

President L. F. Sayre appointed Caswell A. Mayo to introduce the officers of the Association for installation, who performed this duty in his usual happy manner, and the President welcomed them. Brief responses were made by the officers. President C. H. Packard spoke at greater length, asking for cooperation. The retiring president thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him and the support given him during his term of office.

The Sixty-eighth Annual Convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association was then adjourned.

SCIENTIFIC SECTION, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
ABSTRACT OF MINUTES OF THE SESSIONS HELD IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,
MAY 7 AND 8, 1920.*

The first session of the Scientific Section, A. Ph. A., was convened by Chairman Jacob Diner, May 7, at 2.00 P.M. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Dr. H. H. Rusby presided during the reading of the Chairman's address on:

PHARMACOPOEIAL REVISION FROM A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW.

By Jacob Diner.

Our scientific program amply provides for the discussion of such matters as generally come up for consideration at decennial sessions. I shall endeavor to bring before you another aspect of the revision problem, not new by any means yet, in my opinion, deserving of your earnest consideration.

At the Nashville meeting in 1913, F. E. Stewart read a paper entitled "Some Objections to Materia Medica Standardization, With Reference to the U. S. Pharmacopoeia," and he began his article by quoting from the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, November 30, 1909, page 1645, as follows: "A thoroughly up-to-date Pharmacopoeia—one which will truly reflect the best medical practice of the present time—will contribute more to save drug therapeutics than any other one thing." These sentiments of Dr. Stewart can be safely and wholeheartedly endorsed by every one truly interested in the progress of the healing art, be he physician, pharmacist, laboratory investigator, teacher, chemist or manufacturer. Similar sentiments are expressed by Bastedo (*J. A. M. A.*, Vol. 74, No. XII, 3/20/20), when he suggests with reference to U. S. P. revision, "That glandular drugs and their pure principles be introduced. . . . That newly introduced chemical substances of proved worth be included." It is a crying shame that our Pharmacopoeia does not yet recognize solution of epinephrin (adrenalin) chloride, argyrol, acetylsalicylic acid, arsphenamin, etc. Scientific research will and must go on. New remedies and the investigation of some of the older and oldest remedies will proceed, irrespective of whether it is pharmacopoeial revision or not.

Physicians will justly insist that they cannot be expected to wait for the adoption and use of newly discovered remedial agents until the revisional committee has put its stamp of approval upon them, a fruition which has to wait the expiration of patent rights and many other restricting and inhibiting influences.

To ameliorate this undesirable and to some extent unbearable condition, the American Medical Association established the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and has endeavored to bring within reach of the medical profession those "New and Non-official Remedies" which comply with certain rules and regulations laid down by the council.

This, no doubt, was a step in the right direction, but it by no means solved the problem for the reason that the scope of the A. M. A. council is limited to censoring extravagant or unjustified claims as regards composition, active principles (kind and quantity) and to the mode of advertising substances or remedial agents seeking admission to "New and Non-official Remedies."

That physicians and pharmacists are interested in these phases of new remedies cannot be gainsaid. But they are still more interested in the new remedies and preparations from the point of view of their efficiency as therapeutic agents. An attempt to accomplish this was made in 1905 by establishing the "American Pharmacologic Society." This society proposed to judge additions to materia medica in the following manner:

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First: By fixing tests for determining the identity, purity and strength of the product, thus securing uniformity in therapeutic effect.

Second: By sending the product to one or more physiologic laboratories to ascertain its action on animals.

Third: By sending it to at least two clinicians for clinical tests.

Fourth: By compiling the results of these tests in a "working bulletin" and sending the same to the members of the society and others for comment, whether favorable or otherwise.

The only real objection made against the working of that society was that the manufacturers submitting preparations for criticism were expected to pay for such investigation and that they would use the endorsement of the society for advertising purposes.

I shall not at this time enter into any discussion as to the validity of this objection. The constitution and by-laws of the proposed society contained safeguards against exploitation of that kind, which, in the estimation of many competent physicians who endorsed the plan, were ample. Moreover, the plan of organization included representation from various medical and pharmaceutical societies, and also from manufacturing houses engaged in the pharmaceutical and pharma-chemical industries. Probably no plan of censorship could be devised fairer in every way than this. Competing manufacturing houses represented in the board would be quick to prevent, if possible, the circulation of false claims in relation to competing articles. Furthermore, I do not believe that a large body of scientific investigators could be bought by any manufacturer or group of manufacturers for any amount of money. But in order to bring up this matter once more for discussion, I will concede that some slight suspicion may attach itself to a society or group of men who would undertake such work and would accept remuneration from the one most interested in the favorable action, the manufacturer, particularly if such a society or committee was a strictly private affair, in which membership was regulated, awarded or refused by a private board, acting under its own constitution and by-laws and where "stuffing" of committees or political wire-pulling could possibly become an important factor.

On the other hand, the "laborer is worthy of his hire," and no onus should or could attach to the man who receives financial remuneration for scientific work honestly done and whose results and subsequent reports would not and could not be biased by influences of a selfish or financial nature.

Admitting then that a careful investigation of the merits of new remedies is a consummation much to be desired, and realizing the importance of placing useful new remedies at the disposal of the physician at the earliest possible opportunity, there remains but the elaboration of a system which will accomplish this without the possible taint of commercialism. Much as the Pharmacopoeial Revision Committee has been criticised, such criticism, being for errors of omission rather than of commission, no scandal of commercialism has attached or could ever attach to this committee, considering the manner in which it is constituted. Representing, as it does, delegates from medical and pharmacy schools, incorporated county, state and national societies, with the check-valves of the government, it is hard to conceive how such a committee could serve other than the best interests of the public and the professions. I, therefore, propose for your consideration the extension of the activities of the U. S. Pharmacopoeial Revision Committee, so that this committee may take up the investigation of newer remedies in the manner outlined above to the end that constant progress in medical research may promptly become available for the relief of suffering humanity.

The Chairman's address was referred to a committee consisting of F. E. Stewart, Joseph L. Mayer and Heber W. Youngken.

The above-named committee reported at the final session of the Section, but for convenient reference the report is placed here.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

Your committee reports that *whereas* the Chairman's address refers to a plan, first suggested to the A. M. A. in 1881 and subsequently presented to the U. S. Congress in a memorial from the Association, and later taken up in some of its essential details by the A. Ph. A. by the appointment and work of a special committee on national legislation, and *whereas* this plan is being gradually developed by the work of the two associations, resulting in the organization of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the A. M. A., and, *whereas* the plan should be considered in relation

to the possible reorganization of the A. Ph. A., therefore your committee recommend that the Chairman's address and recommendations be referred to the Committee on Reorganization of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

(Signed) F. E. STEWART, *Chairman*,
HEBER W. YOUNGKEN,
JOSEPH L. MAYER.

It was moved and carried that the report be received and approved.

The following papers were presented:

"Biological Assay: Its Scope and Limitations," by H. C. Hamilton.

"The Prophylactic and Therapeutic Value of Vaccines," by G. W. McCoy.

"Vaccines and Immune Serums—Have They Come to Stay?" by F. E. Stewart.

"Suggestions for Improvements of the Assay Processes of the U. S. P.," by Frantz F. Berg.

"A Simplified Laboratory Method for the Determination of the Phenol Coefficient of Disinfectants," (see June issue, JOURNAL A. Ph. A.) by Albert Schneider.

"Revision of the Monographs of Official Chemicals," by H. V. Army.

"New Tests for Some Purgative Drugs," by E. H. Grant.

"New Tests for Sparteine and Guaiac," by E. H. Grant.

It was moved and carried that the following resolution proposed by Dr. Anderson be received and referred to the House of Delegates for their action.

Resolved, That biological methods of assay now having proved their value be made obligatory in the next revision of the Pharmacopoeia.

Dr. Arno Viehoever brought up the question of securing representation on the National Research Council. After a thorough discussion of the matter, it was moved and carried that a committee of three be appointed to consider the matter and to report on the same as early as possible. The following committee was appointed: Arno Viehoever, Albert Schneider and Ambrose Huusberger.

The Chair appointed the following as members of the Nominating Committee: Albert Schneider, John Paul Snyder and H. C. Hamilton.

SECOND SESSION, MAY 8, 10 A.M.

The second session of the Scientific Section, A. Ph. A., was called to order by Joseph L. Mayer, who presided owing to the absence of Chairman Jacob Diner.

The following papers were read:

"Phytochemical Studies," by Edward Kremers, *et al.*

"Analysis of Mercurial Ointment," by Joseph L. Mayer.

"The Influence of Hydrochloric Acid in Extracting Cinchona," by Wilbur L. Scoville.

"The Function of Glycerin in Fluidextracts," by Wilbur L. Scoville.

"Solubility of Volatile Oils in Diluted Alcohol," by Horatio C. Wood, Jr.

"How Can the Monographs on Inorganic Chemicals in the U. S. P. be Improved?" by Charles H. LaWall.

"Laboratory Notes," by George E. Éwe.

"Disinfectant Solution (Special Application)," by Lucius E. Sayre.

THIRD SESSION, MAY 8, 8.30 P.M.

The third session of the Scientific Section was opened by Joseph L. Mayer and later Chairman Jacob Diner presided.

The following papers were read:

"Domestic and Imported Hellebore, *Veratrum viride* Ait., *californicum* D. and *album* L.," by George L. Keenan and Joseph F. Clevenger.

"Relative Oil Content of Sage Leaves and Stems," by Arno Viehoever and Joseph F. Clevenger.

"Popular Names of Crude Drugs," by Arno Viehoever.

"Mustard and Mustard Substitutes," by Arno Viehoever.

"Plant Associations," by Heber W. Youngken.

"Proposed Changes in the Monographs of Some Vegetable Drugs of the U. S. P.," by E. N. Gathercoal.

- "Pharmaceutical Problems Presented by the Dakin Products," by Frank B. Kirby.
 "The Chemistry of the Volatile Oil of Milfoil," by Roland E. Kremers.
 "Why Castile Soap Should be Dropped from the Pharmacopoeia," by E. V. Kyscr.
 "Proposed Vegetable Drug Deletions," by A. Richard Bliss, Jr.
 "Botanical Codes of Nomenclature in the U. S. P.," by H. H. Rusby.
 "Official Standards for Botanical Drugs," by C. W. Ballard.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EBERT PRIZE.

The Committee on Ebert Prize, F. R. Eldred, *Chairman*, W. I. Scoville and W. F. Rudd, reported that the prize had been awarded to Dr. George D. Beal, of the University of Illinois, for work done on immiscible solvents in connection with their use in alkaloidal assaying. The Committee also recommended that an announcement of the award of the prize be made at the 1st general session of the Association in the future. It was voted to receive the report and adopt the recommendations.

The Committee on the Chairman's Address then reported. (See First Session of the Section.)

The Nominating Committee presented the names of the following as nominees of the Section for the ensuing year:

Chairman, A. G. DuMez, Washington, D. C.

First Vice-Chairman, Joseph I. Mayer, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Second Vice-Chairman, Frantz F. Berg, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Secretary, Heber W. Youngken, Philadelphia, Pa.

The nominees were elected and thereafter installed.

The meeting of the Scientific Section was then adjourned.

SECTION ON PRACTICAL PHARMACY AND DISPENSING, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE SESSIONS HELD IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, MAY 7 AND 10, 1920.*

The first session of the Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing was called to order by Chairman Edsel A. Ruddiman, May 7, at 2.00 P.M.

F. W. Nitardy presided during the reading of the Chairman's address:

ADDRESS OF CHAIRMAN EÐSEL A. RUDDIMAN.

Practical pharmacy and dispensing is the beneficiary of all other departments of pharmacy. Historical, scientific, educational, legislative, and commercial all contribute to its good and practical pharmacy embraces them all. The Chairman of this Section, therefore, has the privilege of considering any of these branches.

In this address nothing new is offered, but it is desired to add a little more weight if possible to some of the problems which are pressing for solution.

THE PHARMACOPOEIA.

It is but fitting that reference be made to the fact that we are celebrating the completion of one hundred years since the United States Pharmacopoeia first made its appearance. Although many changes and great improvements have been made since the first edition, the writers of that first pharmacopoeia are to be honored for their wisdom and sagacity.

Many of the papers presented to this Association this year deal with suggested improvements. May we hope that the Committee of Revision will act wisely, will not revise simply to make a change, will not make a change unless some defect is really remedied. The Pharmacopoeia at present is a book of which we are justly proud.

TREND OF PHARMACY.

Is the professional work of the pharmacist on the increase or decrease? This is a disputed question if prescriptions are considered. That professional work is on the decrease when making

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