

EDITORIAL NOTES

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HEARING ON THE EDMONDS BILL.

We have been advised by Congressman George W. Edmonds that a hearing would be had on the Edmonds Bill next Tuesday, March 19th, at 10.30 A.M. It is to be hoped that the result of this hearing will prove entirely satisfactory, although it must be admitted that from certain sources there is opposition, which possibly may be overcome, or not of sufficient strength to impede action on this much-needed measure.

FAIRCHILD SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION TO BE HELD JUNE 25, 1918.

THE AWARD THIS YEAR TO BE MADE TO A GRADUATE PHARMACIST.

The Fairchild Scholarship Committee has named June 25, 1918, as the date for holding the Fairchild Scholarship Examinations. The award this year is to be made to a graduate pharmacist. It is the desire to determine how the award of the Fairchild Scholarship can serve to the greatest advantage of pharmacy and when this has been determined the Scholarship will be awarded each year on that basis. Schools of pharmacy are asked to make the announcement in the class-rooms and through other means of publicity. The Scholarship is to be awarded to a student of one of the Conference schools.

RECONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS.

A DRUG TRADE COUNCIL.

It is very evident that the thought of federation of various drug industries is a topic of discussion not only in this country but also in Great Britain. Reference has heretofore been made editorially relative to the address of President C. A. Hill, of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, in which he outlines a plan of federation and this subject is discussed in the *Chemist and Druggist* for February 2, 1918, on pages 43 and 44, and is quoted in full:

"There exists at the present time no one body which can speak with authority for the whole of the (British) drug trade. There are

times, however, when it is desirable that some representative body should be able to place the views of the drug trade as a whole before Government Departments or when such a body should be available to be consulted by the Government when any step in legislation affecting the drug trade is being taken. The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland may be taken to represent retail chemists; the Drug Club, wholesale druggists; the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, a section of the makers of proprietary articles; the Pharmaceutical Committees (imperfectly federated in the Local Associations Executive) and the General Council of Panel Chemists (Scotland), the interests of panel chemists; the British Pharmaceutical Conference, the scientific side of the drug trade; the Society of Chemist-Opticians and Chemists' Dental Society, those sections of the trade interested in optics and dental work; the Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association, those dispensing in public institutions; the Chemists' Assistants' Association, the interests of assistants; and over 200 Associations, some of which are federated, local interests. No one of these bodies can, however, give an authoritative opinion on a matter affecting the whole trade.

There have been occasions when such an opinion was required, and there will be many in the near future. As an example may be quoted the difficulties that arose in regard to the proposals for the abatement of duty on medical spirits where the medical men's and dispensers' views only were placed before Parliament with the consequence that the effect had to be modified afterwards by inter-Departmental conferences.

Mr. C. A. Hill, the President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, in his address at the July meeting last year emphasized the need of what he designated a Public Policy Committee which could coördinate, and amalgamate the views of the craft as a whole. It will be remembered also that in what is known as the Whitley Report of the Sub-

Committee on the relations between employers and employed the formation was urged of Joint Standing Industrial Councils representing each trade. Among the questions which it is proposed that these Councils should undertake are those of technical education and training, industrial research, and the consideration of legislation affecting the industry. There has recently been instituted an Industrial Reconstruction Council for the purpose of assisting trades to form the representative bodies referred to, so that it may be taken that the Government is in earnest in this matter. We know that the need has already been felt for a representative body which can be called in for consultation. We hazard the opinion also that the absence of such a Council in the past is perhaps one of the reasons why the Government appears constantly to disregard the views of any one of the Societies representing sections of the drug trade. The difficulty arises at once that the Pharmaceutical Society, which has been provided with a handsome income by the State, takes a narrow view of its responsibilities and is extremely jealous of any other body which may appear to encroach on its preserves. But for these characteristics the matter would have been easy of accomplishment. As it is, it is not unlikely that the Ministry of Reconstruction will require to take in hand the organization of the drug trade. It would be much better, however, if the initiative came from within. The starting point is the formation of a real Federation of Local Associations and of Pharmaceutical Committees. Some parts of the country are already federated areas of Local Associations and a reconstituted so-called Local Associations Executive Committee could be made really to represent the Pharmaceutical Committees from which it draws the money which pays the Committee's expenses. These bodies and the Pharmaceutical Societies would appoint members representing retail chemists to the Drug-trade Council and the wholesale druggists represented in the Drug Club and the Association of Wholesale Druggists could arrange delegates to represent their section. The Whitley Report to which we have referred is largely concerned about the relations between employers and employed, and for this reason the various Chemists' Assistants' Associations would need federating and representing on the Trade Council.

We understand that the Industrial Reconstruction Council is willing to assist in bring-

ing together the different elements of a trade and to arrange a meeting. There will in the near future be many problems for the Trade Councils to solve, and those trades will suffer which are not in a position to represent their views to the Government. It is necessary first to consider what bodies should be represented on the Council and the manner of the election of delegates.

We have not attempted to give a complete list of representative Societies and Associations, but the test in this case is that the Association represents definite interests of persons connected with the drug trade. Looking still further forward in this matter of State recognition, to the formation of a representative Upper House in the Parliamentary system of this country, it is probable that the drug trade would be in a position through its Council to claim a seat there, and thus ensure that the views of the drug trade would be heard in legislative proposals—a far better idea than spending money in the attempt to obtain the election to the House of Commons of representatives of sectional interests.

PROSPECTIVE PHARMACY STUDENTS SHOULD NOT UNNECESSARILY NEGLECT THEIR OPPORTUNITIES AT SCHOOL.

Dr. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, has said that "no student should leave college now and none should leave for war service but every man should remain until definitely called. When the Government wants him it will call him."

The leading reason for this statement is that according to the views of Dr. Claxton the war will be a long one. Four whole classes of doctors have simply dropped out of this generation in European countries because of their enlistment. That which applies to medicine is also applicable in a degree to pharmacy. While, of course, there is no intention to keep any one from doing his duty as a citizen, there are doubtless many who enlist in advance of the call and are at present students in colleges of pharmacy. What applies to the latter in a degree also obtains with those who contemplate studying pharmacy. The schools should be kept filled as far as possible and to that end the efforts of the schools to persuade young women to enter pharmacy is timely.

Unfortunately, no provision has been made for exempting pharmacists as has been provided for medical and dental students.

A NATIONAL DUTY.

The Treasury of the United States has a great deal of money to raise and it cannot be raised by bankers alone. says Secretary McAdoo. The banks of this country can not alone sustain America's needs in this war and extend to our allies the essential aid which they must have to continue the war.

The rich of this country can not do it alone; the men of this country can not do it alone; the women of this country can not do it alone; but all of us, the people of the United States, disregarding partisanship, forgetting selfish interests, thinking only of the supremacy of right and determined to vindicate the majesty of American ideals and secure the safety of America and civilization can do the great and splendid work which God has called upon us to do.

THE SUPPLY OF SUGAR.

In reply to many inquiries that are being received regarding the sugar supplies for manufacturers of essential foods product, and appreciating, as we do, the necessity of both production and preservation of food supplies, as well as reflecting the policy of the Food Administration as bearing upon collateral industries such as manufacturers of cans and fruit jars, etc., and buyers of same, all manufacturers of essential food products are advised that they will be able to obtain their full necessary requirements of sugar for manufacturing purposes during the coming season.

This applies particularly to the packers of fruit, condensed milk, and such vegetables for the preservation of which sugar may be necessary, as well as to the housewives for usage in preserving purposes.

As soon as the car shortage is relieved, supplies of sugar will be available for the necessary preservation purposes. Shipments from Cuba are steadily increasing.

Dr. H. M. Whelpley has completed his thirtieth year as editor of *Meyer Brothers*

Druggist, and the January number of that publication commemorates the event by a large issue in which printers art has been advantageously displayed. There are a number of interesting and historical articles, devoted to the growth of St. Louis as a drug and chemical market.

Mrs. Alonzo B. Stevens, wife of the dean of the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy, died February 6th, at Loma Linda, Cal. Mrs. Stevens had been sick for some time. During prior years Mrs. Stevens accompanied her husband to the annual conventions of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

Henry S. Wellcome, of Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., and member of the American Pharmaceutical Association since 1875, presented the British War Office a completely equipped motor bacteriology laboratory.


C. F. Ramsay, a frequent contributor to the Scientific Section, A. Ph. A., is now consulting chemist for Brewer & Co., of Worcester, Mass. For the past eight years Mr. Ramsay was engaged with Parke, Davis & Co., of Detroit.

Frederick Remington, nephew of Prof. Jos. P. Remington, deceased, a wireless operator on one of the American destroyers, has been singled out by the War Department for special commendation, for his conspicuous bravery in a recent engagement with a German submarine. The commendation assigns "efficiency, devotion to duty and gallantry in action in accord with the best tradition of the service."

Frank L. McCartney, president of the New York Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, has been appointed Captain in the U. S. Sanitary Corps and is now stationed in the Medical Supply Depot of New York. The Algodon Company, with which Mr. McCartney is associated, has given him leave of absence during the duration of the war.

OBITUARY.

ALFRED BIRCH HUESTED.

 *Dr. Alfred B. Husted*, professor of materia medica and botany in the Albany College of Pharmacy from 1883 until last November, died at his home in Delmar, February 23rd. The deceased was born in Clifton Park, N. Y., May 15, 1840. At an early age he came to Albany where he made his home until 1910, when he moved to Delmar.

His early education was received in the public schools of Albany and the Albany Boys' Academy. When sixteen years of age he entered the drug business of Dexter & Nelliger, remaining with this firm until 1859 when he began the study of medicine. In 1862 he volunteered for United States Service as hospital steward. During the winter of 1863-1864, he was given a short leave of ab-