

in activities that enable the related professions to improve their service. Reference is here made to legislation, regulation of practice, revision of the standards, and changes that may come about through plans of President Roosevelt's Committee on Economic Security. In all of these the professions have an interest and to make them more effective and serve their purposes mutual studies by the professions are essential and helpful factors.

A NEW U. S. P. X INTERIM REVISION OF THE ERGOT ASSAY.

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

THE first interim Revision of the Tenth Revision of the Pharmacopœia became official on January 1, 1934, and made certain changes in the assay of ergot and its fluidextract, also a modification of the manufacturing method for the fluidextract of ergot. In the first revision, the standard for ergot remained as in the original text, namely, a fluid preparation of ergot.

Since then, however, as a result of further investigation, it has been found desirable to adopt the alkaloidal salt, ergotoxine ethanesulfonate, as the official ergot standard.

For the purpose of insuring uniformity in the ergotoxine ethanesulfonate to be used as the official ergot standard, the U. S. P. Board of Trustees has arranged for the packaging in ampuls, under nitrogen, of a carefully standardized lot of this alkaloidal salt. This ergot standard may be obtained through the office of the Chairman of the U. S. P. Committee of Revision, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

By this new revision (No. 3) ergot will be required to possess a potency, per gram, equivalent to not less than that of 0.5 mg. of the official standard and the fluidextract must be adjusted to possess a potency, per cubic centimeter, equivalent to that of not less than 0.4 mg. and not more than 0.65 mg. of the standard ergotoxine ethanesulfonate.

The new monographs for ergot and fluidextract of ergot released in Interim Revision No. 3 on January 1, 1935, will become official and enforceable on May 1, 1935. Anyone desiring a copy of the "Interim Revision Announcement No. 3" may obtain it by addressing the Chairman, E. Fullerton Cook, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, accompanying their request with *ten cents in stamps* to cover printing and distribution.

TERCENTENARY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES.

The year 1935 will mark the three hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the chemical industries in America. This anniversary will be celebrated by the American Chemical Society at its annual spring meeting during the last week of April of that year. Elaborate plans of the Society's New York Section, now well under way, indicate that this celebration will be a memorable one in the annals of American industry. Leaders in industry, finance and government will unite with the 17,000 members of the American Chemical Society to celebrate three hundred years of achievement of the American chemical industries.—*Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*.