

## EDITORIAL NOTES

### AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The American Medical Association will meet in Kansas City, May 11th-15th. There will be in attendance a number of foreign visitors, among them Lord Horder of Ashford, of London, England; Dr. Afranio do Amaral of Institute Butantan, São Paulo, Brazil, and Dr. Francisco Miranda, Mexico City.

The American Medical Association arranges for exhibits during the convention and as in recent years there will be an exhibit of the U. S. P. products and of the National Formulary preparations. Pharmacists in Kansas City will find the exhibits educational and instructive, because of the information to be derived relative to the items used and prescribed by physicians.

The publications of the medical associations should be represented in the pharmacists' libraries, and the study coordinated with that of pharmaceutical literature. This permits a reference to the Abstract Section in each issue of the *JOURNAL*, for example see the March issue, aside from other parts, the pages 100 to the end of the Section. Development of the reading habit is a source of profit and education.

May we call attention to the article on "Pharmacologic Research," its principles and methods by Dr. Hans Molitor in *Merck's Report* for April.

### VISITORS AT THE PAN-AMERICAN MEETING OF HEALTH OFFICERS.

Dr. B. J. Lloyd, Washington (with U. S. Public Health Service—Pan-American Sanitary Bureau); Dr. and Mrs. L. L. Williams, Jr., U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.; Justo F. Gonzalez, M.D., Montevideo, Uruguay (ministry, Public Health); Enrique Torres Herrera, M.D., Bogota, Colombia, S. A.; Emigdio Lola, Managua, Nicaragua, C. A. (minister of Hygiene and Benefuencia); Solon Nunez, San José, Costa Rica; Dr. A. A. Moll, Pan-American Sanitary Bureau; Enrique Lopez Herrarte, Legation of Guatemala, Washington, D. C. (diplomat); Gregoin Marquez, Pan-American Sanitary Bureau; Dr. W. E. Coutts, Santiago, Chile (physician); Arnoldo Gabaldon, M.D., Sc.D., Ministerio de Sanidad, Caracas, Venezuela; Carlos Monge, M.D.

### THE NEW MICROSCOPE "SCALES."

A "weight microscope," the first of its kind in the United States, was announced recently by the Dupont Co.'s science experimental station.

This centrifuge, designed by the Swedish scientist, Dr. The Svedburg, does for weight what a microscope does for size. But where the ordinary microscope multiplies size a few hundred or thousand diameters, this "microscope" multiplies actual weight a quarter of a million fold.

Size does not change. Thus, molecules or small bunches of atoms which can never be seen by a light microscope, become so enormously heavy that scientists can visualize the "parts" of which they are made and tell how they are put together.

### DEATHS FROM CHOLERA IN SIAM.

Medical reports disclose that 1400 persons had died of cholera in Siam from the beginning of the outbreak in February to mid-April.

### MYSTERY EPIDEMIC.

More than 120,000 persons in Milwaukee and suburbs have been attacked by a baffling intestinal malady that physicians of the city are still at a loss to explain. For lack of a better, or at least a more scientific name, the strange ailment has been called "intestinal flu." Dr. John P. Koehler, Health Commissioner of Milwaukee, believes that the malady is the same as that which has caused frequent epidemics for the last eighteen years.

### NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS AND THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

The 205th regular meeting of the American Physical Society will be held in Washington, D. C., at the National Bureau of Standards on Thursday and Friday, April 30 and May 1, 1936, and at the National Academy of Sciences, and at the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION on Saturday, May 2, 1936. The first session will be at 9:30 o'clock on Thursday morning.

There will be sessions in the East Building, the Chemistry Building and the Industrial Building of the National Bureau of Standards, in the Auditorium and Lecture Hall of the National Academy of Sciences, and in the Au-

ditorium of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### TOUR OF GERMAN APOTHECARIES.

A party of German apothecaries visited the United States making stops in Chicago, Detroit, Niagara Falls, New York, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston and other points; the members will return to their homes early in May.

Sunday, April 26th, the members of the party visited the AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHARMACY after luncheon at the Mayflower. The following were present from Washington: Secretary E. F. Kelly, A. PH. A., who extended greeting; Chairman of the Council, S. L. Hilton; Charles J. Fuhrman, Howard University; and Editor E. G. Eberle, all of whom made brief remarks. J. French Simpson, president of the Veterans and of the D. C. Druggists' Association introduced the speakers and added to the words of welcome. President Kinast of Essen-Berlin, and other visitors responded. Mrs. Hilton and visiting ladies graced the table.

Arriving at the building brief addresses were made and the visitors were shown through the building; they gave expression to their appreciation and admiration for the building and its purpose.

Chairman Hilton made timely closing remarks for the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION and Dr. F. Kinast, president of the German Apothecaries Association spoke for the visitors. The following were members of the party and hailed from more than twenty cities of Germany: Werner Mueller, Hans Strobel, Alos Wimmer, F. Kinast, John Hermes, George Schuing, Willy Bruenor, Mrs. Anna Schultc, Mr. and Mrs. Ruhnke, George Kernes, Paul Preuss, Mrs. Martha Preuss, Mr. and Mrs. Kuby, Ernest Erfurt, Gustav Buchheim, Wilhelm Mardner, Gustav Riedel, Herman Stadtmueller, Richard Reichel, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mattheides, Rudolph Wittke, Friedrich Brunner, Mrs. Emma Vollbrecht, Arthur Bertram, Paul Skrzipietz, Hans Wagenknecht, Otto Bayer, Julius Mayer, Ernest Hennecke, Richard Klahr, Gero Lindau, H. Motte, Mr. Dehlholm and the interpreter, Mr. Palm.

#### CANNABIS HABIT SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION IN GENEVA.

Stuart J. Fuller, of the State Department, and Harry J. Anslinger, Commissioner of Narcotics,

left Washington April 13th for Geneva to attend the semi-annual meeting of the Opium Advisory Committee of the League of Nations.

One of the matters expected to cause much discussion is the spread of addiction to cannabis, marijuana or Indian hemp. Use of this drug is said to be spreading in England. The American delegation probably will be called on for an explanation, and the reply will be that, while there is no Federal legislation on the subject, all but three states have laws against its use, and in all seaboard states mere possession of the drug is a prison offense. The committee may inaugurate studies of the real value of cannabis in medicine.

#### HEXAHYDROXYFERRIC CHLORIDE INJECTIONS RELEASE OXYGEN IN BLOOD, DETACH THE MONOXIDE.

To hasten the detachment of carbon monoxide from the hemoglobin in carbon monoxide poisoning, hexahydroxyferric chloride has been found useful in experiments with small experimental animals. A paper on this subject was presented before the Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, by Dr. Samuel Seifter and Dr. Joseph Seifter, of the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine.

Compounds of the type of hexahydroxyferric chloride are made by causing to react certain iron compounds with hydrogen peroxide. The resulting complexes readily release oxygen in such a form as to furnish adequate oxygen supplied to the tissues, while hastening at the same time the detachment of carbon monoxide from the hemoglobin.

The compound has been injected into rats poisoned with coal gas, or pure carbon monoxide, and 75 per cent of the animals thus treated recovered, while 33 per cent of controls receiving oxygen only recovered.

#### MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF PHARMACY VISITS FLOOD AREA.

The New England State Pharmacy Boards have made a complete tour of the flood districts in New England. Secretary King, of the Massachusetts Board, says: "No one can quite realize the extent of damage done until he has actually seen it for himself. All of these stores had from one to two feet of water above their show cases. In these stores one could easily enter in a row boat."