

in another paper of the same Texas city, where this enlightening contribution was published in a Sunday edition. The reply seems to have had its effect, for in a number of papers, in various parts of the country, both of the North and South, explanations are attempted of what the writer "meant to say."

The, sometimes outrageous, insinuations directed against druggists as a class should be stopped. We are referring to this answer of Mr. Cousins, because of the gentlemanly but convincing manner, in which the slanderous charges were refuted, and should be helpful in persuading contributors of messages to the reading public, that druggists as a class do not desire publicity of the kind printed in the quoted article.



SUBSTANCES WHICH MASK THE COLOR REACTIONS OF STRYCH- NINE

E. Mameli (*Rep. de Pharm.*, 1915, p. 155) has found that phenacetin, paraminophenol, phenocoll, salacetol, protocatechuic acid, arsenomethylpyrocatechin, amylene-chloral, guaiacol, acetylguaiacol, heroin, helmitol, pyramidon, zinc phenolsulphonate, glycerin, and hydrochloric acid, are capable of affording color reactions like those given by strychnine, one of the reactions, Otto's, being the violet color obtained on contact with potassium dichromate and sulphuric acid; and the other, Mandelin's, being the blue-violet color afforded by a solution of ammonium vanadate in sulphuric acid, the color changing to rose-violet, then pink, on allowing to stand or on adding water. The author believes there are probably other substances which act likewise. The only method of avoiding error in toxicological analysis hence, is to separate the strychnine, by means of suitable solvents, in a pure condition.

Obituary

SIDNEY WILLETTE.

Sidney Willette, Ph. G., died at his home in St. Louis, July, 1915, after an extended illness. Mr. Willette was in business at 4201 N. Eleventh street. He was much interested in his work and was building up a fine trade. His classmates join other friends in extend-

ing sympathy to the bereaved relatives. Mr. Willette was a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association.—Meyer Bros. Druggist.



JULIUS KOLSCH

Julius Kolsch, one of the most prominent pharmacists of Colorado, died at Leadville, Col., on July 7, 1915, after a two years' siege of cancer of the throat.

Mr. Kolsch has been actively engaged in pharmacy since February, 1889, and had built up one of the finest retail drug stores in the West. He was a member of the Colorado State Pharmaceutical Association, and of the Masons, Elks and German order of Haurigauri.

A widow and three children survive him, Mrs. Elizabeth Kolsch; Frank A. Kolsch, with Frederick Stearns in Washington, Mrs. C. S. Gray, and Harry Kolsch, to whom the Kolsch Pharmacy in Leadville succeeds.

J. W. E.

Societies

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

The Fifty-first Meeting of the American Chemical Society was held in Seattle, Washington, August 30 to September 3, 1915, inclusive. The registration showed the presence of 106 members and 119 guests.



CHAS. H. HERTY,
President American Chemical
Society

The meeting was opened by an address of welcome by the University of Washington to which response was made by President Herty. A general meeting was then called to order and listened to an address by Leo. H. Baekeland on "Chemical Industry" and a second address by H. K.

Benson on "Industrial Resources and Opportunities of the Pacific Northwest." Following these addresses the Society continued in general session until noon of the following day holding public symposiums.

The Biological Division elected the following officers: Carl L. Alsberg, Chairman; I. K. Phelps, Vice-Chairman and Secretary; Executive Committee: W. D. Bancroft, Chairman; Edward Kremers, D. D. Van Slyke, A. W. Dox, A. D. Emmett.

The Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry elected J. H. Long, Chairman; H. V. Arny, Vice-Chairman; Geo. D. Beal, Secretary; Executive Committee: F. R. Eldred and C. W. Johnson.

RESOLUTIONS

Uniformity in antinarcotic laws was recommended and for the sake of greater definiteness in definition and to avoid inevitable confusion the words *synthetic substitutes*, wherever occurring in certain of the proposed drafts, be omitted, and that the same term where used in the national or so-called Harrison Act be eliminated by proper amendments of the Sections containing it.

It is moved that this resolution be given publicity through the Journal and by publication in *Science*.

The following resolutions, presented by the Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, concerning the so-called "variation clause" of the Federal Food and Drugs Act, were unanimously adopted by the Council:

WHEREAS, it is being proposed to repeal the so-called "variation clause" of the Federal Food and Drug Act of June 30, 1906, and of similar clauses in State Food and Drug Enactments, thereby making the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary the sole and only standards for all products in every case in which a title recognized in the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary is used, and

WHEREAS, the United States Pharmacopœia and National Formulary comprise only standards that are limited and are properly applicable only to drug and chemical products which have been specially prepared for use in pharmacy and medicine, and hence are not satisfactory and sufficient as standards for many non-medical and non-pharmaceutical purposes, such as the many uses in the industries and arts, and

WHEREAS, the insistence upon one invariable standard which might not, under any circumstances, be departed from, requires the unwarranted assumption that such standards are incapable of further improvement and would interfere with a proper freedom of choice by physicians in the selection of medicaments and likewise with the freedom of pharmacists and chemists in the development and introduction of new and superior therapeutic products; therefore,

It is the sense of the members of the Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry of the American Chemical Society that the variation clause is a necessary and proper part of all Federal and State Food and Drug Laws, and that the repeal of said clause would result in great and unnecessary injury to the legitimate interest of pharmacy, medicine, and industries and arts employing chemicals.

The Invitation of the University of Illinois to hold the Spring Meeting of 1916 in Urbana during Easter week was unanimously accepted. The Council voted that time and place of the Fall Meeting for 1916 be left to the President and Secretary with the understanding that as soon as the constitutional limit of one year previous to the date of the meeting had been reached, the President and Secretary would announce New York as the place of the meeting as per previous understanding that the meeting should be held in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A communication from Dr. H. V. Arny, chairman of the Committee on Weights and Measures of the American Pharmaceutical Association, requesting the co-operation of a committee from the American Chemical Society in behalf of a united campaign of education toward the ultimate adoption and use of the metric system of weights and measures in this country, was presented to the Council. The Council voted that the President should appoint a committee of five to co-operate with the committee of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

W. A. Noyes was re-elected editor of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* for 1916 and the old board of associate editors were re-elected with the addition of Dr. John Johnston. E. J. Crane was re-elected editor of *Chemical Abstracts*. M. C. Whitaker was re-elected editor of the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* and the same board of associate editors was re-elected with the addition of Dr. S. F. Acree.

The subject of the address of President Charles Holmes Herty was "Co-operation in Matters Chemical." He emphasized the importance of extended co-operation between schools, universities, organizations, the government, the chemists and spoke for the encouragement of the people of the United States in promoting the chemical industries.

FIRST NATIONAL EXPOSITION OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES.

The First National Exposition of Chemical Industries was held in New York City during the week of September 20. In the following we are abstracting from the *Scientific American*.

The remarkable advance made in the production of chemicals and dyes in the United States during the past twelve months was much in evidence. Not only chemicals and dyes, but also the many requisites of laboratory equipment, heretofore supplied almost exclusively by Germany, were prominently featured.

In a general way the exhibits were divided into three main classes: First, chemicals, ores, metals, dyes, drugs, paints and other manufactured products of similar nature; second, apparatus and equipment for chemical laboratories, and third, machinery and equipment for manufacturing chemists, the treatment of ore and other purposes.

A miniature Rittman process apparatus commanded no little attention, due to the recent introduction of this discovery which came to the rescue of American dye makers at a very critical moment. With this process, gasoline, benzol and toluol are produced.

It was stated that the British Government has recently contracted for the entire output of toluol of the leading American producer for a period of several years. The price paid by the British Government is far beyond that offered—or could possibly be offered—by dye makers. However, it is believed that others will soon be producing the chemical for home consumption.

So it will be appreciated that the exhibits of the dye manufacturers were of particular interest, displaying as they did long rows of containers filled with dyes of varied colors. The American-made chemical products also shared the keen interest of the visitors, since the commercial possibility of successfully replacing German chemicals was considered doubtful by many.

Laboratory glassware and porcelain ware now being manufactured in the United States were exhibited and it is claimed that the domestic products compare favorably with those of German manufacture, although it is admitted that the imported Jena glassware is still superior to any so far produced.

Made-in-America glassware and porcelain ware were shown in abundance.

The exhibit of the Bureau of Standards was most complete, not only in presenting the apparatus used in the laboratories of the Bureau, but also the chemicals, metals and ores recently tested.

The section devoted to weights comprised exhibits of materials used or being considered for use in the construction of weights, as well as the construction of different types of weights. There was also a facsimile of one of the two prototype kilograms of platinum-iridium, which were constructed and certified by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures and allotted to the United States, being brought here by special messenger in 1890.



NEW OFFICERS OF NATIONAL WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS ASSN.

The new officers elected by the National Wholesale Druggists' Association at the Santa Barbara meeting are: President, Charles Gibson, Albany, N. Y., succeeding Chas. A. West; First Vice President, C. F. Michaels, San Francisco, succeeding Wm. J. Mooney;



CHARLES GIBSON	F. E. HOLLIDAY
Albany, N. Y.	New York City
Pres. N. W. D. A.	Sec. N. W. D. A.

Second Vice President, Joseph H. Brown, Little Rock, Ark., succeeding John R. Tague; Third Vice President, Dr. Adolph W. Miller, Philadelphia, succeeding F. E. Bogart; Fourth Vice President, C. A. Faus, Salt Lake City, succeeding John Phinizy; Fifth Vice President, H. R. Moore, Houston, Texas, succeeding John G. Mason; Board of Control: Jas. W. Morrison, Chicago, chairman; Chas. E. Bedwell, Omaha, Nebr.; Geo. R. Merrell, St. Louis, Mo.; L. D. Sale, Los An-

ges, Calif.; Frank C. Groover, Jacksonville, Fla.

Owing to the increasing detail of the treasurer's office, it was decided to elect a New York trust company to take charge of this work but pending completion of arrangements, the present Treasurer, S. E. Strong, Cleveland, Ohio, will be asked to continue in office. Resolutions of thanks to Mr. Strong for his long and valuable services to the association were adopted.

Francis E. Holliday was appointed secretary and Evans E. A. Stone, assistant secretary.

Baltimore was chosen as the next place of meeting.

Proceedings of the Local Branches

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be *plainly* written, or type-written, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter.

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NEW YORK.

President J. Leon Lascoff called a special meeting of the New York Branch, A. Ph. A., for September 20, for the purpose of taking suitable action on the demise of the late President, John Roemer. A sketch of the life of the deceased appeared in the September issue of the JOURNAL.

The services were largely attended. Among the speakers were Dr. George Diekman, J. Leon Lascoff, James M. McCullough, of the Westchester County Pharmaceutical Association, and Dr. Henry T. Kelly, of the Westchester County Medical Association.

The principal address of the evening was made by Dr. H. T. Kelly, who said in part:

"The distinguishing characteristics of the man were his comprehensive knowledge, his broad view, his retentive memory, his dignified independence, and his kindness of

heart. He endeared himself to men in every walk of life, and his death is mourned as a friend and benefactor in many a home in the community in which he lived. His ceaseless industry and brilliant talents plainly indicate the power of his brain and evidence the fact that his knowledge was varied and extensive. There was embodied in his person a combination of rich intellectual gifts rarely to be found in one individual. * * *

"His life was one of continuous toil, and his pleasures were wholly centered in his profession. Several evenings each week a little group of physicians would listen to him inculcate principles founded upon his own original observations, and hear the deductions from his inexhaustible store of pharmaceutical, scientific and philosophical knowledge. The impromptu forum which he conducted in the rear room of his pharmacy will always be one of the most hallowed recollections of my life. It was here that we learned *materia medica*. Infinitely more and better *materia medica* than was ever taught at college. There was an earnestness in his conversation, which seemed to carry the weight of conviction with it, and produced an indelible impression upon the memory. All the pharmacists and physicians who came within his sphere of influence benefited by his teachings. * * *

"In a character so complex and diversified, one may be asked what was the dominant feature, what was the supreme quality, the one characteristic which stamped its impress upon the nature of the man. If I were to characterize his dominant moral and mental trait, I would say it was his love of truth. This, with his intense humanity and high sense of honor seemed to be the qualities which stimulated his mind, his heart, his soul, his whole life, with an energy and devotion which death alone could nullify."

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DETROIT

The Detroit Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association met Friday evening, Sept. 17th, at the Wayne County Medical Society Building.

The meeting was called to order by President W. L. Scoville. The following gentlemen were appointed to the Membership Committee: F. F. Ingram, Jr., Chairman; E. R. Jones, C. A. Weaver, D. E. Perrin, Grant Stevens.

Mr. W. A. Hall gave a short talk on a method for estimating quickly the amount per dram of any drug in an N. F. or U. S. P. formula, the volume of which is one litre. The scheme is, add one seventh to the amount of the ingredients and divide by twenty.

The paper of the evening was by Mr. W. L. Scoville on Formaldehyzed Capsules. Mr.