

EDITORIAL NOTES

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Office of Publication, 253 Bourse Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

LEGISLATION.

The Pennsylvania Anti-Narcotic Bill has been passed by the legislature and it is said will unquestionably be signed by the Governor. The bill prohibits the possession, control, dealing in, giving away, delivery, dispensing, administering, prescribing and use, except under a few exceptions, of any narcotic drug. Penalties for violation are high and the bill requires physicians, dentists and veterinarians to keep records of all prescriptions containing narcotic drugs and prohibits them from prescribing for addicts except under the direction of the State Department of Health. Violations are punishable by fines of \$1000 and licenses are suspended or revoked. Trafficking in narcotics is subject to a fine of \$5000 or five years' imprisonment, or both.

Owing to the delay in furnishing the drug trade with triplicate form official order blanks, the new New York Anti-Narcotic Act, which was to have gone into effect July 1, was not enforced until July 10.

The new Illinois Supervision Plan went into effect July 1 and abolishes all boards and commissions in the State of Illinois that now examine applicants and issue certificates of vocational competency. The powers and duties that have been vested in these boards and commissions will pass to the Department of Registration and Education. The Illinois Board of Pharmacy will be succeeded by a Committee of Pharmacy Examiners, acting under the direction of the new department. Illinois, Iowa, Oregon and North Carolina have been added to the States with prerequisite laws.

A New York law prohibits the advertising, etc., of preparations for venereal disease, etc. The law covers advertising not only in newspapers and by pamphlets, but also every other means of publicity.

The Pennsylvania Board of Pharmacy is at present waiving the age requirement for candidates, assuming that a large number of young pharmacists will be drafted for the Army.

Evidently the department stores are feeling the burden of the delivery system, at any rate

there seems to be under contemplation a provision for handling packages of stores by the parcel post department. Postmaster-General Burleson has stated that this matter would be given consideration. It seems to be a timely proposition for druggists to consider. The Commercial Economy Board of the Council of National Defense has started a campaign "to educate people to carry home their own bundles."

The Post Office Department has defined intoxicating liquors within the meaning of the law forbidding the mailing of liquor advertisements into dry territory, as any drink-containing alcohol. The Department also has ruled that the prohibition against advertisements applies to liquor for scientific, sacramental, medicinal, and chemical purposes. This is very apt to give rise to a great many inconveniences in securing alcohol for manufacturing purposes. The Post Office Department has made no statement as to how the law prohibiting liquor advertisements will affect patent medicines. Undoubtedly the question that will govern is whether the medicine is used as a substitute for intoxicating liquors. The Department has issued "Liquor Bulletin No. 2," showing the territory to which it is unlawful to transmit through the mails matter containing advertisements or solicitations for orders for intoxicating liquor. Following are the states wholly affected by the act:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and West Virginia.

Those partially affected are California, Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio and Texas.

The following are affected at future dates:

Alaska, January 1, 1918; Indiana, April 3, 1918; Michigan, April 30, 1918; Montana, December 31, 1918; and Utah, August 1, 1917.

At the time of this writing it is stated, that by the report of the Senate Committee all Spanish War stamps will be virtually reimposed under the Revenue Bill. The committee has also added a new tax of one cent each on bank checks from five dollars up. It is said that the taxes on patent medicines, perfumery, cosmetics and soft drinks had been greatly reduced.

PHARMACY AND THE WAR, AND OTHER ITEMS.

The following resolutions were presented by Dr. Robert A. Hatcher at the recent annual meeting of the American Medical Association, and received favorable action by the House of Delegates:

"The pharmaceutical service in the Army is unsatisfactory because it is not on a modern basis; there is no pharmaceutical corps devoted to the prosecutions of pharmaceutical duties; pharmacists are compelled to enlist as privates without the hope of promotion to commissioned rank as in the dental and veterinary corps. A professionally trained pharmaceutical corps could be made invaluable to the medical corps as assistants both in the field and in hospitals. We earnestly urge the War Department to establish by Congressional enactment a pharmaceutical corps with definite military standing and responsibilities."

An association of senior medical men in Philadelphia was organized last month, and pharmacists were invited to organize and participate with them in matters of mutual interest for War Service. Since then, the Surgeon-General has indicated that the services of medical men beyond the age of enlistment would be acceptable under certain restrictions, thus doing away in part with the purposes for which this association was organized.

The pharmacists of Philadelphia have organized a Pharmaceutical Military Association, the object being to cooperate with the Association of Senior Medical Men for war service, and also, and more particularly, to secure better recognition for pharmacy and pharmacists by the government. George M. Beringer is chairman of the Association, and Robert P. Fischelis is the secretary. It is hoped to outline a plan of systematic action for the aims of the organization and have these activities extended to every state.

The Drug Trade Recruiting Rally of New York City met at 82 Fulton street, June 25th.

There was music by the Forty-seventh Regiment Band and snappy talks by Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, chairman, Arthur L. Marvin and Caswell A. Mayo. Dr. Schieffelin, who is a veteran of the Spanish-American War, instanced the changes for the better that have been effected since that conflict, and advised his hearers to enlist in a regiment in which their friends had enrolled.

Honorary President, Geo. H. Schafer, writes commending the editorial of June issue, "The Urgent Need of a Pharmaceutical Corps in the U. S. Army," and states that if his slowly-recovering health will permit, he desires to assist Chairman Hilton and others when the draft of such a bill is ready for presentation to members of Congress. He believes that pharmacy should have recognition on the Advisory Council to the Committee on National Defense.

Senator Owens has proposed an amendment to Senate Bill 1786, which provides for the same rank to medical men in the Army, as in the Navy. Perfectly just, but when will any recognition be given to pharmacists?

Dr. Arthur Dean Bevan, President-elect of the American Medical Association, is credited with a large part of the work undertaken by the A. M. A. in the furtherance of higher medical standards. He has been chairman of the Council on Medical Education since its organization in 1904.

The sixty-seventh annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was held during the week of May 16. The subjects under discussion related largely to conditions brought about by the war and affecting pharmacy and pharmacists.

British pharmacists have many things in common with us, even to the extent of having the government withhold proper recognition of the services of pharmacy and refusing deserved rank to those who serve in this very important department of medical service. Notwithstanding the present conditions, the attendance was gratifying and also the accession to the membership. All the officers of last year were re-elected.

The Philadelphia Association of Retail Druggists have provided by resolution that druggists who may be drawn for service will have their business conducted under the auspices of this association during their enforced absence, should they desire to avail themselves of this assistance.

Thomas H. Potts, after nine years of ser-

vice as secretary of the National Association of Retail Druggists, has resigned this important position to accept the office of vice-president in the Great American Chemical Products Company, with headquarters in Chicago. Undoubtedly some one will be found to carry on the good work of Secretary Potts. His successor will follow a very efficient and esteemed official.

Dr. H. H. Rusby, ex-President of the American Pharmaceutical Association, has sailed for Colombia. The original plans for his trip, which was delayed on account of his recent illness, have been somewhat modified. They contemplated a scientific investigation of the Magdalena River valley, the crossing of the Andes, and the botanical exploration of the headwaters of the Orinoco River in search of new and known varieties of medicinal plants and botanical drugs which can be utilized to increase the supply of such drug sources in the present time of need.

Dr. Rusby hopes to return prior to the 1st of October.

The Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association last month celebrated Jamieson day (June 21),

and also the 71st birthday of Wilhelm Bode-mann. The occasion was, as usual, a happy event and a number of out-of-town members and visitors assembled with the Chicago fraters around the carnation-decked banquet table.

The Department of Pharmacy of Oregon Agricultural College at Corvallis has been elevated to the rank of a school by the board of reagents of the college. Prof. Adolph Zieffle, for some time connected with the institution, has been named as dean. Professor Zieffle is at present an instructor in the Summer Session of the College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan.

A CORRECTION IN THE ARTICLE BY DR. A. B. LYONS ON THE "DETERMINATION OF ALCOHOL AND WATER IN OFFICIAL ETHER."

Dr. A. B. Lyons writes that in the formula published in the June issue, page 554, the expressions Dif. and Dif.' were exchanged. The formula should read:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Dif.} \times 185.5 &= \text{Volume percent of water.} \\ \text{Dif.'} \times 895 &= \text{Volume percent of alcohol.} \end{aligned}$$

OBITUARY.

PETER MACEWAN.

Peter MacEwan, for many years the editor of the *Chemist and Druggist* (England), died at his home in London, May 16, at the age of sixty. Mr. MacEwan visited in this country in 1893 and was in attendance at the Chicago meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Few, if any, English pharmacists are or were better known in this country than the deceased.

Mr. MacEwan joined the editorial staff of the *Chemist and Druggist* in 1885, under the late Mr. Wootton, upon the retirement of whom, in 1899, he became editor-in-chief, a post which he filled with distinction and success, until the time of his death. Mr. MacEwan, in addition to his editorial labors, was the author of a long list of scientific papers on pharmaceutical subjects and of several standard works of world-wide currency in the sphere of pharmacy, the most important of these being "The Art of Dispensing," first published in 1888, and "Pharmaceutical Formulas," in 1898, both of which have passed through many editions.



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