

## PHILADELPHIA.

The regular monthly meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held Tuesday evening, January 12, 1920, President Griffith in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Six new members were proposed and elected. There was no new or unfinished business. Communications from Mrs. F. M. Apple and the Collector of Internal Revenue were read and filed.

The scientific program followed. Prof. Julius W. Sturmer gave an interesting talk on "1820—A Bit of History," embracing happenings in and around Philadelphia about 100 years ago. Notable among the incidents mentioned were the founding of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and the first edition of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia.

Prof. Louis Gershenfeld followed with a lecture on "Quantitative Urinalysis." The estimation of acidity, albumin, sugars, urea and uric acid were carefully covered. Interesting discussions followed both papers.

ELMER H. HESSLER, *Secretary*.

## PITTSBURGH.

The January meeting of the Pittsburgh Branch, A. Ph. A., listened to the reading of a communication from Jos. W. England, Secretary of the A. Ph. A. Council, requesting a complete list of the dues-paid members of the Branch, and containing a suggestion that the members submit a number of topics as material for discussion by the various branches. Also from the editor of the *Druggists Circular*, congratulating the Branch upon having resumed its activities with so excellent a program as the report of the December meeting disclosed. A. E. Baier, chairman of the committee to secure membership in the A. Ph. A. of returned

soldiers and sailors, reported progress, stating that the original supply of blank applications was exhausted and the receipt of 50 additional blanks received would all be signed up in a short time.

President L. K. Darbaker presented a very interesting and instructive paper treating with an unique subject "Vinegar Bees," and their method of producing vinegar, accompanied with sample jars in which these organisms were at work and provided much interest on account of its novelty. Dr. M. J. Wurdack gave a blackboard demonstration of the action of the acids on various metals in detail.

B. E. Pritchard presented a paper entitled "Chemistry and the World War," consisting of extracts from the report of the special Senate Committee on the work of the Alien Property Custodian from which the following quotation will prove enlightening and full of surprises:

"Drs. Albert and Berustoff reported to their government that America could never establish the dye and pharmaceutical industry in this country, as we lacked the moral power for the creation of such an industry; that here each party pursued its own selfish interests, but nobody kept the whole in mind; that the problem could only be solved through regard for all points of view, and that the conflicting selfishness of this country rendered the solution impossible." And again, "after the armistice airships flew over the sea; and during that same week that those ships flew between England and America, the Department of the Interior exhibited a little vial of a new gas that they discovered but had not put into the war, and it was asserted by our Army officials that five airplanes could carry over New York enough gas in one night to annihilate the five million inhabitants of that city. Where are we going to get any protection from such gas in the future?"

B. E. PRITCHARD, *Secretary*.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETAIL DRUGGISTS, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
BOARDS OF PHARMACY AND OTHERS TO SEND DELEGATES  
TO U. S. P. CONVENTION.

The Board of Trustees of the United States Pharmacopoeial Convention, at its recent meeting held in St. Louis, drew up amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the convention which it proposes to present to the convention when it convenes in Washington next May.

The board recommends that the National Association of Retail Druggists, the National

Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the American Drug Manufacturers' Association, the United States Division of Customs and the University of Havana, in addition to the colleges, societies, governmental departments, etc., now members of the convention, be permitted to send delegates to the decennial meetings of the body.