early use of ether and of chloroform. The PROCEEDINGS of the ASSOCIATION and the JOURNAL have many articles on the discovery of ether anaesthesia—see editorial, October 1933, JOURNAL A. PH. A., page 937. See page 70 (1932), JOURNAL A. PH. A., for note on "Chloroform Pharmacy." See also "The Centenary of Chloroform," JOURNAL A. PH. A., for May 1931, page 481. Recently, J. P. Gilmour, former editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* (Great Britain) has contributed a comprehensive article to the *Chemist and Druggist* on "Simpson's Discovery," wherein mention is made to David Waldie, Duncan Flockhart & Co., pharmacists of Edinburgh, and to E. Northway Nutt, prominent in affairs of the British Pharmaceutical Society.

MATÉ.

From time to time efforts have been made to introduce maté, Paraguay Tea, as a daily beverage. Just now the use of it is being studied for the Army troops. Many references may be found in the Index to the PROCEEDINGS. In the volume for 1884 an historical article by Dr. Peckholt is abstracted and in the JOURNAL for 1922, page 609, is a comprehensive report on "The Astringent

Principle of Maté," by Josiah C. and Bertha L. DeG. Peacock. The content of caffeine according to Dr. Peckholt varies greatly and seemingly, due to the source of supply. It would, therefore, seem that if the variation is as stated, the amount of caffeine in the product should be given.

PERSONAL AND NEWS ITEMS.

Among the speakers, not mentioned heretofore, at the Century of Progress in Chicago, are **Prof. Charles E. Smythe**, of the School of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota, and **Prof. Freeman P. Stroup**, of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science.

Edwin E. Taiber, in a communication to the JOURNAL, commends the NRA in no uncertain terms.

Dr. Noel E. Foss is now a member of the faculty of Duquesne University, School of Pharmacy; he will supervise research in certain fields of organic chemistry.

Ambrose Hunsberger, assistant administrator of the Federal Alcohol Board, is recovering nicely, following an appendicitis operation.

Julius A. Koch, former president of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, was guest of honor at the annual Alumni Reunion banquet of the School of Pharmacy, of the University of Pittsburgh. This was the 50th anniversary of his graduation from the school.

Heber W. Youngken and **Ivor Griffith** were honored with the degree of Doctor of Science by Bucknell University. This was the 25th anniversary of the graduation of the former from Bucknell with the A.B. degree.

Among recent visitors at the American Institute of Pharmacy were **Prof. E. N. Gathercoal**, **Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Freericks**; **John E. Kramer**, registrar Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science; **W. M. Hankins**, Florida Board of Pharmacy; **Prof. St. Elmo Brady**, Fisk University; **Prof. Leon Monell**, Buffalo University; **S. Ruffin Home**, Fayetteville, N. C.

R. R. Gaw, Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association, in his presidential address, gave his views relative to the trend of pharmacy.

Miss **Mary Robinson**—daughter of the late James Scott Robinson, member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, 1869-1923, Memphis, Tenn.—has erected a