

EDITORIAL NOTES

Editor: E. G. EBERLE, Bourse Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Committee on Publication: J. W. ENGLAND, *Chairman*; G. M. BERINGER, CASWELL A. MAYO, H. B. MASON, J. H. BEAL, and the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, General Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter on the Progress of Pharmacy, *ex-officio*.

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PROF. C. LEWIS DIEHL AND FAMILY IN A TRAIN WRECK.

Prof. C. Lewis Diehl and family were on the Pennsylvania train wrecked at King's Mills, September 30. A general account of this unfortunate accident will, doubtless, have been noticed in the daily papers, but possibly the members are not advised of the fact that Professor and Mrs. Diehl were on this train, and also Prof. J. U. Lloyd. We understand that Professor Lloyd was not injured and that he was able to assist in giving first aid to the injured. Professor Diehl, who is now in his seventy-seventh year, was knocked about and received bruises. In his letter, Professor Diehl says that the disaster was one of the most appalling that he had ever witnessed or experienced. For some time after the fall and shock of it he was unable to move his right leg freely. The muscles seemed cramped, due very likely to the straining of some of the ligaments. Mrs. Diehl was hurt only very slightly and both were able to get out of the car unassisted. Professor Diehl does not say whether he has fully recovered, but we are certain that all of the members of the Association sincerely hope so.

FROM COAST TO COAST

Seward W. Williams, of Chicago, prepared a booklet entitled "From Coast to Coast," commemorating the visit of the American Pharmaceutical Association to San Francisco last year, and brought the interesting story to bear on the recent convention in Atlantic City. While largely concerned with the San Francisco meeting and the trip, Mr. Williams did not forget that, in bringing these memories of last year to the attention of 5000 or more druggists, he might persuade some non-members to come to Atlantic City, and

therefore inserted an A.Ph.A. Membership Application Blank for their convenience; he also gave them reasons why they should hold membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association, and told of the aims and purposes of the organization and its work. The other part of the message includes several appreciations, from Prof. Jos. P. Remington, John F. Patton and others; sketches and other contributions by Messrs. Alpers, Mayo, Day and Cousins, and an explanation of how the "Seaward" booklet had its inception. The subject of Dr. Wm. C. Alpers relates to "Meeting Old Friends," that of Editor C. A. Mayo speaks from "Sandy Hook to the Golden Gate," Prof. Wm. B. Day of "Comradeship," and Editor W. H. Cousins talks about everyone, including himself, while giving *some* of his impressions of the journey.

Really the thought of getting out the booklet was a happy one, the production fine and the spirit which actuated the purpose highly commendable and deserving of recognition.

The Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association expressed their appreciation in a letter signed by all in attendance, at a recent Round Table gathering.

PAPER PULP POSSIBILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The growing scarcity of materials for the manufacture of paper is of sufficient interest to note sources of possible supply in the JOURNAL. *Commerce Reports* has recently reported on such sources and among these those of the Philippine Islands seem of particular interest. The information given is from a report of J. F. Boomer, Manila, under date of August 30. The most promising source is the bamboo, *Cana bojo*, which is easily propagated. With *Cana bojo* the soda process invariably yields from 43 to 45 per-

cent of air-dry, unbleached soda pulp. Such pulp bleaches to a splendid white with from 12 to 15 percent of bleaching powder. The fiber is strong, of good felting capacity, and makes a more bulky sheet than wood pulp. The fiber possesses the requisite length, strength, and felting capacity to meet the paper makers' demands, and the quantity of resistant cellulose per unit weight of raw material is sufficient to warrant its extraction.

An area of 1000 hectares of bamboo would supply a pulp mill of 20 tons daily capacity for 3 years of 300 working days each, without taking into account the growth of the bamboo during this period. Working on a 3-year rotation basis, which is entirely feasible, such an area would supply a mill of this capacity indefinitely. Since an area of 2 kilometers' radius contains more than 1200 hectares, the question of transportation of the material to a given point, so far as the distance for hauling is concerned, is not a serious one.

The Philippine Bureau of Science has estimated the cost of manufacture of pulp from *Cana bojo*, dividing such cost into the items of (1) labor, (2) fuel, power, etc., (3) chemicals and supplies, (4) repairs, renewals, and depreciation, (5) taxes, insurance and interest. All of these items have been discussed in detail in the *Philippine Journal of Science*. The article quoted shows that \$200,000, United States currency, should be sufficient to build, equip, and operate a soda pulp mill of 20 tons daily capacity. Such a plant, built in a modern manner and efficiently operated, will produce unbleached, air-dried bamboo fiber at a minimum cost of \$21 per short ton f.o.b. Manila. If the excellent quality of *Cana bojo* soda pulp prepared under favorable conditions is considered a profitable trade with Japan, Australia, and the Pacific Coast of North America in direct competition, chemical wood pulp at ordinary quotations appears a reasonable expectation. One consideration of special importance is the possibility of obtaining the raw material in such quantity and at such a figure as to allow manufacture at a profit even under conditions of maximum cost.

IMPORTATION OF INFERIOR FOOD-STUFFS INTO PANAMA.

To the Editor of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION: I

am enclosing herewith a translation of a report by me and published some time ago in *La Estrella de Panama*, which shows some of the conditions we have to contend against in the Republic of Panama.

To inform the readers of the Association, I deem it convenient to beg of you the publication of the said translation in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Thanking you in advance for this favor, and promising applications of some new members to be enrolled soon, from Panama,

I remain, dear friend,

Sincerely yours,

BOLIVAR JURADO.

"More than once have we given a word of warning to our countrymen in regard to the great need of prevention against the acceptance of imported adulterated foodstuffs for our daily use. Before the assembling of our Legislative Body and its last regular sessions, we pointed out our need of providing legal regulations on the important topic that we now discuss. We published, besides, in connection with this subject, a few articles in the *Revista de Instruccion Publica* (Educational Review) because we believe that the true teachers, those who read and are up to the standard, by their teaching on 'Prevention' would sow a seed of great transcendence for the future generations. We must admit also, that our governments have done nothing in the way of using their influence towards the betterment of those abnormal conditions that arise in a country where illegal commerce is carried on greatly against our individual safety.

"Owing to an alarming lack of value and to the poverty of foods most essential to human economy, imported to the Panama market, we consider it our duty to denounce before the public certain facts that would demand greater attention in countries where more care is taken in order to safeguard the interests of the people.

"One of our greatest mistakes consists in our lack of legal regulations to prevent the importation of spurious products into our country. Once these products have been imported, it would seem unjust to proceed (with the little energy allowed by the municipal laws in force here in Panama City) to the prosecution of merchants who are con-

ducting their business honestly in the belief that they are buying a certain article when they are receiving instead a worthless product for their money.

"The time has come for us to let dishonest manufacturers know that in our land we can differentiate between the good and bad stuffs they send us. It is true that some of them place on their goods labels like the ones used on some milks, expressing their quality, by using the words 'skimmed milk,' written in a foreign language. The buyer is not aware of the fact that it can be translated into these words: 'milk from which the principal nutritive ingredient has been taken away.' In case the buyer may understand the language in which are written words like these: 'Prepared expressly for Export,' he probably is not aware of the fact that the real meaning may be 'Little care in the Preparation.' Anyone might think, on the contrary, that the label indicates special care taken, that the product may reach us in perfect condition. Let the public know once for all that articles thus marked may be classified among those that the law forbids to be sold under such label statements in other countries. Some

labels—as that on a well-known brand of Swiss Condensed Milk, for instance—states that the product is pure and that 'nothing but water is taken from it.' On examination, some of the samples of that same milk show that they did not contain any appreciable amount of milk fat, and we do not believe, on the other hand, the product to be obtained from any special kind of cows that produce ready skimmed milk.

"The Municipality of Panama has done a good deal in the way of 'prevention' against such methods, but, for the general good of our country, there is a great deal more to be done.

"The legal regulations to which we refer—either local or national—must, of course, conform with the true spirit of justice corresponding to each and every case. For this reason we believe there should be some provision to the end of avoiding, by means of scientific supervision, the importation into our country of such articles as are making the little Republic of Panama the valve through which flows the great bulk of spurious food products *not salable at all in the civilized countries of the world.*

OBITUARY

GEORGE C. BARTELLS.

George C. Bartells, life member of the American Pharmaceutical Association and first vice-president in 1897-1898, died at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 10. Mr. Bartells had arrived on a visit to his son Charles W. Bartells, only two days before his death. The deceased was a familiar figure at the meetings of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association, of which he was treasurer from 1898 to 1912. Upon his refusal to accept re-election in 1912, the members of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association elected him to honorary membership in recognition of their appreciation of his long and faithful service. Mr. Bartells was a civil war veteran, a man of fine qualities and successful as a pharmacist of the old school. For many years he was active in the American Pharmaceutical Association, and a regular attendant at the annual meetings. He joined the Association in 1881.

Mr. Wilhelm Bodemann, in writing relative to the deceased, says that he was born in the Province of Hannover, Germany, July 1, 1841. At the age of twelve years his family came to the United States and settled in Wheeling, West Virginia. In 1855 he came to Illinois, where he was apprenticed to Dr. H. A. Rogers, of Quincy. He was a member of the Fiftieth Illinois Volunteers, and his experience in the drug store resulted in his appointment as nurse and dispenser. Since 1870 he was in business at Camp Point, Ill. Mr. Bartells was a three-fold veteran—a veteran of the Civil War; a veteran treasurer of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association, and last, but not least, a member of the Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association. A lovable character—honest to the limit, fearless in his convictions, loyal as a friend, and one of God's noblemen, and that ranks above any degree of nobility of effete monarchies.