

# EDITORIAL

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## AFTER EIGHTY-THREE YEARS—PORTLAND.

WHEN the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was organized, Oregon had not yet reached Statehood. Its influence upon pharmacy in the great Pacific Northwest preceded its formal contact with the pharmacists of that delightful section of our country by eighty-three years. We have enjoyed and profited by the influence of pharmacists of the West and Northwest for many years. They have served as officers and committee members in the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and have taken active part in its major activities. However, it remains for the 1935 Convention of the ASSOCIATION to cement by personal contact the bonds of friendship and professional relationship which have been fostered over the years between the pharmacists of the Northwest and the general membership of the ASSOCIATION.

To many pharmacists of the Northwest the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has been largely a symbol, albeit an intangibly important factor in the progress of their profession. Comparatively few have had the opportunity of actually participating in the deliberations of Sections and General Sessions. Both the ASSOCIATION and the individual pharmacists of the Northwest have been losers through this lack of personal contact.

It is significant that in these days of rapid change in our social and economic structure with its inevitable effect upon the future of the profession of pharmacy and the drug industry, the center of interest will be shifted momentarily from Washington, D. C., to Portland, Oregon. It will be a good thing for those engaged in the management of the affairs of the ASSOCIATION to gaze at the usual center of their activity from a distance of several thousand miles, and experience the advantages of the background of those who are for geographic reasons always several thousand miles distant from Washington. Undoubtedly we of the East shall learn a great deal, and if in the learning we may also be privileged to impart a point of view and, perhaps, some specific information on some of the problems that confront us, our profession as a whole will profit measurably by the opportunity for interchange of opinions thus afforded.

Pharmacy is beset by many problems and the economic situation has greatly intensified some of them. We must face these problems squarely and we must solve them with courage and intelligence. We expect the Pacific Northwest to supply the type of inspiration which carried the pioneers to the great heights that built an empire where once there was barrenness and waste. We look forward to Portland with eager anticipation. The eighty-third annual convention should make history.—ROBERT P. FISCHER, *President*, A. PH. A.

## CONTRIBUTORY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.

THE reports on Drug Extraction are being continued and in connection with the fundamental principles of the methods the extraction of a series of drugs of different types is being studied. The subject has received consideration from

every angle and brings to the pharmacist a knowledge and understanding of the general processes of drug extraction.

Several papers have recently dealt with the methods of drug administration and most careful observation has been made of the promptness with which certain forms of medications are effective and in that connection the value or insufficiency, usefulness or unfitness of certain administration forms.

The determination of the reasonable or permissible margin of error in dispensing has been made the subject of comprehensive and detailed experimentation and research for a number of years and important information has been added to the records relative to utensils, apparatus and skill which may influence variation. The physical properties of the liquid, suspension or powder to be dispensed or compounded in the prescription have been carefully studied.

Other points of prescription practice in articles of recent issues of the JOURNAL have reported the accuracy and speed factors in the filling of capsules by hand, the rate of disintegration in medicinal tablets and the variance of hypodermic tablets.

Thus pharmacists owe much to their fellows in coöperative endeavors, and the contributors to the work of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION have promoted pharmacy and, because of the research, medicine, pharmacy, the laity and the profession have benefited.

These thoughts have come forward, because each year the annual meetings carry messages and convey information which add to the sum and substance of knowledge and advance the cause of the profession and individuals therein engaged.

The pharmacist profits by the information he communicates to his fellows and thereby advances the profession. What will your contributions be to the programs of the sections this year?

#### THE BLUE EAGLE AND THE NRA.

**J**AMES L. O'NEILL, acting chief of the recovery agency, has indicated that there probably will be a continuation of the "Blue Eagle," perhaps as insignia of merit for industries carrying forward a certain standard.

President Roosevelt has made it known in the press conferences that all matters pertaining to voluntary business agreements to replace the codes will be handled by the Federal Trade Commission. James L. O'Neill, recently appointed acting NRA Administrator, has stated that his organization will devote its activities largely to the compilation of the history of the two years of life and to gathering information; the "archives division" is in charge of Leon C. Marshall. Several proposed NRA bills are still under consideration but it is doubtful if they will be enacted into law during this session of Congress.

The "Fair Trade Acts" are gradually being shaped to serve a most useful purpose, and with proper understanding and a determination to bring about what is intended, it is hoped, will result in helpful state measures, coördinated with other states in legalizing contracts which will establish a minimum price as an economic principle, and bring the public to a realization that price-cutting is destructive to seller and buyer, and that the effect is being impressed by untoward results, whereby the group or individual suffers.