

EDITORIAL

E. G. EBERLE, EDITOR EMERITUS.

2215 Constitution Ave., WASHINGTON, D. C.

HOSPITAL PHARMACY.

AT THE recent meeting of the American Medical Association in St. Louis, the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals submitted a revised list of "Essentials of a Registered Hospital" which was approved with some amendments. In addition to a general statement the essentials are listed under ten headings, as follows:

Organization, Physical Plant, Medical Staff, Pathology and Laboratory Diagnosis, Autopsies, Radiology, Anesthesia, Nursing Service, Dietetics, Pharmacy, Medical Records and Ethics.

The following wording applies to Pharmacy: "The handling of drugs should be properly supervised and should comply with all legal regulations. Accurate records should be maintained. A qualified person should be placed in charge, preferably a registered pharmacist; whatever arrangement is made, all prescriptions should be filled by a graduate pharmacist."

These requirements are more specific and comprehensive than those formerly in effect and their observance should lead to a decided improvement in the pharmaceutical service rendered in the registered hospitals of the country.—E. F. K.

THE DRIVE AGAINST GONORRHEA.

AT THE New York meeting of the ASSOCIATION in 1937, Acting Surgeon General Draper gave a very complete outline of the plans of the U. S. Public Health Service to banish venereal diseases and advised the pharmacists of the nation what they should and should not do to aid the program.

An Advisory Committee to the Service later submitted Recommendations for a Gonorrhea Control Program and they were published in the January 1938 issue of the U. S. Public Health Service Pamphlet, copy of which may be obtained from the Service.

In the report it was stated that, "It is the opinion of the committee that if full utilization were made of our present knowledge, the available diagnostic and therapeutic armamentarium would suffice for the control of gonorrhea as a public health problem. The public should be taught the cause and nature of gonorrhea, the essential facts concerning its prevalence and epidemiology, how it may be prevented, the reasons for treatment and what can be accomplished in terms of cure."

Pharmacists have been and can continue to be of great assistance in the program against venereal diseases and, in so doing, emphasize the important part they take in protecting and promoting public health. In this activity pharmacists can amply justify the statement made in the Charter's report that, "A well-informed pharmacist is the best single individual to disseminate information about public health."—E. F. K.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MILITARY MEDICINE AND
PHARMACY.

THE OFFICIAL sessions and entertainment features of the Tenth International Congress, referred to on page 265 of the May issue of the JOURNAL, were very successful and enjoyable. They were conducted in a manner thoroughly creditable to the officials of the United States who were responsible for the arrangements and for the comfort of the distinguished visitors from other countries, under the direction of Surgeon General Charles R. Reynolds, the President and Colonel Harold W. Jones, the Secretary General of the Congress.

The pharmaceutical delegates took part in all of the sessions and functions. Of special interest was the Sectional Meeting on Tuesday afternoon, May 9th, devoted to the Organization and Function of the Chemico-Pharmaceutical Service. Colonel Jules Thomann, chief pharmacist of the Swiss Army, presided and the following delegates presented papers. Dr. Ramon Antonio Alcaraz, principal pharmacist of the Argentine Army; Colonel Jareslav Janda of the Czechoslovakian Army; Colonel Thomann of the Swiss Army; Pharmacist Captain J. Raton, of the French Army; Pharmacist Major (Reserve) Isadore Elienne of the Belgium Army. This meeting was attended by a number of pharmacists from Washington and by President Lascoff of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, who spoke for the ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday evening, the pharmaceutical delegates, with President Lascoff and Secretary Kelly, of the A. PH. A., were entertained at dinner at the Willard Hotel by the members of the Executive Committee of the District of Columbia Pharmaceutical Association.

Practically all of the pharmaceutical delegates found time during their busy stay in Washington to visit the Pharmacy Building, to inspect the work being carried on by the ASSOCIATION, and to secure information about pharmaceutical conditions in this country.

The profession of Pharmacy was given recognition by the Congress in the election of Colonel Jules Thomann as president, to serve during the coming two years and to preside over the Eleventh Congress which will be held in Switzerland in 1941. Colonel Thomann has taken an active part in the work of the Congress, has served recently on its Permanent Committee and has had a distinguished career in the Swiss Army of which he is now the chief pharmacist. The President of the Congress, upon the completion of his term of office, becomes an honorary president for life. Colonel Thomann is the first pharmacist to hold the highest office in the Congress and the congratulations of the pharmacists of the United States go to him, with best wishes for a successful administration.—E. F. K.

FEDERAL FOOD, DRUG AND COSMETIC ACT.

The Conferees appointed by the Senate and House to consider variations in H. R. 5762, have submitted a report and the report has been adopted by the Senate and the House. The bill is now before the President for action. In general, the Conference Report defers the effective date of certain provisions of the Federal Act from June 25, 1939, to January 1, 1940. The Secretary of Agriculture is also given the power to postpone certain provisions relating to labeling to July 1, 1940, if the public interest is protected and if owners of labels, containers, etc., might suffer severe loss.