

EDITORIAL

INTERPHEX '83 Conference

One of the highlights of the year for those involved in pharmaceutical manufacturing has, for many years, been the INTERPHEX Show which has been held annually at the New York Coliseum. This renowned exposition provides a superb opportunity for the inspection of a very wide variety of equipment and services of interest to the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries.

For some time there has been a feeling that a Conference on topics directly relevant to the Show to be held in the same building would add an extra dimension to INTERPHEX. Thus, in the Fall of 1983 Dr. Bernard T. Loftus, former Director of Drug Manufacture at F.D.A., and Dr. Christopher T. Rhodes, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pharmaceutics at the University of Rhode Island were requested to organize the INTERPHEX '83 Conference.

The organizers were fortunate in receiving the enthusiastic and unselfish co-operation of many distinguished industrial scientists and executives, F.D.A. officials and academicians. To all who spoke in the formal lecture sessions or at the informal round-table workshops or who advised the organizers on the design of the Conference, we offer our sincere thanks.

The Conference was a great success. Over four hundred people attended and the feed-back has been very favorable. There were three separate "tracks" to the conference (1) Dosage form design and production, (2) Systems and F.D.A. regulations, and (3) Packaging and F.D.A. regulations. Each track included informal round-table workshops at which small groups of participants - no more than twenty - could have confidential discussions on a variety of important technical and regulatory topics.

Highlights of the Conference included two plenary lectures prepared by Mr. Nathaniel L. Geary, Director of Intergovernmental and Industry Affairs Staff of the Federal Food and Drug Administration and by Dr. Jane Sheridan, Assistant Vice-President, Director Quality Control, Hoffman-LaRoche Inc. Both plenary lectures provided incisive and thought-provoking comments on the optimization of relationships between the F.D.A. and industry.

This issue of Drug Development and Industrial Pharmacy is a special INTERPHEX '83 Conference issue. Some, but not all, of the papers published in this issue were presented at the Conference.

Such was the success of the INTERPHEX '83 Show and Conference that preliminary plans are already being made for the next Show and Conference. Suggestions concerning speakers or topics would be welcome.

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