

prevents fire, pestilence, insurrection, the sale of impure foods and obscene literature, is the same power of the people which now undertakes to safeguard *the owner* of a twenty-million dollar trade-mark, as well as the little merchant who sells a tube of toothpaste so costly trade-marked.

It cannot be over-emphasized that Fair Trade laws aim to serve the small shopkeeper with his small stock, just as much as they are intended to *protect owners* of million dollar trade-marks. And conversely, Fair Trade laws will protect the consumer, not merely indirectly by enabling the independent merchant to remain solvent and to maintain his position as a sustaining citizen, but by eliminating a multitude of fraudulent practices which follow "loss leader" advertising. These abuses are too well known among ourselves to require discussion; but the public's education on this subject has never received deserved attention.

Do you not get the right prospective?—A nation of almost 130,000,000 people, including a conservative estimate of 120,000,000 fair-minded citizens.—Forget for the moment the 10,000,000, and bear in mind that there are 120,000,000 of us, *little folks*. We are The People. Aren't we, The People, entitled to determine under which laws we'll live? Now you and I have *the requisite power*. *Let's use it*. If we do not, I foresee cataclysmic upheavals because of our very stupidity.

When the glib salesman of an unfair manufacturer or a sleek competitor gabs about constitutional law and talks of Fair Trade laws as the bunk, don't discuss the matter. You need not get on the defensive. Simply state: "I'm sorry, Mister, but I've studied law myself, and I'm too busy to argue with anyone who hasn't."

The Greeks had a word for it, and let me refresh your memory—no people better understood the value of local rule in relation to law, for which they had profound respect. Government was The People. In fact, Athens was termed a "City State." Can you not hear the echoes of the cheering audience as the Athenian in the play rebukes a stranger with these words:

"It is a city and *free*.  
The *whole folk* year by year, in parity of service  
is *our King*."

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## DEVELOPMENT OF PHARMACY IN WEST CHINA.

BY E. N. MEUSER.\*

"Four Thousand Years of Pharmacy" gives an exceedingly interesting account of the ancient history of Egyptian and Babylonian pharmacy. Comparatively little mention is made, however, of the pharmacy of ancient China. The author states: "We know less about the pharmacy of ancient China than we do of that of either the Egyptians or Babylonians. This is probably because the Chinese have always been uncommunicative and secretive to an unusual degree, and because there has been less research into the ancient literature of the living nations than into the literature of races that have disappeared." This is, unfortunately, only too true, and the fact constitutes a challenge, or opportunity for those with the time and inclination in this direction, to delve into what the writer considers an

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\* Chengtu, W. China, Feb. 16, 1935.

exceedingly fascinating study of Chinese pharmaceutical lore reaching back into forgotten ages. The written history resulting from such a study would be a very valuable contribution indeed. The ancient type of Chinese medicine shop conducted by a combined pharmacist-physician continued fairly general until the arrival in China of the medical missionary and the representatives of Western pharmaceutical manufacturing houses. With the introduction of Western medicines there has been a gradual transformation of the old-time, small, floorless drug shop with its miscellaneous assortment of crude native drugs of animal and vegetable origin cluttering the walls, ceiling and counter, to the modern type of drug store—larger, cleaner, bright and airy, and with a great variety of drugs, chemicals,



The first class of pharmacists to graduate from any University in China—June 1934, of the Department of Pharmacy of the West China Union University, Chengtu, W. China.

*Second row:* Dr. Beech, Chancellor of University; Dr. Djang, President of University; Miss Foster, Dean of Woman, of University; Dr. Meuser, Head Department of Pharmacy, of University; Mr. Chang, Dean of Science, of University.

surgical supplies, chemical apparatus and patent medicines on display, and with quite up-to-date drug store fixtures and furnishings.

Unfortunately, in most cases these drug stores are in charge of people who have not had pharmaceutical or medical training, and there is, therefore, the promiscuous buying and selling of Chinese and foreign drugs, potent, poisonous and otherwise. This obviously constitutes a real danger to public health. The Chinese Government Ministry of Health, realizing this danger, has prepared considerable legislation governing the practice of pharmacy in China. It provides for the sale of medicines and the dispensing of prescriptions by pharmacists only who have the necessary qualifications. It also endeavors to provide for efficient dispensing of medicines in hospitals by stipulating that there shall be qualified pharmacists on the staff of all hospitals.

Because of the great amount of medicine required in so vast a population as that of China, and the fact that China produces such a tremendous variety and abundance of crude drugs, the task of research in these crude drugs and the subsequent manufacture into modern medicines calls for the services of many trained pharmacists.

Obviously, without schools of pharmacy in which to train these pharmacists, neither this important work of research and manufacture nor the enforcement of the laws of the Central Government, as just mentioned, can be carried out for the time being. However, in order to try to meet these needs a few schools of pharmacy have been opened in different parts of China during the past three years. Not the least important among these schools recently opened is the Department of Pharmacy in the West China Union University, Chengtu, W. China. In this Department a course of four years of instruction is given leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (B.S. in P.).

When the Department of Pharmacy of the W. C. U. U. was opened in the Fall of 1932, there was an enrollment of sixteen students in the first year. In addition to these, there were four other splendid students who had already completed two years of studies in Science and who transferred from other departments and registered in the third year of pharmacy. In June 1934, therefore, these four students, having finished their studies, had the unique distinction of being the first class of pharmacists to graduate from any University in China. This is but the beginning of other and larger classes to follow. These graduates are now doing splendid work in their respective positions.

In 1934 the Central Government of China, at Nanking, showed its general interest in the development of pharmacy in China, and its special interest in and recognition of the Department of Pharmacy of the West China Union University by making a grant of five thousand dollars (\$5000.00 Chinese) toward the purchase of equipment for the department. This, naturally, was highly appreciated, as it enabled us to secure some of the apparatus most urgently needed.

Then, also, the department was the recipient of a further gift of what is expected to be an annual sum of money from a well-known firm of pharmaceutical chemists in Germany toward equipment and salary of an assistant teacher. This, too, was much needed and was gratefully received.

While these grants have given pharmacy in West China a good start, further financial coöperation will be constantly needed for maintenance.

As an industrial profession, modern, scientific pharmacy has a real, vital, missionary service to render to China. In its various phases of work, such as research in crude drugs, manufacture of medicines, hospital dispensing and private practice, it offers in a very practical way a workable solution for some of China's economic problems by giving pleasant and remunerative employment to those engaged in the profession, while at the same time rendering a materially helpful service to the public.

The future prospects for the Department of Pharmacy of the West China Union University are quite encouraging, and those of us engaged in this work count it a privilege to have a share in this phase of God's great work in China. We shall be glad to hear at any time from friends interested in our work here.

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