

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

BALTIMORE.—The opening meeting of the season was held on Thursday evening, October 13th, at the School of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland.

Prof. Marvin J. Andrews, voting delegate from the Baltimore Branch at the Minneapolis meeting, presented an interesting report covering the sessions of the House of Delegates, together with a résumé of the numerous meetings of several Sections in which much of the interest of those in attendance is centered.

In view of the widespread interest in, and importance attached to the work of the Resolutions Committee of the 1938 Convention, Dr. Robert L. Swain discussed the resolutions adopted there in a separate report.

An interesting and instructive half-hour followed and the discussion developed that most of those present agreed with the speaker in his approval of the stand taken by the A. PH. A. on some of the controversial questions presented for action at the Minneapolis meeting; and particularly with reference to its pronouncement on the subject of governmental aid in providing needed medical attention for those citizens who might otherwise be unable to obtain same. Dr. Swain has given much thought and study to the various movements and trends in Pharmacy during recent years, and it is fortunate for this ASSOCIATION that he will be able, in his rôle of editor of the *Maryland Pharmacist*, to present the views and actions of its forward-looking leaders in an unbiased form to the many readers of his editorials in this area.

As had been our custom during the previous association year, refreshments were served at the conclusion of regular business session, the funds for this feature being again donated by Dr. H. A. B. Dunning in his effort to create more interest in and a larger attendance at meetings of the Baltimore Branch.

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Because of difficulties encountered in attempting to arrange for a non-conflicting date, and the type of guest speaker wanted, no meeting was held by the Baltimore Branch in November.

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The December meeting was held at the School of Pharmacy of the University of Maryland on Tuesday evening, December 13th. The guest speaker on this occasion was Mr. M. G. Meriam, of the Becton, Dickinson Company, manufacturers of clinical thermometers and hypodermic syringes, etc.

This meeting represented a continuation of the series of lectures inaugurated in the Spring in which we have sought to bring before Baltimore pharmacists technical experts who could enlighten them on methods of manufacture and other interesting details concerning certain articles which are properly classed as drug-sundries, including sick-room and physicians supplies. This series of lectures has proven interesting and instructive.

Mr. Meriam has a wealth of information at his command regarding the manufacture, selection and care of clinical thermometers; and the equally necessary and important items from the standpoint of the physician, hypodermic syringes and needles. His lecture was replete with interesting and valuable information for the pharmacist, both as to details of manufacture, selection, etc., and, from the viewpoint of the pharmacist, some equally desirable information regarding proper methods to pursue in distributing high-quality articles of this type. The speaker pointed out some of the causes of unsatisfactory results frequently reported by users of fever thermometers and hypodermic syringes, and explained proper corrective measures to apply if the particular item in use was not inaccurate or of faulty construction. Advice as to proper methods of handling and use, if imparted to customers at time of purchase, would help to avoid difficulties in many instances. The fact was emphasized by the speaker that while machines are now available to produce many items in every-day use the fever thermometer still must be produced by skilled hand labor, almost from start to finish. Sections of glass and models exhibited, together with a number of large illustrated charts, helped to impress his hearers with the numerous and intricate details connected with the manufacture of these small precision instruments.

At the close of this lecture a number of questions from members were answered by Mr. Meriam. President Gakenheimer thanked the speaker on behalf of the Branch; and announced appointments to a Nominating Committee.

After adjournment of the regular meeting, refreshments were served at a short social session.

ROBERT S. FUQUA, *Secretary*.

CHICAGO.—The Regular December meeting was held on December 20th, 1938 with twenty-four members and thirty-three friends and guests present. President Emig appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of L. E. Martin, *Chairman*, H. L. Davis and I. A. Becker to prepare a list of nominees for election at the coming meeting in January. Another committee consisting of G. L. Webster, Wm. Gray and R. E. Terry was instructed to prepare a Resolution of Condolence to the family of Dean Day.

The speaker of the evening was E. J. Strobl of the Albert Verley Co., Chicago, whose subject was "Some Observations on Perfumes and Perfume Materials." Mr. Strobl introduced his discussion by reviewing the history of perfumes and perfume materials pointing out that the sense of odor is the most ethereal of all the senses. Since the early perfumers were limited to a few resins, gums, etc., the materials were employed in incense form for religious purposes. Because of the rareness and cost of these early materials their use was restricted to the priests or very wealthy people. By Roman times, rosewater had been prepared, but not until fairly recent times was it possible to produce true floral oils. Discussing the area around Grasse, France, Mr. Strobl pointed out the advantages which make this area the ideal spot for production of flower oils, the various processes for obtaining the oils of jasmine, tuberose, cassia, etc., and definitions for absolutes, concretes, pomades followed. The subject of the citrus oils and oil of rose was then outlined, followed by an outline of the use of animal products such as musk, civet, ambergris and castoreum.

Since a considerable amount of materials now used in perfumes is classified as synthetic product, Mr. Strobl then went into the manufacture of these items, such as nerol, phenylethyl alcohol, benzyl acetate, musk xylene, ionones and amyl cinnamic aldehyde, etc. An interesting development was pointed out in the use of menthyl acetate and anthranilate as sun screens for prevention of sun burn. In concluding, Mr. Strobl expressed the thought that the future perfume chemist would be able to produce perfumes entirely by the use of synthetic materials with the richness and pleasing qualities equal or better to the natural floral odors. A number of samples of materials were exhibited and after a number of queries, the meeting was adjourned by President Emig.

R. E. TERRY, *Secretary*.

CITY OF WASHINGTON.—The November meeting was held on the 21st with 42 members and guests present. After the reading of the minutes, it was moved that the December meeting be held on the second Monday in the month so that it would not conflict with the Christmas holidays. The program for the December meeting will consist of a discussion of the "Phases of the Social Security program affecting the Pharmacist" and the annual dinner and installation of the new officers will constitute the January meeting. It was voted that the annual dues will come due on January 1st. Dr. Fuller was elected chairman of the nominating committee.

Mr. Reznick proposed the following resolution which was unanimously accepted:

"Resolved that: The City of Washington Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION express its appreciation to Dr. E. G. Eberle for his outstanding service to the ASSOCIATION, the Local Branch and to the pharmacists throughout the country in his capacity as editor of the JOURNAL, counselor and friend."

Dr. Robert L. Swain, Deputy State Food and Drug Commissioner of Maryland and a lawyer as well as a pharmacist, addressed the Branch on the recently enacted Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and its significance to the Pharmacist. Dr. Swain referred to this Act as one of the most important legislative developments in the field of Public Health and discussed the broad provisions of the Act, as well as those portions of specific interest, such as the labeling provisions, the new drug section, the adulteration provisions with special reference to the limitations of the so-called variation clause, the greatly expanded misbranding section and the formula disclosure provision.

Special emphasis was placed on the greatly expanded scope of the Act as compared to the former Food and Drug Act of 1906, the greater protection afforded the consumer in respect to

foods, drugs, devices and cosmetics, the increased responsibility placed upon the pharmacist for the strength, quality and purity of the drugs and medicines which he furnishes and the provisions to prevent the introduction into commerce of new drugs which have not been proven to be safe for use.

Following the talk, Dr. Swain answered many questions raised by members of the Branch.

KENNETH L. KELLY, *Secretary*.

GREATER ST. LOUIS.—The monthly meeting was held December 12, 1938, at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, at 8 P.M. The meeting was sponsored by the Alumni Association of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy and the Local Branch. Circulars announcing this meeting were distributed to every druggist in the St. Louis area and to every pharmaceutical and chemical concern.

Dr. Wendell H. Griffith, associate professor at St. Louis University School of Medicine, delivered a lecture entitled "Vitamins after Twenty-Five Years." He reviewed the history of vitamin research, as well as the rôle that vitamins play in metabolism and present trends in research. Of particular interest to the group of pharmacists was Dr. Griffith's description of deficiency diseases due to lack of vitamins, and the symptoms of these diseases.

The lecture was followed by the usual business discussion, after which the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

FRANK L. MERCER, *Secretary*.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY STUDENT BRANCH.—The monthly meeting was held December 1, 1938. After roll call and adoption of minutes, Dean Emeritus J. J. Grasser, discussed "Specific Chemical Tests in Pharmacy," bringing out the highlights of many important chemicals.

As guest speaker of the evening, J. M. Danneker, Ph.G., and chemist in the city of New Orleans, gave a brief outline of the work done in the N. O. Chemical Laboratory in (1) relation to public health, (2) public safety and (3) public finance.

Following this educational talk, Dr. Oscar Bethea, Member of the U. S. P. Revision Committee and Professor of Medicine at Tulane University, gave a gist of the numerous activities concerning "The Revision of the Pharmacopœia."

Mr. Montalbano, a member of the Student Branch, introduced Mr. Worner, who officially installed the new officers of the branch. Mr. Babin, our reelected president, then thanked Mr. Worner and brought the meeting to a close.

MARCIA HEIMAN, *Secretary*.

MICHIGAN.—The meeting was held Tuesday evening, November 15th, 1938, in the Wayne County Medical Association Building. Dinner preceded the meeting. President Ira Smith called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

President Smith introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Leonard A. Seltzer, who spoke on "What Price Pharmaceutical Service." The speaker said: The much talked of "Socialized Medicine" is rapidly gaining support and may become a reality. If it does Pharmacy must be ready to fit into the picture. One must distinguish between those that have a direct bearing on Public Health Service and those that have no bearing. Direct bearing are the ones that entitle the pharmacist to maintain his position in Public Health Service. Build or work out methods that are in the public interest, that will not fall on the first strain of public criticism. Mr. Seltzer said: The solution is the setup established by the Wayne County Medical Relief Committee. Where pharmacist and physician are able to supply the needs of the sick in the best interest of public health and at the same time retain the good will and contact of the patient. The chaotic confusion existing among pharmacists regarding prescription pricing must be corrected. Mr. Seltzer outlined a simple yet scientific prescription pricing method which is adaptable to any pharmacy regardless of location by simply changing one of the factors. The plan will soon appear in print; every pharmacist can make good use of Mr. Seltzer's plan.

In the discussion, the question of the custody of and responsibility for the prescription was raised. The statement in the New Jersey law that the pharmacist should keep as a record on his file either the original prescription, telephone or verbal order, as the case might be, was held as contra-

vening the many court decisions which give title and the right to demand possession to the patient who paid for it. Mr. Seltzer gave it as his opinion that according to custom the prescription is filed by the pharmacist, that according to the Code of Ethics of the Michigan Pharmaceutical Association the pharmacist has no right to disclose the contents of the prescription to anyone except the patient whose property it is or the doctor who issued it, but to no one else, not even to another physician called in on the case unless the writer of the prescription cannot be consulted, nor to another pharmacist requesting it. He gave it as his opinion that the New Jersey law and the above mentioned court decisions were not in conflict because, unlike the Harrison Act, in which case the "prescription" signifies the original prescription written and signed by the physician, it may, in the New Jersey law, signify only a memorandum as in case of verbal or telephone order because if these constitute "prescriptions" under the law then a copy of an original made by a pharmacist, in order to surrender the original to his customer demanding it, would qualify as a record on his file.

The discussion was led by Messrs: Lakey, Whitney, McCabe and Stocking. President Smith thanked Mr. Seltzer for his enlightening and interesting talk and suggested a rising vote of thanks.

Mr. Seltzer announced the passing of Jerry McQuade, a real friend of Pharmacy, and moved that a suitable resolution be drawn up and sent to the family of the deceased. President Smith appointed Dean Roland T. Lakey and Mr. Leonard A. Seltzer to draw up the resolution, it follows: The Michigan Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION gives expression to its sense of great loss in the passing of Jerry McQuade, outstanding editor, contributor and benefactor of Pharmacy. But this great bereavement is felt not merely in his relationship with its members individually as a man and friend. In his more serious efforts as editor as well as in his intimate contacts with men he manifested the impress of the faith in which he was reared—a faith, while uncompromisingly dogmatic, is nevertheless one which nurtured in the fertile soil of his spirit the fruits of "love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, meekness and temperance." These elements overshadowed its controversial aspects so completely as to render those of other faiths or no faith conscious, not of the elements through the possession of which they differed but of those which they possess in common: "elements so mixed in him that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, 'This was a man!'"

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK.—The regular meeting held at the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, on Monday, December 12th, 1938, was called to order by President Canis who welcomed all present and expressed the pleasure and thanks of the Branch to the Kings County Pharmaceutical Association for the invitation that made it possible for the Branch to hold its meeting at the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy. About 150 members and guests were present. The president made special mention of a delegation of Municipal pharmacists representing the pharmaceutical services of the City of New York, Department of Hospitals and Department of Purchase.

The minutes of the regular November meeting and of the special meeting held at the Hotel Pennsylvania on the evening of November 30, 1938, for the purpose of presenting the Remington Medal to Dr. Henry C. Christensen, were accepted as read. The financial report of the Committee in charge of the Remington Medal Dinner was accepted and the Committee discharged with the thanks of the Branch.

The treasurer's report shows a balance of \$277.91.

The membership committee reported the names of Messrs. Irving Zwillich, John Sachs and J. Mendel as new members since our last meeting.

The report of Mr. Lehman as chairman of the Committee on Education and Legislation was received and ordered spread on the minutes.

A communication from the New York Pharmaceutical Council advises that the resolutions presented at the October meeting by Mr. Frank Berman, had been read at the meeting of the council's Board of Directors. The council is in accord with the suggestions contained in the resolutions and will do everything to achieve success.

There being no further business the meeting turned to the Scientific Section with Mr. Robert R. Gerstner as chairman. The topic of the evening was "Pneumonia and Pneumonia Control." The speakers included Dr. Russell L. Cecil, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Cornell

Medical School and Dr. W. D. Sutliff, Pneumonia Control Section of the Health Department of the City of New York. Dr. Higgins of Lederle Laboratories presented a motion picture on Pneumonia Control. The discussion which followed was lead by Dr. Ralph Clark of Merck & Co., and Dr. Leonard Piccoli of Fordham College of Pharmacy. An exhibition of scrums and other medicines was presented by Lederle Laboratories and by E. R. Squibb & Sons.

A rising vote of thanks was accorded the speakers and the meeting adjourned.

HORACE T. F. GIVENS, *Secretary*.

PHILADELPHIA.—The December meeting was held in the Faculty Dining Room, Temple University, on Tuesday evening, December 13th.

Minutes of the past two meetings were read and approved.

Dr. H. C. Wood, Jr. introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Marvin R. Thompson, Director of the Warner Institute for Therapeutic Research. Dr. Wood reviewed the brilliant work of the speaker in studying ergot for the U. S. P. Revision Committee.

Dr. Thompson briefly traced the development of ergot studies since the isolation of the first alkaloid in 1875. He stated that up until 1903 it was believed that an aqueous extract of the drug contained the active principles. He believes that no one principle or combination of principles truly represents the activity of the whole drug. It is for this reason, he said, that he does not feel that we can replace the fluidextract of ergot with any combination of ergot principles. The present U. S. P. monograph on ergot is unsatisfactory, according to Dr. Thompson, because it fails to specify a method for the determination of the ergonovine content, and it fails to give a method for the preparation of a fluid-extract which will remain stable. In the discussion which followed, Dr. Thompson answered questions asked by Messrs: Ehrenstein, Osol, Blythe, Cook, Wood, McNeary and Fegan.

President Viehoever announced that soon after Christmas he expects to relinquish his duties as president of the Branch and director of the Gross Laboratory of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in order to accept a position as scientist-advisor to the Siamese government. He expressed profound regret at leaving the Branch and giving up his work and many pleasant associations in this city and country, but feels that the call of opportunity to investigate and develop the as yet untouched possibilities in Siam, is too strong to go unanswered.

Mr. Zonies spoke of his deep admiration for Viehoever the scientist and Viehoever the man and made a motion directing the Secretary to draw up and forward to Dr. Viehoever a letter expressing the appreciation of the Branch for the many years he has supported it, and for the distinguished service he has rendered during his term as president; and to wish him Godspeed in his new task. Dr. Kendig in seconding the motion, stated that all who have been privileged to come into contact with Dr. Viehoever in the 25 years he has worked in this country have immensely benefited through association with a great mind and a great personality.

Previous to the meeting some of the members assembled in the Faculty Dining Room at an informal dinner.

ARTHUR K. LEBBERKNIGHT, *Secretary*.

WESTERN NEW YORK.—At the meeting held Thursday, December 15, 1938, at Foster Hall on the University of Buffalo campus, the principal speaker was Dr. Frank B. Kirby, Director of Education for the Abbott Laboratories. James J. Hill, president of the Alumni Association, whose coöperation has made possible the success of these meetings, introduced the speaker and conducted the discussion.

Dr. Kirby discussed "Substances Used in Various Anemias." He brought out the fact that many new avenues of treatment have been developed for the anemias, and that these are all dependent upon correct diagnosis of the cause of the anemia, and its removal. He discussed the diseases and deficiencies which produce anemias, and the substances used in their treatment.

Following the lecture, questions submitted by the audience were answered by Dr. Kirby and by Dr. Stuart L. Vaughan of the Buffalo General Hospital.

The next meeting will be held January 12, 1939, at Foster Hall on the University of Buffalo campus, at 8 o'clock. The speaker will be Dr. Robert C. Page, Research Consultant and Medical Advisor to Burroughs Wellcome and Co. (U. S. A.). The topic will be "Gland Therapy in the Treatment of Endocrine Disorders."

LAURENCE D. LOCKIE, *Secretary*.