

ever, will nurture a reliance by the physician and surgeon that is professionally satisfying. You will find as time passes not only that your long lost sense of self-esteem is returning, but also that you yourself are firmly cemented in the center of the very pulse of every professional activity in your institution. Is not this the position we have trained ourselves to assume?

HOSPITAL PHARMACY AND ITS RELATION TO RETAIL PHARMACY AND MEDICINE.*

BY MORRIS DAUER.¹

For many years the excellent, useful, highly dignified and ethical services of the American hospital pharmacist have not received the recognition to which they are justly entitled and which they so rightfully deserve.

The light of this faithful public servant, "the hospital pharmacist," has been hidden under a bushel. The contributions which he has made to professional pharmacy and medicine by virtue of his liberal professional education, followed by the subsequent training which he has gained from the older practicing pharmacists and added to that vast storehouse of knowledge which he has constantly been gaining as the years have gone by, actually sacrificing his early youth and middle age, a sacrifice indeed for the benefit of public service and public health protection and ultimately serving his state and his country, have received little recognition from hospital executives and his brethren who comprise the pharmaceutical fraternity.

It has been the impression of some of our unenlightened hospital executives that a hospital pharmacist needs but a vague outline of pharmaceutical education and training, and as the speaker experienced while discussing professional pharmacy with a hospital executive who naively said "You are always talking about professional pharmacy. What's so professional about pharmacy? All you have to know is a set of weights and measures. You take a list of ingredients that appear on a doctor's prescription, you throw them together, shake them up in a bottle, and you have a mixture." Alas! this medicus is not the only one who has this erroneous impression and it is the duty of the hospital pharmacist who comes in contact with such individuals to use intelligent measures to correct this misconception and leave in its place an indelible impression that pharmacy is an exact science requiring in its own field prescribed courses of study and training under a well-qualified faculty of a recognized university or college, which is further supervised by the various boards of higher education which regulate very strictly this profession just as the medical education is directed and supervised.

In order to advance the interests of hospital pharmacy and in order to clarify this situation, the speaker has prepared and delivered several lectures before the Interne body of Kings County Hospital, the institution where he is serving as Chief Pharmacist. In addition to resident and visiting staff physicians and surgeons, the attendance from this association was surprisingly large. In these lectures I strove to inculcate into their minds the use of our official preparations, either in whole or in part. During one of my lectures I discussed the official vehicles,

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also coloring and flavoring ingredients which they could use in their prescriptions so as to render them palatable and pleasing to the senses of sight and smell. This lecture was entitled "Aromatics and Coloring in Prescriptions and Their Psychological Effect on the Patient." During the course of this lecture, I exhibited various distasteful drugs. These drugs and the coloring and flavoring agent were exhibited in glass-stoppered bottles bearing glass labels. Every means was employed to lend an air of professional pharmaceutical dignity.

The listeners were given samples of the crude materials to taste and then a flavored mixture containing the same ingredients, so that they would be able to make comparisons.

A strenuous attempt was made to distract their interest from proprietary preparations of a secretive nature, and light was focused on professional pharmaceutical preparations prepared by the hospital pharmacist, emphasizing that in spite of the numerous attempts to divorce entirely the practice of medicine from the use of the official drugs and preparations, the physician in active practice sooner or later reconciles himself to the part played by these drugs in his fight at the bedside of the patient.

The hospital pharmaceutical department must always serve as a lecture hall wherein the pharmacist in charge must lay the foundations of future contacts between the doctor and the pharmacist. The pharmacist must forge an unbreakable link between the allied professions of medicine and pharmacy.

History reveals that the pharmacist of ancient and medieval times was the pioneer to systematize the treatment of the sick and ailing. Gathering the various herbs, roots, barks and other vegetative matter, he, by the aid of crude utensils, compounded mixtures of these organic ingredients and prepared them in a suitable form for human administration. Although tried in a rather empirical manner, eventually some system of use was devised at last. With the advancement of the healing art, there can be no room for doubt but that the pharmacist, like a well-trained soldier in the army of public health protection, has kept in step with all modern discoveries and advances made to the goal of highest degree of refinement in the rationalization of the treatment of the sick.

The pharmacist employed in a hospital can do much to facilitate the institution of a pharmaceutical economy program which will reduce substantially the expenditures for drugs, medicines and biological products.

Paramount in this economy program is the formulation and presentation by the Chief Pharmacist, in coöperation with the chiefs of the various services of the medical and surgical staffs, of a medical formulary which will be given to the members of those staffs consisting of a complete catalog of prescriptions and formulas so varied as to include all sub-divisions of medicine; including such important specializations as Cardiology, Dermatology, Gynecology and Obstetrics, Otolaryngology, Pediatrics and Internal Medicine.

The hospital physician and intern must be reached by the hospital pharmacist before the detail man of the patent medicine firm succeeds in hypnotizing them by means of cosmetic pharmacy, which includes the use of fancy names, gaudy packages, highly colored capsules and glowing description of the infallibility of his wares. After the physician has enjoyed the song and dance, the poor patient and pharmacist must pay the fiddler.

The ultimate aim of the hospital pharmacist and his Formulary must be to familiarize the physician with proper prescription formation so that when he himself is in private practice he may employ a number of palatable and receptive preparations, the composition of which he is thoroughly familiar with, to the advantage of himself, his patient and his pharmacist.

I am offering as an example of a hospital formulary, a manual which I have edited and compiled entitled, "The Medical Formulary and Prescription Manual." This book was officially approved and adopted by the Department of Hospitals on September 13, 1934, and is now being used in all 26 municipal hospitals in the City of New York. "The Medical Formulary and Prescription Manual" comprises approximately 957 separate and distinct formulas embracing pharmaceutical preparations employed in every branch of medical science.

I have supplemented every prescription in the book with a note giving the physical characteristics and properties of each prescription, thus acquainting the doctor with the color, odor and taste of any prescription which he may select. This data is not found in any other book, to my knowledge, published in this field.

In the preparation of this book, economy without sacrifice of therapeutic efficiency, was always a paramount issue. With that end in view, I have developed a considerable number of medical and surgical preparations designed to replace expensive preparations which had been and were being used in the Department of Hospitals. This innovation did not only result in a tremendous saving but rid these preparations of their secretive nature and resulted in uniform compounding and dispensing methods.

To convince and to stimulate an everlasting admiration of the results of the skill and art in the practice of Pharmacy, I prepared a permanent exhibit of every preparation as set forth in this book; this exhibit to exemplify the use to which these preparations can be put to the best interest of the patient, his physician and his pharmacy.

I have watched with keen interest and gratification, the numerous embryo medicos who have come here, absorbed the atmosphere of professional pharmacy as practiced in a hospital and have gone forth into private practice taking these ideals with them. They now possess a knowledge of sound professional and ethical pharmacy and a sincere appreciation of the necessity of a closer friendship and co-operation between themselves as physicians and their colleagues, the pharmacists, on the neighboring corner behind the colored show globes.

May I, at this time, urge in all sincerity the closest coöperation between the young physician and the neighborhood pharmacist. The two are indispensable to each other. The pharmacist should always be the friend of the physician, always ready and willing to extol his virtues and minimize his faults, ever bespeaking the best that can be said of him who is seeking to establish a practice and reputation.
