

# EDITORIAL

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## THE HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE.

THE government has not been unmindful of the services of the professions engaged in public health service, but there is possibility of coördinating the work, whereby the health of the citizens will receive better protection. The work of the government divisions is outstanding and the education of the public by the publicity given is worthy of most favorable comment, but with all of that pharmacy could more effectively enter the field and prove its value; this to a certain extent may be the fault of pharmacists. There is evidence, however, of great progress in the movements to promote professional pharmacy. Efforts to increase the representation in the various government services are meeting with encouragement and it remains for pharmacists to prove the need for pharmacy in the various activities and for pharmacists to meet these opportunities.

There is greater need for pharmacists in hospitals to be represented as essential in the service and also greater evidence of pharmacy in public life. An article by Dean Edward Spease on Minimum Standards for a Hospital Pharmacy appears in the January JOURNAL.

## BRITISH AND AMERICAN PHARMACY.

IT IS gratifying to note the interest of the British pharmaceutical publications in the U. S. Pharmacopœia and National Formulary. Dr. C. H. Hampshire is reviewing the U. S. P. XI in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. This coöperation is welcomed not only as an evidence of the professional relations, but because it will be of value in the interim and decennial revisions and thereby to pharmacy on both sides of the Atlantic. The *Pharmaceutical Journal* comments:

"It is probable that much more interest will be taken in the future by British pharmacists in the decennial revisions of the United States Pharmacopœia than has been the case in the past. The sub-committee which in 1928 reported on the changes that it considered should be made in the preparation of the British Pharmacopœia, suggested that active coöperation with the compilers of the U. S. P. might be effected, and some coördination made in order that successive issues of one pharmacopœia should appear mid-way in the intervals between the issues of the other pharmacopœia. This interchange of views has been practiced by the present Pharmacopœia Commission, through the respective secretaries, and an acknowledgment of its value to the Committee of Revision of the U. S. P. is made in the following terms in the preface to the new United States Pharmacopœia:

"A gratifying feature of the revision work of this decade has been the close coöperation between the British Pharmacopœia Commission and the Committee of Revision of the United States Pharmacopœia. The free exchange of reports and discussions, the coöperative researches on important subjects, and an effort to harmonize the titles and standards of the two pharmacopœias have characterized the period. This program should greatly benefit both books and lead to a greater degree of perfection in official standards."

## NATIONAL FORMULARY VI.

THE *Chemist and Druggist*, of February 1st, reviews the National Formulary, giving a full page to the subject. The opening paragraph states that "the

issue in the United States of a new edition of 'The National Formulary' is an event awaited with pleasurable expectation in many countries."

The review continues with a general comment, an appreciation of the compilers and the evident care in the preparation of the Formulary. The comprehensive review outlines the work in a way that gives the readers information relative to the plan and scope of this revision. The publications have exhibited the professional spirit, which should obtain within the professions in rendering service.

The review concludes: "N. F. VI worthily sustains the reputation of earlier editions, and forms a book of reference indispensable to the serious student of formularies."

Thanks are extended the reviewers with hopeful wishes for continued and strengthened reciprocal relations.

#### INTERNATIONAL PHARMACY COÖPERATION.

**I**N THIS issue of the JOURNAL two articles of foreign contributors are published, one by the director of the Department of Pharmacology of Masaryk University Medical School and the other is from the Department of Pharmacology, National University of Mexico.

Chairman E. Fullerton Cook refers to Pan-American Coöperation in his comprehensive article<sup>1</sup> on "A Pharmacopœia for To-day's Needs." He states:

"It is gratifying to announce that the Pan-American Sanitary Bureau, through its director, Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service and its Assistant Director, Dr. Boliver J. Lloyd, and their staff, have undertaken the translation of the U. S. P. XI into Spanish as an official activity of the Bureau. It is hoped that the Spanish edition will be available by April next when a large Pan-American Medical Congress will be held in this country.

"It is also expected that the medical articles on the use of official medicines, appearing in the *A. M. A. Journal*, will be translated into Spanish and reprinted in the official Bulletin of the Bureau for circulation through the twenty-one republics affiliated in the Pan-American program.

"It should be understood, however, that the policy of the U. S. P. Board of Trustees in translating the U. S. P. into Spanish now for four decades has been primarily that it might be available to pharmacists and physicians in Porto Rico, the Philippines and in Cuba. In the latter republic the U. S. P. has been adopted as the official Pharmacopœia for more than thirty years and has been made possible through these years by the coöperation of the pharmacists of Cuba and the help of the scientific staff of the University of Havana and especially Dr. José Guillermo Diaz.

"In the present revision Auxiliary Commissions from Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines have been participating in the revision (see the U. S. P. XI, page viii).

"It is expected that each of the other republics affiliated with the Pan-American Union will eventually issue their own Pharmacopœia as is now done by Mexico, Brazil, the Argentine and others, but in offering the U. S. P. in Spanish it has been hoped that increased uniformity in nomenclature, tests and standards will be secured on this continent."

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<sup>1</sup> An address before New York Branch, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, January 13th.