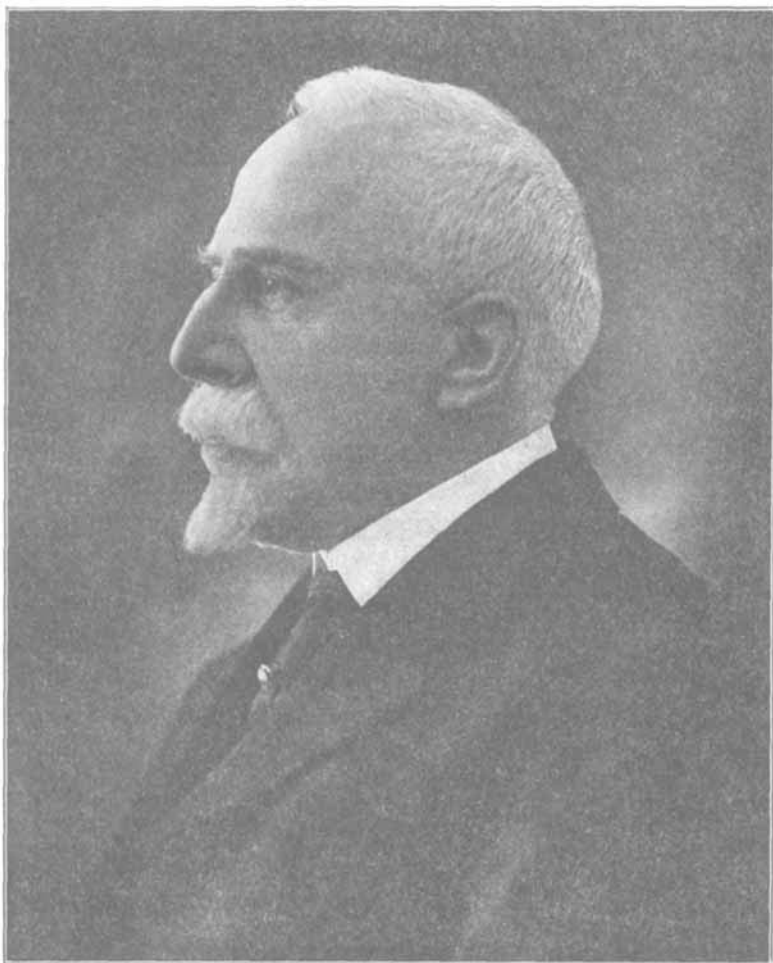


**CHARLES CASPARI, JR.**

**BALTIMORE, MD.**

**Permanent Secretary of the American Pharmaceutical Association, 1894–1896 and  
General Secretary, 1896–1911**



CHARLES CASPARI, JR.

# JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. VI

OCTOBER, 1917

NO. 10

## CHARLES CASPARI, JR.

Charles Caspari, Jr., is of direct German descent for several hundred years back. His father, Charles Caspari, was born at Hanover, Germany, in 1813 and studied pharmacy, *materia medica* and chemistry, under Woehler at the University of Goettingen in 1835 to 1837. He conducted a pharmacy in Germany and was one of those who emigrated to this country in 1848 on account of political reasons. He came directly to Baltimore and established there the first German pharmacy, which he continued to operate until his death in 1870, when Charles Caspari, Jr., had not yet been married. The senior Caspari joined the American Pharmaceutical Association at the Baltimore meeting in 1856 and his signature appears in the old copy of the constitution of the Association.

The subject of this sketch was born in Baltimore, Md., on May 31, 1850 and has lived there continuously ever since. His liberal education was received in private schools and was considered complete when he had reached the age of fifteen years. It is rather significant that at that age he was thoroughly familiar with English, French, German, Latin and Greek as well as with Mathematics and that in this he was no exception, while today there is a feeling extant in the educational circles of this country that children have been pushed too rapidly at school and as a matter of fact, it is refreshing to find a young man of twenty who speaks English correctly, to say nothing of other linguistic accomplishments. In 1865, he first entered the drug business as apprentice to Sharp and Dohme in their retail store at the munificent salary of seventy-five dollars a year. In 1869, he graduated from the Maryland College of Pharmacy and, after the death of his father in 1870, he went into the retail drug business for himself and remained in it until 1891, when he disposed of his last drug store. During the year 1876 to 1877 he traveled for Sharp and Dohme going as far west as Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1879, he was appointed to the chair of Pharmacy in the Maryland College of Pharmacy, a position which he has filled continuously to date. In 1883, he joined the American Pharmaceutical Association and in 1894, after the death of Professor Maisch, was made its secretary, a position which he retained until 1911, when he resigned. In July 1910, he was requested to accept the Food and Drug Commissionership of Maryland, an office which he still fills. From 1915 to 1917 he lectured on Pharmacy at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School, but, on account of ill health, he has been compelled to give up this work. He has served on the Revision Committee of the United States Pharmacopoeia during two revisions and also on the committee on National Formulary. Among all his other duties, he has found time to write a text-book on Pharmacy, at present in its fifth edition and also to act as one of the editors of the National Standard Dispensatory.

Charles Caspari, Jr., married, in 1874, Miss Leslie V. Heinichen and this union

has been blessed with seven children, five daughters and two sons, all of whom are living, with the exception of one daughter who passed away in early childhood. Four of his children are married and he is the proud possessor of nine grandchildren.

Few men have worked harder during their lives than has Charles Caspari, Jr., nor more conscientiously and with less thought for personal gain. Work itself has been the motif of his life and in no sense has it been the material reward which work may bring. He has dignified work and, if genius consists in an infinite capacity for doing work, then he is a genius. He has always been a fiend for work and enforced idleness has always made him unhappy. He abhors all forms of chicanery and charlatanism and always hews close to the line regardless of where the chips may fall. He has always had an abiding faith in the progress of Pharmacy and his life work has been devoted to his chosen calling. He is extremely unassuming and modest and, probably on that account, has hosts of friends.

He is particularly impartial in the administration of his office as Food and Drug Commissioner of Maryland, and it is hoped that he may be spared for many years to continue his good work and to serve as an example to be emulated.

E. G. E.

#### PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH—WINTER MEETINGS.

President Frederick J. Wulling's address, which appeared in September number, pp. 778-791, was printed from a pre-convention copy from which the paragraphs following were omitted. He introduced these subjects of his address immediately preceding the discussion of Pharmacy in the Army and Navy, and they should be there included.

*Research.*—American pharmacy is not doing the creditable grade of research work that it is capable of doing. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that many of those pharmacists who are most capable of prosecuting original work are engrossed with other work. The comparatively few doing such work are doing so out of their own resources. Research work has, therefore, been a secondary consideration in a very large measure. This is lamentable, but under the circumstances quite natural. The remedy, as I see it, is to make provision for carrying on research work in a systematic way under such auspices and conditions as will afford the employment of the full time and energy of a number of men capable of doing this kind of responsible work. Research with such would not be secondary but primary. Since American pharmacists themselves do not, as a class, carry on research work and since such work is absolutely necessary for the advancement of the profession, they should be and no doubt are willing to pay specialists to do this very necessary thing for them. An endowment naturally suggests itself, and I strongly recommend that the Association create a pharmaceutical research endowment fund to which contributions should issue not only from Association members but from American pharmacy at large.

*Winter Meetings.*—The experience of many other associations has proven that meetings held during other than the summer months are more successful than those held during the hot season of the year. During the summer we all are more or less clothed with the holiday spirit and heavy responsible work is never done so well while one is on a quasi-holiday. Traveling and hotel accommodations are usually not as good in the summer time as at other times of the year. Formerly transportation was lower in summer. This is no longer the case. Summer meetings, if held at all, ought to be held away from large cities, because, naturally, the large cities are hot and uncomfortable in the summer time. The alternative is to hold the summer meetings at summer resorts. Rates usually are high there and accommodations relatively poor.

I recommend that the Association consider the advisability of holding meetings not necessarily in the mid-winter, but at some period other than during the summer.