

EDITORIAL

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COÖPERATIVE RESEARCH.

IN HIS address as Remington Medalist, the recipient discussed the various phases of research, from the simplest to the most complex, and application. Medical research comprises a large group of scientific and sociological problems; it includes pharmacy and its divisions; the discoveries and developments in plant and animal life; searching the elements and applying methods which will separate them from the dross, making compounds, and extending their use as medicinal agents.

Those who have become acquainted with the activities of Lord Nuffield, British industrialist, have learned of the panoramic scope of his philanthropic vision which has been evidenced by his many benefactions for cripples and crippled children in Great Britain, New Zealand, Australia and elsewhere, not only for making their burdens lighter, but to point out the way for medical and surgical research. He enjoins those who are to benefit by his donation to keep in close touch with "developments in the sciences ancillary to medicine." He is devoting a part of a benefaction to the endowment of a scholarship in orthopædic surgery and hopes this will attract and be of value to those who are specializing in the latter work. He knows what coöperation has accomplished for his achievements. While his success has been chiefly, perhaps, in the motor industries, his analysis of the opportunities has brought him into related productions and with all of that he has recognized the human life of the plants as very important.

The gift to Oxford of £1,225,000 for medical research brings to view his assurance and faith that narrow specialism is not for the greatest good. It is an expression of understanding medicine as a complex of many sciences, "too huge" for one mind to master; for one division to make success possible without the help of those closely related and even of those activities that, seemingly, are very remote. It is a further encouragement and advice that narrowness is a hindrance.

We had with us for many years in pharmacy one whose life was directed along related lines, who contributed in many ways to the progress of medicine and remained a pharmacist; reference is made to our late fellow-member, Sir Henry Wellcome. While recent benefactions have brought these thoughts to mind, this country has produced many who were and are eminently successful in business and industrial life, have realized on their opportunities in doing greater good and have set examples for others to shape their efforts accordingly. It is a like thought that is showing up more and more in the plan of coöperation of medicine and pharmacy and when this motive for coöperation takes hold, without the stronger promptings of selfishness than human limitations impose, we may look for success, and develop a greater service for medicine and pharmacy. Pharmacy, undoubtedly, has its shortcomings but recognizes the possibilities of rendering better service; these situations exist in all professions and other activities and should not overburden progress. The plan referred to and being promoted is for betterment; there will always be such opportunities, but now is the time for this promotion.

Quoting from an editorial in the *New York Times* of recent date, "What if all the resources of physics, chemistry, genetics and even mathematics were mustered in a combined attack on disease. There is reason to believe that medical progress would be more rapid. It is not that the 'ancillary sciences'—they are more than that—have been utterly neglected by medical research, but that they have been not systematically drafted into service by the lone hero of science, the genius of the laboratory, the single gifted virtuoso of cultures, vaccines and hormones. This is laid entirely to human limitations. Medicine, now a complex of many sciences, is too huge for one mind to master."

Pharmacy has made its surveys—how many times medicines have been used, which in a way proves the value; standards have been determined, which speak for purity—now let there be coöperation of the divisions of medicine, that will bring about greater success.

SELFISHNESS AND COUNTERACTION.

IT IS usually true, if not always, that the good is checkered with evil, the helpful efforts with hindrances, the malevolent with benevolent. This obtains even when honor and health are at stake; in China, where it seemed that opium production would soon be held near to medical needs, chaotic conditions have brought back the poppy fields, with the result that China now grows by far the larger part of the world's raw opium; and clandestine factories, nearby, concentrate the derivatives.

The result is, many of the people of the section of the world in which opium is being produced for unlawful gain, are being destroyed mentally, morally and physically; and those who gain from investments that are damaging the character of a nation, and many of a number of nations, are becoming more and more defiled.

It is not necessary to bring these conditions to the attention of pharmacists, as from earliest induction they are impressed with the responsibilities in connection with the dispensing of narcotics; but it is referred to here as a point of the comment. Foremost citizens of the world have endeavored to assist a weak people in the efforts of freeing themselves from narcotic addiction, and then come the destroyers of good thought and action. The effect of this extends to all of the world in larger smuggling ventures and in bringing information to addicts and prospective users. Continued observance by pharmacists should be emphasized by watchfulness of the laity and in support of the officers, who are engaged in searching out the criminals, whose acts are often planned under the influence of narcotics.

Control of cocaine addiction has its difficulties. It has been only a few years since the use of Marihuana has escaped what was known as "restricted territory;" now it is sometimes cultivated within metropolitan sections.

In one way or another, man seeks to find something that will mysteriously do something to him; what, he does not know, but the narcotics are in the group that appeal. On the side are those wise enough to keep away from using the narcotic, but using the victims for their gain.

PHARMACY WEEK.

NEWSPAPERS, the radio services and citizens in high stations, including the President, have expressed their valuation of Pharmacy Week, and pharmacists have responded in presentations that reflect credit on them and the profession. Many elaborate programs were featured. An unusual one connected up the history of pharmacy in Opera selection and piano solos. Another linked the history of early American homes with modern botanic gardens. In like manner perhaps hundreds of splendid programs could be complimented, and, in particular, the windows which featured pharmacy.

The comment on these worthy accomplishments is, they are subjects for continued efforts with ideals to be exemplified in professional conduct and service, continued studies and working with others in a common cause for improvement and advancement in prevention and treatment of disease. Without such determination and purpose the full value of Pharmacy Week to pharmacy is not obtained, but with these studies as a basis pharmacy profits more, and each annual occasion becomes of greater significance.

Appreciation is expressed to those who participated in the work of this year and congratulations are extended to pharmacists in all sections of the country, who were eminently successful in telling the story of pharmacy in their respective communities.

PHARMACOPŒIAL NEWS.

APPOINTMENT TO VITAMIN BOARD.

Dr. E. V. McCollum, of the School of Hygiene and Public Health of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., has just been appointed a member of the U. S. P. Vitamin Advisory Board. Dr. McCollum's appointment fills the vacancy created by the death of Dr. Lafayette B. Mendel.

PHARMACOPŒIAL REFERENCE STANDARDS NOW AVAILABLE.

The Board of Trustees of the U. S. Pharmacopœial Convention have just announced the availability of all U. S. P., Eleventh Revision, Reference Standards. These are listed in the Pharmacopœia on pages 485-486. These consist of Reference Aconitine, Reference Cod Liver Oil, Reference Digitalis Powder, Ergotoxine Ethanesulfonate, Ouabain, Reference Pepsin and the Standard Powdered Posterior Pituitary described in the U. S. P. XI, on page 218, and also the Standard Epinephrine Hydrochloride, see U. S. P. XI, page 207.

These Reference Standards are distributed through the office of the Chairman of the Committee of Revision, E. Fullerton Cook, 43rd Street and Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. The price fixed by the Board for these Standards is \$1.00 each, or \$10.00 for twelve. The Board of Trustees are also distributing the Standards for Vitamin A and Vitamin D in the form of Reference Cod Liver Oil of known Vitamin A potency, and a Reference Cod Liver Oil of known Vitamin D potency. This potency is expressed in terms of the U. S. P. and International units. This Reference Oil is distributed from the same office at \$2.50 for each 30-cc. package.

REPRINTS OF A. M. A. ARTICLES ON "THE PHARMACOPŒIA AND THE PHYSICIAN."

Reprints of these articles will be available, after publication in the *A. M. A. Journal*. Details can be obtained through writing to the office of the Chairman of the U. S. P. Committee for Revision.

THE SYNONYM FOR ACETOPHENETEDIN.

The synonym for Acetophenetidin is changed to "*Acetphen*," which was the U. S. P. X synonym.

The new U. S. P. XI synonym conflicts with a trade-marked name.