

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 Ziefle, for some time connected with the institution, has been named as dean. Professor Ziefle 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:

Dif.  $\times$  185.5 = Volume percent of water.

Dif.'  $\times$  895 = Volume percent of alcohol.

## OBITUARY.

### PETER MACÉWAN.

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.



PETER MACÉWAN, PH.C., F.C.S.

## ALOIS VON ISAKOVICS.

Alois von Isakovics died at his home in Monticello, N. Y., June 5. He was born at Prag, July 21, 1870, the son of a Judge Advocate General of the Austrian Army.



ALOIS VON ISAKOVICS.

In 1886, soon after completing a course in chemistry at the University of Vienna, Mr. von Isakovics came to the United States and located in New York City, where he, in 1889, started the business in which he continued until his demise. In 1902, the Synfleur

Scientific Laboratories were moved to Monticello.

The chapter on Essential Oils, Synthetic Perfume and Flavoring Materials in Dr. Allen Rogers' work, "Industrial Chemistry," was contributed by Mr. von Isakovics. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1905 and also held membership in quite a number of related associations and societies. His wife and four children survive the deceased.

## ROBERT KNIGHT SMITHER.

R. K. Smither, of Buffalo, N. Y., president of the National Association of Retail Druggists in 1902, died at his home, May 27th, in his sixty-sixth year.

Mr. Smither was deeply interested in association work. He served as president of the New York State Pharmaceutical Association from 1896 to 1898. In Erie county, N. Y., his activities made him president of the local association and curator of the Buffalo College of Pharmacy. He was one of the framers of the first pharmacy law of New York, and organized the Erie County Board of Pharmacy, serving as its president in 1884.

## WHEN THE WAR IS OVER

15,000 doctors will be released from Army service and will return home to—the panel system; which is closed to most of them, and is already resented by a large number of the doctors serving under it. And some three millions of soldiers, many of them shattered by wounds or disease or nerve-shock, and many more infected by diseases against which our home defence is precarious or non-existent, will also return to civil life. What will be the result on the public health, and on our medical service? Constructive statesmen are anxiously forecasting the future and devising sweeping changes. It is proposed, for instance, to transform the Local Government Board into a Ministry of Health, and a Ministry of Health of some kind we shall surely have. It is proposed, too, that the panel system, with its capitation-fees, should give place to a salaried medical service; and it is a postulate of all the schemes of which I have heard that the present arrangement should be "overhauled," and a new settlement with practitioners be arranged. It is equally noteworthy that in none of these schemes are pharmacy and pharmacists so much as mentioned. Other "vested interests" are considered, but ours are ignored. The doctors, we may suppose, will be able to look after themselves, and we must do the same to the best of our ability. I commend the subject to the consideration of the Council that meets after the election. The crisis impending dwarfs all our domestic difficulties, and we must prepare to meet it.—A correspondent in *Chemist and Druggist*.