

**JULIUS OTTO SCHLOTTERBECK, Ph.C., Ph.D.**

1865 - 1917

**President of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties 1910 - 1912**

---

“Ability, loyalty, faith and vision were the outstanding traits of Dr. Schlotterbeck’s character. These he defined in his daily work, he lived them and inspired others to live them. Through his loyalty, vision and ability he made better men and women—and better pharmacists by his faith in man and in pharmacy.”



J. O. SCHLOTTERBECK

# JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. VI

JULY, 1917

NO. 7

## J. O. SCHLOTTERBECK.

Julius O. Schlotterbeck was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on September 1, 1865. Both his parents were Germans. He received his primary education in the grade schools of Ann Arbor and for several years worked in John Moore's drug store on Huron Street.

In 1885 Mr. Schlotterbeck entered the School of Pharmacy of the University from which he graduated in 1887, receiving the degree of Pharmaceutical Chemist—the only degree that was given at that time. During 1887–1888 he was in charge of the Eagle Pharmacy, 1924 Carson Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. In the Fall of 1888 he returned to the University of Michigan as Assistant in Pharmacy and in charge of Pharmacognosy, at the same time pursuing studies in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts from which he graduated in 1891, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in Chemistry.

From 1892 to 1895 he was instructor in Pharmacognosy and Botany. The following year he studied at the University of Berne, Switzerland, where he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The major portion of his work here was under Professor A. Tschirch, who recognized his unusual ability. The friendship thus formed continued to the end. On returning to Ann Arbor in 1896, he was made Assistant Professor of Pharmacognosy; he was advanced to the rank of Junior Professor in 1904, and, on the death of Dr. Prescott in 1905, was made Dean of the College of Pharmacy. He was granted a leave of absence for two years, from October 1, 1912 to October 1, 1914, to establish an experimental laboratory for the J. Hungerford Smith Company, Rochester, N. Y. After returning to the University he retained his connection with the above firm in an advisory capacity.

Last September, while attending a meeting in New York, Dr. Schlotterbeck was taken with severe pain which was relieved. But early in December he had a second attack and was taken to the hospital where he remained only a few days. He then stated that with proper food no further trouble was expected. However, early in January it was necessary for him to go to the hospital again. After several weeks he was taken home where he gradually failed until the end came, June 1.

Dr. Schlotterbeck was deeply interested in everything pertaining to the elevation of pharmacy and was, I believe, one of the best teachers of Pharmacognosy in this country. The College of Pharmacy and also pharmaceutical education has lost a valuable teacher whose place it will be hard to fill. He was Secretary of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties from 1904 to 1908, and President of the same in 1910–11 and 1911–12; member of the present Committee

for the revision of the U. S. P.; Chairman of the Scientific Section of the A. Ph. A. 1902-3; Third Vice-President; member of the Executive Committee and Chairman of Research Committee of the Flavoring Extract Manufacturers' Association.

Dr. Schlotterbeck was especially qualified for research work and has published many papers giving the results of his investigations, two of which received the Ebert prize. A complete list of his publications may be found in the "History of the Chemical Laboratory of the University of Michigan," by Edward D. Campbell.

On August 11, 1898, Dr. Schlotterbeck was married to Eda May Clark, B.L. '91, B.S. '97, of Ann Arbor, who has been a most devoted wife. He has left three children, Prescott Golder, a freshman in the University; Miriam Arda, in the high school; and Karl Theodore, eleven.

A. B. STEVENS.

To the Editor, JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION:

Permit me to call attention to an error in the title, and therefore also in the text, of a paper contributed by Mr. C. Verne Nichols to the June, 1917, number of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION (pp. 540-542). The paper in question is entitled, "Effect of the rays of the sun upon the formation of amygdalin in wild cherry bark," and the inaccuracy of statement to which it seems desirable that attention should be directed consists in the fact that wild cherry bark does not contain amygdalin. It was shown quite conclusively several years ago by Power and Moore (*Jour. Chem. Soc.*, London, 1909, 95, pp. 243-261), that the cyanogenetic constituent of the respective bark is laevo-mandelonitrile glucoside,  $C_{14}H_{17}O_6N$ , a compound which was first obtained by Emil Fischer in 1895 by the partial hydrolysis of amygdalin:  $C_{20}H_{27}O_{11}N + H_2O = C_{14}H_{17}O_6N + C_6H_{12}O_6$ . Its occurrence in nature was first observed by Hérissey, who, in 1907, obtained it from the young twigs of *Prunus Padus* Linné, and in 1909, as above noted, it was isolated in a pure crystalline state from the bark of *Prunus serotina* Ehrhart. The same compound was subsequently shown to be contained in the leaves of *Prunus serotina*, and it is an interesting biological fact that the occurrence of amygdalin appears to be restricted to the seed of the plant, as notably in the case of the bitter almond. The racemic form of mandelonitrile glucoside was obtained by Hérissey in 1905 from the leaves of the cherry-laurel (*Prunus Lauro-cerasus* Linné), and was termed "prulaurasin," whereas the dextro form, designated as "sambunigrin," was isolated by Bourquelot and Danjou in 1905 from the leaves of the common black elder (*Sambucus nigra* Linné). It follows from the above mentioned facts that the amounts of hydrocyanic acid obtained by Mr. C. Verne Nichols from wild cherry bark should be computed for a compound of the composition  $C_{14}H_{17}O_6N$ , and not for amygdalin.

It is to be regretted that the investigations which have here been noted do not appear as yet to have received consideration in the principal American works of reference on such subjects, and they are therefore likely to be overlooked by those to whom the periodical chemical literature may not be available.

FREDERICK B. POWER.

BUREAU OF CHEMISTRY,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.