

## EDITORIAL NOTES

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Committee on Publication: J. W. ENGLAND, *Chairman*; G. M. BERINGER, CASWELL A. MAYO, H. B. MASON, E. L. NEWCOMB, and the Editor-in-Chief of the JOURNAL, General Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter on the Progress of Pharmacy, *ex-officio*.

### OFFICERS-ELECT OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION FOR 1920-1921.

The Board of Canvassers, A. Ph. A., composed of Irwin A. Becker, Clyde M. Snow, William Gray, E. N. Gathercoal and A. H. Clark, have announced the results of the election as follows:

*President*, Charles Herbert Packard, Boston, Mass.

*First Vice-President*, E. Fullerton Cook, Philadelphia, Pa.

*Second Vice-President*, Charles E. Caspari, St. Louis, Mo.

*Third Vice-President*, W. P. Porterfield, Fargo, N. D.

*Members of the Council*: Harry B. Mason, Detroit, Mich.; L. E. Sayre, Lawrence, Kans.; Frederick J. Wulling, Minneapolis, Minn.

The ballots were counted January 21, 1920, and 1292 votes were cast.

### INFORMATION DESIRED.

The New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, and the committee in charge of the celebration desires a complete list of the living ex-presidents; only one address is lacking, that of Joseph P. Canby, who was in business in Atlantic City in 1882 and in that year was elected president of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association. Anyone knowing the present address of Mr. Canby will confer a favor by writing Edward A. Sayre, 100 Henry St., Orange, N. J.

The Civilian Relief Committee, American Red Cross, Waterloo, Iowa, desires to locate Joseph Henry Harvey, a pharmacist and a graduate of Northwestern University, who at one time worked in Chicago, Ill. Mr. Harvey is thirty-four years old, and his family formerly lived in Dyersville, Iowa. His mother is sick, and information should be sent to Mrs. Etta H. Worthen, Home Service Section, American Red Cross, Waterloo, Iowa.

### A CONSERVATIVE STATEMENT RELATIVE TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN TREATMENT OF THE SICK.

Newspapers are more careful than formerly in reporting statements made by professional men; as a result, more publicity the public should have will be given by physicians and others and will be productive of much good. Among the latter we quote from a recent newspaper report in which Dr. Solomon Solis-Cohen expresses his views relative to the use of alcoholic beverages: "Self-drugging with alcoholic beverages is as harmful as self-drugging with commonly used remedies. Whiskey, brandy, and the like are in certain cases absolutely essential in the treatment of the sick. Whether they will be harmful or useful in any particular case is a matter to be determined by a skilled physician."

### DEATH OF PROF. EUGENE COLLIN.

Prof. Eugene Collin, who was elected an honorary member of the American Pharmaceutical Association at the recent New York meeting, died December 22, at Colombes, Seine, France. He was a chevalier of the Legion of Honor. The deceased was born in 1849 at Carignan, and was apprenticed to a pharmacist at Charleville. He went to Paris in 1867, and graduated in pharmacy in 1871, his thesis being on "the rhubarbs." Following his graduation he conducted a pharmacy at Verdun for eleven years; thereafter he was in business in Colombes until 1888, when he was made a member of the faculty of the Paris School of Pharmacy, and he also accepted an official position in connection with the French anti-adulteration Act.

Eugene Collin possessed in a high degree the rare combination of artistic and microscopical ability, and he was an expert engraver. He made many of his own drawings and prepared the copper plates for them. He was one of the pioneers of micrography in the study of materia medica and collaborated with Pro-

fessors Gustave Planchon, H. G. Greenish, M. Villiers and E. Perrot. As an author he is known in the United States by the "Anatomical Atlas of Vegetable Powders;" this, however, is not his only work, and he was also a very frequent contributor to the *Journal de Pharmacie*.

Professor Collin received the Hanbury Medal in 1903 and in 1907 he was elected to honorary membership in the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

**Dr. R. C. Maclaurin**, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology since 1908, died at his home in Cambridge, Mass., January 15, of pneumonia. While he knew of the magnificent donation of Mr. George Eastman, he was not permitted to share in seeing the developments made possible by the gift. Pharmacy needs not only men like Dr. Maclaurin, but also representatives of the type of the donor.

**Prof. Herbert Spencer Woods**, assistant in the department of physiology, pharmacology and biochemistry of Baylor University, College of Medicine, Dallas, Texas, died January 4, 1919, following an operation. Professor Woods received the A. B. and A. M. degrees at the University of Missouri. He will be remembered for work done with the late Waldemar Koch on the quantitative estimation of the lecithins and other work done at various agricultural experiment stations of the United States.

**Data Lost in Fire at Johns Hopkins.**—Valuable data and records, covering two years' research in the cause and effect of influenza, made by Dr. Thomas M. Rivers, an authority on this disease, and the laboratories of Dr. Bayne Jones and Dr. Lloyd D. Felton, containing apparatus and data of inestimable value, were destroyed in the fire which recently broke out on the top floor of the pathologic building in the Johns Hopkins Hospital group.

**E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.** announce the completion of the company's technical laboratory at Deepwater Point, N. J., for the study of experimental and technical problems. A trained staff of chemists is conducting research work; a very complete library is in the building.

**Howard B. French**, president of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, has been elected a vice-president of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

**William Mittelbach**, of Booneville, Mo., a member of the American Pharmaceutical Asso-

ciation since 1891, has retired from the drug business. He has been treasurer of the Missouri Pharmaceutical Association for twenty-five years; in 1893 he was president of the State Association. Mr. Mittelbach was Second Vice-President of the A. Ph. A. in 1904 and First Vice-President in 1906. It is his intention to take a well-earned rest, and thereafter assume new duties.

**Edmund L. Scholtz**, a prominent pharmacist of Denver, Colo., has retired from business after forty-seven years of active service. Mr. Scholtz came to Denver in 1873, entering the employ of William Dingle, druggist, at 16th and Blake Streets. In 1881 he engaged in business with Paul Hanus, now professor of pedagogy at Harvard University. Later, the Scholtz Drug Company was formed, and under its ownership and control are seven stores and a supply department. The success and standing of the Company are well known, and members who attended the Denver meeting will remember the interest Mr. Scholtz evidenced in pharmacy. It is said that he will make his home in California.

#### THE TEACHING OF THERAPEUTICS.

It is hoped that the purpose of the article by Dr. Hobart Amory Hare in the *Journal A. M. A.*, February 7, 1920, will not be misinterpreted by reprinting only portions of this valuable and timely presentation of an interesting topic for physicians and pharmacists. The author writes:

"I am writing this paper because I am hopeful that it may direct attention to what is a crying fault in medical education to-day, namely, the neglect of teaching students how to treat patients for the alleviation or cure of disease. I am hopeful that some good may come of it because the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association for years past has been endeavoring to inform physicians regarding the use of proprietary products and to persuade them to prescribe drugs, proprietary or not, intelligently.

"The work that the Council has done is, of course, praiseworthy in intent, and is good as far as it goes in one line, to wit, to improve medical practice among graduates; but the prime difficulty lies in the teaching of practical therapeutics to the undergraduate and to the hospital intern. This embryo practitioner in almost every medical school has no training in pharmacy, little or no training in the use of the official names of drugs or of their doses,

and no training whatever in the fact that doses of different sizes, although they be of one drug, may be useless, useful or harmful, or become so after some days. He, therefore, enters practice utterly at sea when he is called on to write a prescription.

"I have known of eye drops to be ordered by the quart, oleoresins mixed with aqueous solutions, powerful alkaloids, such as strychnine, put in a mixture with potassium iodide, whereby nearly all the strychnine went into the last dose, and a host of other errors too numerous to mention. I have seen a thousandth of a grain of arsenous oxide given three times a day to an adult, and a grain of atropin put in each pill; and no druggist exists who, if diplomacy did not restrain him, could not humiliate almost every physician whose recipes come to his shop. Because the medical man knows nothing of the bulk of drugs or the most efficient vehicles, or excipients, he takes the easiest way out of his dilemma and orders products already prepared, which products are often the result of much experience and scientific pharmacy.

"The remedy for all this is to have every student make in a pharmacy laboratory at least one representative of each class of preparations official in the Pharmacopoeia and the National Formulary. I believe that this is done in only one school of medicine in the United States.

"The young graduate, having had no experience or teaching as to doses, naturally uses doses that some commercial laboratory names. He may have been taught 'doses,' but he has no idea that small doses of digitalis may be useful in one case, whereas almost toxic doses may be absolutely essential in another, and so loses the patient that needed the large dose. He uses the compound mixture of licorice as a vehicle in a case of profuse bronchorrhea or threatened pulmonary edema, not knowing, or forgetting, that its most active ingredient is antimony, which is absolutely contraindicated. \* \* \*

"At present an attempt is made to make pharmacologists out of men who are going to practice medicine. A real pharmacologist is a highly educated man in physiology and chemistry, an investigator, a discoverer, and by rights a leader in the higher realms of therapeutics—one who should teach medical students how drugs can be studied and should be studied in the laboratory, and to determine

fundamental facts about remedies. But to try to train the general run of students, who will never have a laboratory, to be pharmacologists without first teaching elementary practical therapeutics is somewhat like a great opera singer trying to make every one a great singer, or as if one should attempt to make his infant son sing before he tried to teach him to walk. The use of instruments of precision necessary for the study of drugs, if taught at all, should be at the bedside. \* \* \* The lack of training as to what to do, what not to do, and when to do, as to remedies, is one of the weak spots in medicine to-day. I firmly believe that if the present generation of students is properly taught practical therapeutics, the chief labor of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry will be an accomplished fact, for the right way will be the easiest way. Let us first make good physicians and from these may be sifted out those who can and want to become laboratory pharmacologists."

#### IT DEPENDS UPON THE ARGUMENT.

In St. Louis recently a jury disagreed in the suit brought by our Government against a manufacturer of saccharin and the matter will again have to go to trial. In France it was decided last fall to continue as a peace measure the war-time repeal of anti-saccharin legislation, the revenue from the government monopoly of this industry continuing to aid the national exchequer.

#### "METHANOL;" METHYL ALCOHOL.

The Wood Products Co., in order to protect the public against the dangerous or unlawful use of its products, has decided to eliminate the word "alcohol," even though used with "wood" or "methyl," altogether from its brands, stenciling, invoices, literature, etc., substituting instead the word "methanol."

#### JAPANESE CAMPHOR, MENTHOL AND OIL OF PEPPERMINT PRODUCTION.

According to the *Japan Gazette*, Japanese authorities are encouraging the laying out of camphor plantations with a view to meeting the growing demand in the international market. The Japanese Camphor Monopoly Office early in the year drew up a program for protecting the celluloid industry at home, and curtailing the shipments of camphor abroad.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C., reports that menthol crystals, produced from the 1918 crop, amount to 400,000 pounds, and estimated production from the 1919 crop will be 160,000 pounds; peppermint oil from the 1918 crop, 270,000 pounds, and from the 1919 crop, 108,000 pounds.

Evidently there will be a decided shortage in the crop of 1919. Japanese farmers are growing mulberry plants, the leaves of which are used as feed for silk worms, instead of cultivating peppermint.

#### SHORTAGE OF JALAP AND OF GENTIAN.

The principal Mexican towns from which any amount of jalap root is shipped are San Miguel, Xico and Coscomatepec, all in the district where the greatest damage has been done and where the most lives were lost during the recent earthquakes. The mountain of San Miguel, near the town of the same name, is in active eruption.

It is safe to say that the only jalap root which will be shipped from Vera Cruz for some time will be small amounts that have been stored in the warehouses of the commission merchants in Cordoba and Vera Cruz. During the month of December 1919, only 1,816 kilos of jalap root were shipped from this port to the United States.

The amount of gentian root gathered in Spain this year is estimated not to exceed 400 tons. Last year's yield was only 200 tons, but stocks from the previous year's crops were then available. The crop of 1916 amounted to 1,000 tons and that of 1917 to 500 tons.

#### ANTHRAX IN JAPANESE SHAVING BRUSHES.

The British Ministry of Health announces that cases of anthrax have occurred in Great Britain, through infection conveyed by shaving brushes from Japan. The following treatment is suggested for brushes suspected of carrying the infection:—Thoroughly wash the hair of the brush with soap and warm water, to which a little washing soda has been added, rinse in warm water, and then immerse for one hour in a disinfecting solution of two table-spoonfuls of formalin in half a pint of water. The disinfecting solution should be at a temperature slightly above the body heat. After removal from the solution the brush should be allowed to dry before use. Care should be taken not to allow the hair of the brush to come in contact with the hands.

#### VARNISH FOR RAT TRAPS.

Strong lithographic varnish has been recommended for effectively destroying rats on a large scale. The varnish is thinned by heating and spread on heavy strawboard of a size meeting the needs, one-two feet square. The bait is placed in the center. As to the cruelty, Dr. Howarth, Medical Officer for the City of London, states that sentiment cannot be wasted, that this method is not as cruel as some means of poisoning.

#### ISOLATION OF PFEIFFER BACILLUS REPORTED IN CHICAGO INFLUENZA CASES.

Dr. Earl C. Carr, lieutenant in charge of the main laboratory at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, announced on January 24, the isolation of the influenza germ.

#### NATIONAL DRUG STORES CORPORATION.

The National Drug Stores Corporation has been organized; R. B. Wattlely, former treasurer of the Liggett Company, is a large, if not the principal, stockholder. A number of stores in New York City and New England have been acquired and the purchase of the three Guilford stores in Rochester has been announced.

#### THE NORVELL CHEMICAL CORPORATION.

The Norvell Chemical Corporation, of Perth Amboy, N. J., was incorporated in the State of Delaware on January 1. The stockholders elected the following directors and officers: *President*, Donald McKesson; *Vice-President and Treasurer*, Samuel Norvell; *Second Vice-President*, Francis J. McDonough; *Secretary*, William S. Gray, Jr.; *Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary*, James J. Crawford. The corporation will operate the plant, supplying pharmaceutical chemicals and chemicals for the manufacture of a variety of products.

#### SYNTHETIC TARTARIC ACID.

The United States, before the prohibition wave engulfed the vineyards where wine grapes are raised, produced 10,000,000 pounds of cream of tartar a year and about 1,000,000 pounds of tartaric acid. As the cream of tartar cannot be obtained except through the fermentation of the wine, the grape juice industry is unable to supply the household want hitherto filled from the vats of the vintner.

By the Weiss-Downs process, explained in a paper before a recent meeting of the New York

Section, American Chemical Society, tartaric and related acids can be economically manufactured synthetically.

#### THE OWL DRUG COMPANY EXTENDS ITS ACTIVITIES EASTWARD.

The Owl Drug Company has recently acquired all of the rights in connection with the "Owl Drug Company," of Illinois. Just prior to the outbreak of the war a distributing plant was established in Chicago, and the company expected then immediately to extend its system of retail stores. The war upset those plans, but they will be carried out now, and the company announces that it intends "to vigorously renew our campaign against those who have infringed upon our trade-mark and trade name by the use of the word 'Owl,' or the picture of an owl in the conduct of retail stores."

The company now has thirty-six stores on the Pacific Coast and in Spokane, Wash.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., and Chicago, Ill.

#### GEORGE R. HILLIER, DEAN OF THE CRUDE DRUG TRADE, HONORED.

George R. Hillier, president of R. Hillier's Son Co., New York City, was honored at the

fiftieth anniversary celebration of Amity Masonic Lodge, Jersey City. Mr. Hillier is the only surviving charter member of his lodge, he is the first president of the New York Drug and Chemical Club. Last May he celebrated his eightieth birthday.

#### WM. R. WARNER & CO. PURCHASE NEW LOCATION FOR LABORATORY.

Announcement is made of the purchase of a block in the drug industry section of St. Louis, by Wm. R. Warner & Co. The buildings have a ground area of 75,000 square feet and will be converted into laboratories which will double the manufacturing facilities of this firm.

#### GEORGE A. KELLY COMPANY'S NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY.

George A. Kelly Company, wholesale druggists of Pittsburgh, Pa., announce the ninetieth anniversary of their business in an interesting booklet. The illustrations are supplemented by an historical account of the progress made by the firm and of the growth of Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania. The work of the artist and printer is good and deserving of favorable comment.

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### OBITUARY.

#### EDWARD S. MAGUIRE.

Pharmacist Edward S. Maguire, U. S. Public Health Service, died in the U. S. Marine Hospital at Savannah, Georgia, on January 24, 1920.

He was stationed at the U. S. Quarantine, Port of Savannah. On January 22 he was stricken with apoplexy while on duty, was immediately brought to the Marine Hospital, in an unconscious condition, and did not regain consciousness up to the time of his death. Mrs. Maguire was constantly at his bedside.

Pharmacist Maguire had been in the Service since July 16, 1883. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1897.

A. M. ROEHRIG,  
*U. S. Marine Hospital.*

#### GRACE E. HOFFMAN.

Miss Grace E. Hoffman, daughter of James L. Hoffman, pharmacist of Allentown, Pa., died at the University Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., October 11, 1919. Miss Hoffman received injuries by being run down by an automobile a few days prior to her demise.

Miss Hoffman graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1915, and joined the American Pharmaceutical Association the year following her graduation. During her school years she was employed in Philadelphia hospitals, and afterward in the laboratories of H. K. Mulford Company at Glenolden, Pa. She was soon to have entered business on her own account in a partnership with her brother, John H. Hoffman, at Broad Street and Belfield Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

#### JOSEPH W. ECKFORD.

We have only recently been advised of the death of Dr. Joseph W. Eckford, of Aberdeen, Miss., April 5, 1919. Dr. Eckford was the oldest member from Mississippi, having joined the Association in 1883.

While he had attended only a few of the annual conventions, he was deeply interested in pharmacy; in 1889 he was Third Vice-President of the Association. He participated actively in the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association. Mrs. Eckford survives the deceased.