

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE III of Chapter VII reads: "The objects and aims of local branches of this Association shall be the same as set forth in ARTICLE I of the Constitution of this body, *and the acts of local branches shall in no way commit or bind this Association, and can only serve as recommendations to it.* And no local branch shall enact any article of Constitution or By-Law to conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association."

ARTICLE IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meeting of the Local Branches shall be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly and manuscript should be signed by the reporter. *Please advise us of changes in Roster and mail reports promptly.*

CHICAGO.

The last meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for the school year of 1936-1937 was held Thursday evening, April 22nd, at the University of Illinois, College of Medicine.

The first speaker of the evening was Dr. Samuel Gordon, chemist, and secretary of the Council on Dental Therapeutics, American Dental Association. Dr. Gordon spoke on the subject of "The Dentist and the Pharmacist."

According to Dr. Gordon, the desire to clean up within the profession brought about the formation of the Council on Dental Therapeutics by the American Dental Association. The rank and file of dentists were aware of the exorbitant prices being charged for many of the preparations that they were using and of the false claims that were being made for many of the preparations that were being exploited among the dental profession. Even officers of the Association were guilty of such offenses.

The Council on Dental Therapeutics is patterned after the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, and in many instances, the two groups have worked together for the mutual benefit of both organizations.

Dr. Gordon read the formulas of many preparations that have been analyzed by the Council and the accompanying false claims. Needless to say, they were quite amusing to those present versed in the fundamentals of therapeutics.

The work of the Council has been to publicize known remedial drugs and dental preparations. These are listed in "Accepted Dental Remedies," the dental book published by the American Dental Association that corresponds to the U. S. P. or N. F. This book has made the dentists conscious of the real use and value of drugs used in dentistry.

Pharmacy became aware of the medicine problem in dentistry and began to see that there was a place for pharmacy in the dental profession. Prescription writing is highly recommended to dentists and it is up to pharmacy to lead the way. It was pointed out that two of the largest distributors of chemicals have been advertising in the drug journals for the pharmacist to get more business from the dentist.

Phenol, procaine, zinc oxide, epinephrine, aspirin, formaldehyde, iodine and alcohol were named as some of the commonly used drugs. These are purchased by the dentists from dental supply houses who know very little about drugs and should be handled by the druggists.

The work is being carried on by the Council on Dental Therapeutics; the Dental Schools are taking up the work, the graduating dentists of to-day are better informed, and the work can be greatly accelerated by coöperation from the pharmacist.

Samuel Shkolnik, Instructor in Pharmacy at the University of Illinois, and practicing lawyer, was the second speaker of the evening.

Mr. Shkolnik discussed the pending bills in the Illinois legislature that were of interest to pharmacists.

The Uniform Narcotics Act would be amended to include barbituric acid derivatives. He pointed out that while they should be controlled by law, inclusion under the above act would impose too severe a penalty for violation.

A second bill would prohibit the sale of food in any place of business but a restaurant. This would even prohibit the sale of ice cream in a drug store, and considering the money already invested by druggists to carry on such sales, would be confiscatory.

Another bill would require the sterilization of all eating utensils.

Other bills would impose a tax of one cent on each soft drink sale and five cents on each gallon of ice cream manufactured for resale.

The Junior Robinson-Patman Bill would carry a triple damage clause and would insure each retailer of an equal starting point.

A Chain Store Tax Bill would tax one store twenty-five dollars, with graduations up to forty stores or over, where the tax would be one thousand dollars per store.

Officers of the Branch for the coming year were inducted into office by the retiring president, S. W. Morrison.

H. M. Emig, *president* for the coming year, outlined the policies and plans which he hoped to carry out during his tenure of office. He then adjourned the meeting. There followed many informal discussions.

LAWRENCE TEMPLETON, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK.

The April meeting of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held April 12, 1937 in Columbia University, College of Pharmacy.

About seventy-five members and guests were present. The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved. Treasurer Currens reported a balance of \$453.88.

Chairman Lehman, of the Committee on Education and Legislation, reported as follows:

The Tydings-Miller Fair Trade Bill, H. R. 1611 is to come up on the floor of the House any day. In the Senate the same bill, S. 100, is still in the Judiciary Committee, carrying, however, a favorable report by the Sub-committee.

The final passage of the measure may be expected any day, as its adoption is inevitable owing to the fact that thirty or more states have enacted Fair Trade Laws similar to the California Law and our Feld-Crawford Act.

However, pharmacists are asked to write to their Senators and Congressmen to favor this bill, as it will facilitate the workings of Fair Trade in all states having such laws, as it permits enforcement in Interstate Commerce. Thus manufacturers will be permitted to issue contracts and enforce them without having first to register or establish themselves in such states, a rather costly proceeding.

That the law is becoming effective here is heard from all sources, for the prices on goods made by contracting manufacturers are being maintained quite generally.

The effect on the predatory price cutting houses is shown by the page-size advertisements of Macy's in which they announce that they would push their own goods (something which they have always indulged in).

An important bill is also before Congress at this time which provides that all taxes levied by states on sales may also be levied on sales under Interstate Commerce by the state into which the merchandise is shipped, if such state has a sales tax law. It is supposed that this can also be construed to cover regional sales taxes like the one being levied by municipalities in New York State, such as Buffalo and New York, when goods are shipped there from another state, thus minimizing the competition of Mail Order Houses. The bill is the Colmer Bill, H. R. 4214.

On March 15th, eleven Food Chains were cited by the Federal Trade Commission for violation of the Robinson-Patman Law. The violations consist mainly of the chains demanding from one to ten per cent "Brokerage Fees" or "Commissions" from the manufacturers, which are not being paid to the independent stores.

The first contract in this state signed under this law by Tobacco industry is the Pall Mall Cigarette, La Corona and Antonio y Cleopatra Cigars of the American Cigar and Cigarette Company.

The Liquor Industry has had contracts for its trade-marked goods since the end of prohibition, and has been enforcing them effectively.

The State Legislature has been somewhat backward in enacting laws advanced by pharmaceutical interests, partly by reason of the deadlock which has existed in the Assembly because of the decease of one member, and also by disagreements on the vexatious tax measures.

A bill permitting the sale at retail of liquor in drug stores has been introduced in the Legislature upon agitation of the so-called Pharmacy Owners Association. The bill provides a privilege at a lower license rate than paid by the liquor dealers.

A bill instituting the Robinson-Patman Act as a state law has been introduced by Senator Feld.

The objections against the bill forbidding the preparing and serving of food in drug stores, also the serving of ice cream and soda water, seems to be powerful enough to kill the bill.

Chairman Steiger, of the Committee on the Progress of Pharmacy, reported as follows:

Salivary Immunity.—The *Journal A. M. A.* (Apr. 10th) reports in its editorial columns on enzymic factors in normal human saliva that will not only inhibit the multiplication of diphtheria bacilli *in vitro* but often kill these organisms within a few hours. Virulent diphtheria bacilli *not* killed by contact with this normal salivary antiseptic are almost invariably transmuted into a virulent type. These transformed "mutants" will breed true as apparently true pseudo-diphtheria bacilli for at least ten transplants in ordinary culture mediums.

The presence of these "inhibins" or bacteria-transforming enzymes in normal saliva has been confirmed by a study of salivary inhibitions and transformations of numerous other bacterial species.

Science News Letter, April 3rd. A chemical, tentatively named leukotaxine, which plays an important part in the body's fight against disease, has been discovered by Dr. Vally Menkin of Harvard Medical School.

Doctors Ehrlich and Krumbhaar, of Philadelphia, report that benzedrine has a wide range of safety. Working with rats, they found that doses from 10 to 100 times the medicinal dose produced little more than an exaggeration of the remedial effects. *Science News Letter*, April 10th, reports on the First International Conference on Fever Therapy. Prof. Wagner-Jauregg who originated fever therapy, gave the following explanation of fever treatment for last stages of syphilis. Fever treatment does not cure disease by killing disease germs. In diseases like syphilis and gonorrhœa, a fever should be used with chemical treatment as a means of building up resistance of organs and body tissues against the germs, so that the infection must eventually die away by itself.

Prof. Wagner-Jauregg first tried malarial fever as a cure for general paralysis of the insane, in 1917.

This edition of the *News Letter* devotes an entire column to the centennial edition of the U. S. Dispensatory. It is pointed out that the present edition is the 22nd, and that it is three inches thick and runs to 1894 pages and 28,000 titles. The tremendous advances in medicine in the past ten years can be seen by comparing the items in this edition of the "Dispensatory" with those of the last. Ten years ago insulin for diabetes and bismuth for syphilis were just coming into use—viosterol and liver extract were unknown. Other new items are amytol-sodium, Scarlet Fever Antitoxin, Halibut Liver Oil, Plasmochin, Diphtheria Toxoid and Dilaudid.

Comparison of this centennial edition with the first edition shows that of the ten most important and frequently prescribed medicines to-day only two were described in the first edition.

Merck Report.—April 1st. C. R. Addinall discusses the oxidation of Vitamin C to a reversible and an irreversible form. The literature is reviewed and statement is made that the established ideas as to stability and use of Vitamin C are valid.

The April *Druggists Circular* reports on the new treatment of sinus trouble introduced by Dr. Shorell of the Harlem Eye and Ear Hospital, N. Y. It consists of injections of an autogenous vaccine combined with a preparation of histidine. In addition to the injections a new form of heat treatment is applied. "Dry" heat as high as 100° F. is introduced into the nasal cavities.

Industrial Eng. Chem.—April 1937. Hall and Schwartz present an article on "Sanitary Value of Sodium Metaphosphate in Dishwashing."

"A bacteriological study is presented of the sanitational value of sodium metaphosphate in machine dishwashing. Results obtained in restaurants under routine operating conditions

indicate the superior sanitary quality of dishes washed with an alkaline detergent containing sodium metaphosphate. This superiority is not attributed to its germicidal action but to its specific function of preventing the formation of films of insoluble alkaline earth salts and soaps. The use of a film preventive agent in improving sanitation is a novel one."

"*Drug Trade News*, for April 12th, quotes the report of Dr. Anwyl-Davies on a specific for gonorrhœa. The product is the serum of immunized horses prepared in the London laboratories of Parke, Davis & Co. It is claimed to have cured between 60% and 70% of the more than 200 persons to whom it has so far been administered."

A letter of thanks from the Secretary of the Boards and Colleges of N. A. B. P. District No. 2 was read.

Chairman Schaefer, of the special committee, reporting on the meeting of the conference, stated that the deficit in expenses had been paid by the Mallinckrodt Chemical Company, who had acted as hosts to the visiting delegates.

Dr. Schaefer moved that the secretary be instructed to send a letter of thanks to the Mallinckrodt Chemical Co. for their coöperation. Motion was seconded and carried.

A motion was made, seconded and carried, that the report be accepted and the committee be discharged with the thanks of the Branch.

Mr. Mason announced that the speakers for the May meeting would be Dr. Herman Goodman, dermatologist, on the subject of "Cosmetic Allergy" and Dr. Frascatti, chief of the laboratories of Freminick & Co., who would supplement his remarks from the commercial viewpoint. Dr. C. P. Wimmer will be present to lead the discussion.

President Schaefer then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Theodore Rosenthal, Assistant Director, New York City Board of Health, who spoke on the subject of "The Pharmacist and the Syphilis Control Program."

HORACE T. F. GIVENS, *Secretary*.

THE PHARMACIST AND THE PROGRAM FOR SYPHILIS CONTROL.

BY THEODORE ROSENTHAL,* M.D.

The members of the pharmaceutical profession, in common with the other members of the allied medical professions, have a great interest and responsibility in combating syphilis, not only as citizens and taxpayers, but because of their professional obligations and qualifications. No person of intelligence can have gone through the past few years without being made aware of the existence of syphilis as a great menace to the public health. The long standing barriers of mistaken prudery and ignorance that held back progress have finally been broken through; fortunately for our efforts at publicity, mention has been made for the first time in the public press and more recently on the radio, of the extent of this great menace. The public is thus being gradually acquainted with the facts. The history of medicine shows in successive generations how great plagues and scourges of humanity have been encountered and successfully overcome. Within the memory of all of us, typhoid fever, summer complaint of infants, diphtheria and tuberculosis have virtually been exterminated or in great part diminished, due entirely to the scientific application of medical and public health measures. In centuries gone by, bubonic plague, cholera, smallpox (in contradistinction to syphilis, called the Great Pox) had been eliminated, through advances in hygiene, sanitation and medical knowledge.

Many of us have not been aware of the extent of this all too common disease. An editorial in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, for April 1935, stated "The conquest of syphilis is the next great objective in public health. Sufficient information indicates that it is probably the most prevalent of all communicable diseases except for measles in epidemic years."

"The history of medical progress shows instance after instance in which the combined forces of medicine and public health have conquered disease as far as public coöperation can be procured. With the combined efforts of physicians, public health officials, educators and the public, syphilis can be conquered next."

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