

formulas using the proposed methods, and they have reported their experience with each preparation.

Your Chairman desires to express his appreciation of the immediate response given to his appeal for assistance in getting up this Exhibit, and takes this opportunity of thanking all of those who have contributed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE U. S. PHARMACOPOEIA.*

The publication of four parts of the first proof of the U. S. P. IX has given this committee some material for consideration during the past year. The strenuous efforts, however, of the National Committee of Revision of the U. S. P., and of the committee on the National Formulary to complete their respective works has continued to absorb to a considerable extent the available energy of the majority of the members of this committee. We have, however, managed to review the first three parts of this first proof, and have forwarded as rapidly as possible the results of our deliberations direct to the Chairman of the Committee of Revision. We have hoped in this way to place our suggestions before the National Committee, at a time when they would be in a position to consider them.

A few of the comments that this committee has made which have a general bearing, we desire to present at this time in our report.

The use of the term "Melting Point," which is generally understood to mean a definite temperature, is inappropriate when used to designate a range of melting points for a given substance which may extend over several degrees of temperature.

The word "should" is not emphatic enough for use in expressing a requirement, and its use in this sense in the Pharmacopœia ought to be greatly curtailed.

Since the U. S. P. is a legal standard the plea has been made that its language be as free as possible from relative qualifying words of the character of "faint," "slight," "moderate," "about," etc., unless the same be properly defined in an appropriate place.

When an article of different origins is considered it is undesirable to place the different descriptions under one title, as is offered in the case of Salicylic and Benzoin, etc.

The use of the term "absolute Alcohol" to indicate an alcohol which is absolute, in one part, and not absolute in another part of the book, is confusing.

It seems highly desirable that the tests in the U. S. P. be discriminated into "identity or description tests" and "purity requirements."

With reference to standards, there seems to be a desire on the part of those who use the U. S. P. simply as a legal standard to set the purity requirements high and to have the tests very exacting, whereas those who may be amenable to its provisions seem to advocate a somewhat lower purity requirement with tests less exacting. To harmonize these two interests is undoubtedly a difficult matter. One also notes the desire of the Chemist to introduce special testing apparatus like the polariscope, spectroscope, refractometer, platinum ware, etc. On the other hand the druggist does not see his way clear to acquire these, even though he may have the time and ability to use them. Consideration should therefore be had for him in this effort to secure proper standardizations. Where no method of preparation is given for an article, refined methods of valuation would seem desirable; but in the case of the various preparations which may be

* Presented to Section on Pharmacopœias and Formularies, August, 1914.

made by the druggist, methods of standardization which demand only inexpensive apparatus should suffice.

This committee does not feel that the specific comments that it has made on individual drugs that have been mentioned in the pages of the first proof are of sufficient moment to the Association at this time to warrant burdening it or the pages of the Journal with them, since no one but the members of the Revision Committee can have any special interest in them.

Let it suffice to say that the members of this committee have made such criticisms and rendered such assistance as they could during the past year to aid the Revision Committee in their work of preparing a Pharmacopœia that will be acceptable to the members of this Association and to American pharmacists in general.

Respectfully submitted.

L. D. HAVENHILL, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RECIPE BOOK.

With Special Reference to its Scope and Indirect Value.

To Officers and Members American Pharmaceutical Association:

The Chairman of this Committee, through the courtesy of his colleagues, but not necessarily with their approval, is allowed to present his conclusions regarding the publication of a recipe-book by the American Pharmaceutical Association, independently, and, in the same manner, offer arguments supporting these conclusions.

There is so much more involved or intended to be involved in this recipe-book proposal than is yet generally recognized and appreciated that it seems not at all out of place to call attention, special attention, to related subjects and ask careful study of the far-reaching vital results that may be made to follow a proper working out of the relationship a recipe-book may bear to the other work and the other publications of the Association.

Fundamentally, the publications of an organized body, carrying such stupendous responsibilities as does the American Pharmaceutical Association, are important far beyond usual comprehension. One may justly tremble for those who have assumed principal responsibility for these publications, no matter whether the assumption be stimulated by creditable benevolence or sordid ambition. What is there, that is tangible, of the Association's yesterday's, but its publications? How is it possible to broaden the scope of its influences beyond that represented by the very limited number who attend its meetings save through or by its publications? What real thing is left to those who will follow us, but its publications? How does the world come to know of it; how does the world estimate its value; how is the world's respect created or its contempt engendered?—Wholly by its publications. Pharmacy and pharmacists of the United States of America, —and all and everything comprehended in these terms; the aims, the ambitions, the attainments, the standards, the science, even the morals of all these are most conspicuously and positively set forth in the publications of this Association. Let us be impressed by the truths:— "It is not that which entereth the man that defileth him, but that which proceedeth therefrom" and "By your fruits shall ye be judged."

And, fundamentally, again, must be considered the influence of the American Pharmaceutical Association, direct and indirect, upon other publications, notably, upon the Pharmacopœia and the pharmaceutical text-books. It is well for us to remember how much all of us laymen, as well as teachers, have to do with what is taught those who are to have future pharmacy's control. Why should we