many. We can do this if we can have adequate transportation, the report stated."

The convention by unanimous vote demanded the return of the railroads to private ownership. Members were urged to coöperate in an effort to have all freight cars loaded to capacity to relieve the congestion owing to inadequate transportation facilities, and to prevent delay in loading and unloading.

It was voted to begin a campaign to raise $75,000 for a memorial endowment to the College of Pharmacy of Columbia University in memory of Thomas F. Main, of New York, a former president of the Association.

The Committee on Export and Transportation urged the development of the Merchant Marine.

Resolutions were passed condemning the proposal for the repeal of the recent zone advances in postal rates of advertising pages of periodicals, declaring that even with these rates the expense of the postal service falls too heavily upon first class mail. Reciting that the $75,000,000 gained annually on first mail is only a portion of the amount lost on second and third class postage, the resolutions insist that the members petition their Congressmen that no change be made until protesting publishers offer another way for raising the amount.

NATIONAL DRUG TRADE CONFERENCE CONVENED IN WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 24 AND 25.

It is hoped to have a report of the meeting of the National Drug Trade Conference in the January issue of the Journal. The meetings were held at the New Willard, November 24 and 25.

THE PHARMACIST AND THE LAW.

EVERYTHING FIXED FOR US BY THE GOVERNMENT.

Whether for good or for bad we have nationalized. Jefferson's star has gone down, Hamilton's star is ascending. We are close to the day when the Government will fix everything and the people will carry out life's program according to printed schedule. We are approaching the time when the working hours, quantity production, even sermons will be metered; merit system and individuality are rapidly being done away with. The old doctrine that those are best governed who are least governed has gone to the discard.

CONTROL OF NARCOTICS IN CUBA.

A Cuban law dated July 25 regulates the importation into and production and sales in Cuba of narcotic products. The law provides that only legally established pharmacists and druggists attached to a hospital, clinic or other similar institution may import or produce the following narcotic drugs and their preparations: Opium, Indian hemp, chloroform, sulphuric ether, chloral hydrate, morphine, narceine, heroin, dionine, peronine, cocaine, novacain, tropocaine, eucaine, stovaine, mariquane and other products specified by the competent Cuban authorities as being prejudicial to health.

The restriction applies to the products in question, whether pure or made up as specialties, extracts, tinctures and other medicinal preparations; also to hypodermic ampoules, and tablets containing the products, either alone or combined; to all pills, pilules, tablets, pastilles, syrups, elixirs or other pharmaceutical forms containing the products; and to certain specific products containing them. Other provisions of the law deal with the production and sale of the products in Cuba, and with the keeping of special records of the amounts manufactured, imported or in stock.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DRUG SELLERS INDICTED.

The grand jury of the District of Columbia on November 6 returned indictments charging twenty-eight drug users with alleged violation of the law prohibiting the use of narcotics for other than medicinal purposes. Internal revenue agents working in conjunction with Pharmacy Inspector Robert A. Sanders have for some time been actively engaged in discovering evidence against the accused, among which are four women and a negro physician. It is asserted that the use of narcotics has increased to an alarming extent since the prohibition laws became effective, and persons addicted to the drug habit are resorting to any extreme to satisfy the craving; while agents employ most ingenious methods of bartering their illicit wares. The Internal Revenue Service is receiving complaints in great number from practically every large city.

OPPOSING OPINIONS ON SACCHARIN IN CONGRESS.

Senator Gay of Louisiana has inserted in the *Congressional Record* a letter from Dr. Carl Alsberg, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, protesting against the use of saccharin in food and drink on the ground that it is an adulterant, has no food value and is uneconomical in use.

In answer to it Senator Spencer, of Missouri, who recently introduced a resolution asking the Senate Committee on Agriculture to investigate the suggested substitution of saccharin for sugar, has inserted in the Record a supplemental report of the so-called Referee Card on Foods and Drugs, of which Prof. Ira Remsen was chairman, upon the subject of saccharin. The Referee Card reported that small quantities of saccharin are not injurious; that it is not an adulterant if used in food, and that its addition to food does not affect the quality or strength of such food.

Besides the Alsberg letter, Senator Gay also put into the *Record* copies of the Food and Drug report against saccharin, issued in 1911 and 1912. There was also inserted a statement by Dr. Alsberg in which it appears that the saccharin question is pending in suits before the courts which now will be tried as a result of the return of important government witnesses from France. Dr. Alsberg also makes the point that soda water, soft drinks, etc., are food, although they may not be consumed with the idea that they are food. Therefore, he takes issue with representatives of certain chemical industries that even if saccharin has no food value its use in such articles should not be prohibited since they are not taken as food.

Dr. Alsberg points out in the statement that there are various other substitutes for sugar that have food value and which can be used in sweetening soft drinks, sodas, etc. In that connection he wrote Chairman McNary of the Senate Sugar Investigating Sub-Committee a letter, which also was put into the *Record* by Senator Gay, referring to the work done by the department along these lines, with reference to the use of glucose, refiners' syrup, maltose syrup, corn sugar, honey, etc., in making soft drinks and the like.—*P. O. and Drug Reporter.*

THE FEDERAL PROHIBITION COMMISSIONER.

Hon. John F. Kramer is Federal prohibition commissioner in charge of the government's prohibition enforcement field force. Mr. Kramer, of Mansfield, O., was formerly assistant attorney general of his state. He was also minority floor leader of the Ohio Legislature.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Daniel C. Roper has announced the appointment of the following committee to work out and assist in inaugurating a plan of organization for the enforcement of national prohibition throughout the country:

Deputy Commissioner H. M. Gaylord, chairman; Revenue Agents David A. Gates, of Arkansas; Thomas E. Stone, of Ohio; S. R. Braine, of Virginia; Daniel J. Gantt, of Georgia; Daniel L. Porter, of New York; and John L. Considine, of California. Judge Charles J. Orbison of Indianapolis is associated with the committee in an advisory capacity.

PERMITS.

Pharmacists holding permits may retail alcohol medicated according to Standards of the Internal Revenue Bureau in quantities not exceeding one pint, and sell spirits and wines on physicians' prescriptions. Duly licensed physicians may obtain permits without giving bond for the purchase of not more than two quarts of alcohol or alcoholic preparations during a period of one year. Physicians and pharmacists must keep records.

NON-BEVERAGE ALCOHOL TAX RULING AMENDED BY NEW DECISION.

A recent treasury decision amends the former ruling regarding the tax on non-beverage alcohol to read as follows:

Non-beverage Alcohol.—Non-beverage distilled spirits or alcohol tax paid at the rate of $2.20 per gallon may be used in filling physicians' prescriptions in accordance herewith whether the spirits or alcohol is medicated or denatured so as to render it unfit for beverage use or whether it is not so medicated or denatured. Any regulations or instructions inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked.

MODIFIED REGULATIONS FOR USE AND SALE OF DISTILLED SPIRITS.

Articles 15(*a*), 15(*b*) and 18(*c*), of T. D. 2940, approved October 29, 1919, are modified to read as follows:

Article 15(a).—All holders of permits issued prior to Nov. 1, 1919, are required to give a new bond on form herein prescribed, not later than December 31, 1919; provided, however,

that no new bond need be filed where a satisfactory bond was filed prior to November 1, 1919, on the latest revised form 738, published in treasury decision 2788 or treasury decision 2940, in a sufficient penal sum to meet the requirements of Section 15(*f*) of treasury decision 2940, and in no case less than $1,000. All existing permits expire on December 31, 1919, unless such new bond is furnished where required as above.

Article 15(f).—The basis of the penal sum of bond, form 738 or form 738A, covering the use or sale of non-beverage spirits, is $4.20 per proof gallon on the quantity of spirits which will be received during any quarterly period of the calendar year, plus the amount of non-beverage spirits on hand at the end of the preceding quarter.

The penal sum of bonds covering wines will be computed at the rate of $100 for each 200 gallons, or any fractional part thereof, which will be received during any quarterly period of the calendar year, plus the amount on hand at the end of the preceding quarter.

The penal sum of a bond to cover both non-beverage spirits and wines shall be the aggregate sum of the amounts required for each. Provided, however, that the penal sum of any bond shall be not less than $1,000 nor more than $100,000.

Article 18(c).—After December 1, 1919, the vendor must, under no circumstances, deliver wines (except for sacramental purposes, after receipt of forms 801 or 802), or non-beverage spirits, unless on receipt of application form 739, duly certified by the prohibition enforcement officers, as set forth herein.

IMPORTANT.

After December 31, it will be impossible for wholesale druggists to fill requisitions for non-beverage alcohol unless same have previously been certified by the internal revenue or prohibition officer in the district in which retailer is located.

THE USE OF NON-BEVERAGE ALCOHOL FOR FLAVORING EXTRACTS.

Non-beverage alcohol will be approved in any so-called imitation lemon extract if the same contains not less than 2 percent citral, such citral being derived either from oil of lemon or from other sources, the alcohol being only in amount sufficient for solution and preservation. Any such extracts may also contain lemon oil or other flavoring constituents simulating lemon in addition to the contents of citral above noted, provided the finished product is in fact an imitation lemon flavor and not a disguised drink.

Non-beverage alcohol will be approved in any so-called imitation vanilla, made from coumarin or vanilla, or both, which contains not less than 3 grains of vanillin and coumarin per fluidounce or 0.69 Gm. per 100 Cc. This is the amount of vanillin and coumarin stated in the formula for essence of vanillin, National Formulary, third edition, the alcoholic content of this to be only sufficient for solution and preservation.

Non-beverage alcohol will be permitted in any so-called imitation vanilla extract made by a mixture of the vanillin and coumarin compound, stated above, and a true tincture of vanilla bean, provided the mixture of the two is the equivalent of a full strength product. In other words, a 5 percent extract of vanilla bean would require 1 1/2 grains of vanillin and coumarin per fluidounce in order to produce what the office holds to be a full strength extract, the alcohol being only sufficient for the purposes of solution and preservation.

Non-beverage alcohol will be permitted in any so-called imitation fancy fruit flavors, such as banana, peach, pineapple, raspberry, strawberry, maple, pistachio, apricot, apple, blackberry, nectarine, etc., provided they contain not less than 2 percent by volume of essential oils, ethers, esters, plant extractives or other flavoring bodies and only sufficient alcohol for solution and preservation. The term plant extractives or other flavoring bodies, it is understood, applies more particularly to maple, pistachio and the like.

CONFERENCES OF DRUG INDUSTRIES WITH BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE OFFICIALS.

During the week of December 1, the Bureau of Internal Revenue held a series of Conferences with the representatives of the Associations, of various Drug Industries and of manufacturers of alcoholic preparations.

The hearings were held as follows:

On barbers' supplies and perfumes—Monday, December 1, 10 A.M. to 1. P.M.

On liquid medicinal compounds—Wednesday, December 3, 10 A.M to 1 P.M and an adjourned meeting on Thursday, December 4.

On flavoring extracts—Friday, December 5, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

TARTAR EMETIC NOT APPROVED AS A MODIFYING AGENT.

The representatives of the first class mentioned went on record as opposed to the suggestion regarding the use of one-fourth grain of tartar emetic per fluidounce of bay rum as a satisfactory modifying agent for bay rum for the following reasons:

1. Its physiologic or emetic dosage appears to be too close to its toxic dosage to be safe as such a modifying agent.

2. Tartar emetic is tasteless and therefore offers no warning to the would-be consumer of bay rum for beverage purposes.

3. This fact and also the further fact that tartar emetic does not always produce emesis and is known to be a cumulative poison might result in the severe poisoning and death of the user.

4. It has been found that small doses of the drug have caused death when administered for its anti-toxicant effects. The meeting requests information from the Bureau of Internal Revenue as to where the moral and legal responsibility would rest in case any one should suffer death from the use of bay rum modified with tartar emetic.

It was the consensus of opinion that the Commissioner be asked to refrain from making the use of tartar emetic compulsory. The meeting also expressed the view that the Commissioner of Internal Revenue permit the different manufacturers to submit alternative modifying agents which would render unfit for beverage purposes any of their particular preparations likely to be used for beverage purposes. It was also suggested that the Commissioner be requested to grant as much time as possible for the development of suitable and satisfactory modifying agents for the different preparations in question, same to be submitted to the Commissioner at the earliest possible date with full data as to their efficiency as special modifying agents in each case, for his approval.

It was suggested that the names of materials such as zinc salts, cadmium salts, formaldehyde, saccharin and salicylic acid be submitted to the Commissioner as having been used by different manufacturers as possible modifying agents for different preparations, such as bay rum, hair preparations, etc. In the absence of any specific scientific or pharmacological data other than the limited practical experience of the users, it was the desire of the meeting to obtain an expression of opinion from the technical staff of the Commissioner as to the possibility of developing the use of any one of these or any other materials for the purposes specified.

It was the unanimous view of the meeting that all legitimate perfumes and toilet waters when properly compounded were unfit for beverage purposes as such and therefore they should not be required to contain any special modifying agent.

OFFICIAL PREPARATIONS THAT MAY BE OR HAVE BEEN USED FOR BEVERAGE PURPOSES.

The following list of U. S. P. and N. F. preparations was submitted by the Bureau of Internal Revenue to the representatives of the Drug Industries. It was stated that those preparations marked with an asterisk had been used for beverage purposes and that the others might be used for like purposes. The list follows:

Elixir Aromaticum (Aromatic Elixir).
Elixir Glycyrrhizae (Elixir of Glycyrrhiza).
*Spiritus Juniperi Compositus (Compound Spirit of Juniper).
Tinctura Cardamomi Composita (Compound Tincture of Cardamom).
Tinctura Lavendulae Composita (Compound Tincture of Lavender).
*Tinctura Zingiberis (Tincture of Ginger).
*Cordiale Rubi Fructus (Blackberry Cordial).
Elixir Anisi (Elixir of Anise).
Elixir Aromaticum Rubrum (Red Aromatic Elixir).
Elixir Aurantii Amari (Elixir of Bitter Orange)
Elixir Cardamomi Compositum (Compound Elixir of Cardamom).
Elixir Taraxaci Compositum (Compound Elixir Taraxacum).
*Spiritus Myrciae Compositus (Compound Spirits of Myrcia).
Tinctura Aromatica (Aromatic Tincture).
Tinctura Caramellis (Tincture of Caramel).
Vinum Aurantii Compositum (Compound Wine of Orange).
*Vinum Carnis (Wine of Beef).
*Vinum Pepsini (Wine of Pepsin).
Vinum Pruni Virginianae (Wine of Wild Cherry).
Elixir Glycyrrhizae Aromaticum (Aromatic Elixir of Glycyrrhiza).
Elixir Gentianae Glycerinatum (Glycerinated Elixir of Gentian).
*Vinum Carnis et Ferri (Wine of Beef and Iron).
Tinctura Amara (Bitter Tincture).

Immediately following the adjournment of the Conference on December 3, a meeting was held by the technical and scientific representatives of the various associations and firms whose names are appended hereto. The following advisory resolutions relating to the tentative list of U. S. P. and N. F. Elixirs, Spirits, Tinctures, Wines, etc. submitted to the Conference by the Commissioner were unanimously adopted, and the same were respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Honorable Prohibition Commissioner.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolved, (1) That it is the sense of this meeting that none of the U. S. P. or N. F. preparations appearing in the list submitted by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue be eliminated until such time as it is proven that they are being generally used for beverage purposes, especially in view of the fact that revisions of the U. S. P. and N. F. will shortly be made.

(2) That we endorse the practice of the Bureau of Internal Revenue requiring a label to be affixed to all medicinal preparations which might be used for beverage purposes, stating clearly that non-beverage alcohol is used in the preparation and that it is a violation of the law to sell or use the same for beverage purposes.

(3) That sales by wholesalers and manufacturers of Elixirs on this list be made only to those holding permits for the use and sale of non-beverage spirits and duly licensed physicians.

(4) That sales of Elixirs on this list be made to the consumer only when properly medicated so as to make them unfit for beverage purposes or upon a physician's prescription.

(5) That Spiritus Juniperi Compositus (Compound Spirit of Juniper) and Spiritus Myrciae Compositus (Compound Spirit of Myrcia) be sold to the consumer in the unmodified form only on a physician's prescription.

(6) That Tinctura Cardamomi Composita (compound Tincture of Cardamom), Tinctura caramellis (Tincture of Caramel), Tinctura Aromatica (Aromatic Tincture), and Tinctura Amara (Bitter Tincture) be sold to the consumer in the unmodified form only on a physician's prescription.

(7) That Tinctura Lavandulae Composita (Compound Tincture of Lavender) and Tinctura Zingiberis (Tincture of Ginger) be sold in the unmodified form to the consumer in quantities of not more than two fluidounces at one time and not more frequently than once in ten days to the same purchaser excepting on a prescription of a physician.

(8) That Cordiale Rubi Fructus (Blackberry Cordial) be sold in the unmodified form to the consumer in quantities of not more than four fluidounces at one time and not more frequently than once in ten days to the same purchaser excepting upon a physician's prescription.

(9) That the sale of Vinum Aurantii Compositum (Compound Wine of Orange), Vinum Carnis (Wine of Beef), Vinum Pepsini (Wine of Pepsin) and Vinum Pruni Virginianae (Wine of Wild Cherry) be made to the consumer only when properly medicated so as to make them unfit for beverage purposes or upon a physician's prescription.

(10) That Vinum Carnis et Ferri (Beef, Iron and Wine) be sold in quantities of not more than one pint and only upon the prescription of a physician.

The following is a list of the Associations and Firms present at the Conference, at which the above resolutions were unaniously adopted:

ASSOCIATIONS.

1. American Pharmaceutical Association.
2. The Proprietary Association of America.
3. The U. S. P. Revision Committee.
4. The N. F. Revision Committee.
5. The Philadelphia Drug Exchange.
6. Philadelphia Association of Retail Druggists.
7. American Drug Manufacturers' Association.
8. Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association.
9. New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association.
10. National Wholesale Druggists' Association.
11. National Association of Retail Druggists.
12. National Drug Trade Conference.

FIRMS.

1. Parke, Davis & Co.
2. McKesson & Robbins.
3. Larkin Company.
4. Eli Lilly & Co.
5. H. K. Mulford Company.
6. Royal Manufacturing Company.
7. Frederick Stearns & Company.
8. William S. Merrell Company.
9. Sharp & Dohme.
10. Bristol Meyers Company.
11. Upjohn Company.
12. Norwich Pharmacal Company.
13. Strong, Cobb & Company.
14. W. & H. Walker Company.
15. Combes Chemical Company.
16. Smith, Kline & French Company.