

Approximately ninety prescriptions a day are filled in these two pharmacies, and during the college session all the compounding is done by our senior students under the supervision of four graduate, registered pharmacists. At the beginning of each session the senior class is divided into small sections and each section assigned to dispensary duty for a period of approximately three months. It is so arranged that all prescriptions are delivered to us between the hours of one and two, and four and five, hence, during the three months' period each student compounds an average of eight prescriptions a day.

The prescription experience is quite varied, as there are seventy physicians on our dispensary and hospital staffs. In addition to this, many of the patients in the hospital are under the care of their own private physicians. We are safe in assuming then that the prescriptions which come to us during the college session are written by a minimum of eighty physicians. We dispense no stock solutions, but on the contrary it is the policy for the physicians to prescribe whatever they think most nearly meets the needs of the patient, regardless of cost. Our hospital pharmacy carries a complete line of proprietaries, serums and vaccines, with which the students become familiar.

Satisfactory service in dispensing is now our most rigid requirement for graduation. No student is recommended for graduation who has not convinced the four registered pharmacists in charge of his dispensing that he is a good and safe dispenser, even though his rating in other subjects may have been excellent.

In conclusion, we in Virginia maintain that by proper utilization of the facilities offered by hospitals and dispensaries, adequate experience in compounding and dispensing can be offered the student during his college course to make him sufficiently proficient in this respect to entitle him to registration. However, in order that this be a success certain precautions must be observed: financial resources and teaching facilities must be adequate; classes must be divided into small sections for teaching purposes and the instructional force must be sufficiently large to permit of individual instruction.

These conditions have been fulfilled by our college. Virginia has taken a progressive step which eventually will place pharmacy in that State on a plane with other professions. With firm conviction in the wisdom of our course we invite your closest scrutiny of our work and its results. May your criticism not be tainted with prejudice. When pharmaceutical educators admit the faults of their preceptorial methods and meet in common council with open minds and unbiased judgments to rectify the errors of the past, then and only then will pharmacy command from the lay and professional world the recognition which it so justly deserves.

THE HOSPITAL DISPENSARY AND COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

BY W. J. TEETERS.*

Probably no part of the work of instruction in Colleges of Pharmacy differs so much as the teaching of prescription work. This is due to the fact that conditions are different at the various institutions. It is very evident that institutions connected with Medical Colleges, if the dispensary is in charge of the College of Pharmacy, has a decided advantage. Under such an arrangement the student

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can, under proper supervision, get actual practical experience which, if carefully planned, will better prepare him for this phase of his profession than the experience he can get to-day in 90 per cent. of the drug stores of the country.

There are certain things about the drug business that cannot be learned in college, but prescription work, under the conditions stated above, is not one of them and some recognition of this fact should be made by State Boards of Pharmacy.

Naturally certain prerequisite studies should be required before this work is started, such as inorganic chemistry and at least one semester of organic chemistry, *materia medica*, physiology, pharmaceutical mathematics, and theoretical and practical pharmacy.

Lectures and stereopticon slides of actual prescriptions are not enough but should be accompanied with carefully planned laboratory work to "burn the subject in" and either Scoville's or Ruddiman's Text or both should be used as reference and guide.

From the fact that this subject has only recently been under discussion in the *Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association*, and the fact that the College of Pharmacy of the University of Iowa was one of the first to develop this method of giving the students practical experience, while in college, it may be of interest to briefly outline the procedure:

The laboratory work is given in conjunction with the didactic course as far as the filling of laboratory prescriptions is concerned. The theoretical and practical work, in the main, should precede actual Hospital work, as nearly as it can be arranged. It should be stated that the laboratory preparations of the senior year are all used in the Hospital and the student instead of making a few ounces of a preparation may make many gallons, depending upon whether there is a great use for it or not. This laboratory work includes the making of all U. S. P. and N. F. preparations and innumerable formulas, reagents, stains, photographic developers, soap, toilet preparations, etc. The result is this—the very fact that the student knows that the material is to be used creates more interest on his part as to manufacture and greater care and cleanliness.

This work is carefully supervised by assistants and all weights and measures checked to avoid possible errors.

The Dispensary of the University General Hospital, the Children's Hospital, Urology Hospital, Psychopathic Hospital, Student Health Clinic and Out-Clinic are under the direct charge of the Dean of the College of Pharmacy and, since 1905, have been by action of the Board of Regents.

The various hospitals have a capacity of some 625 beds and the student health clinic looks after the welfare of some 6000 students and, at certain times of the year, furnishes abundance of work.

Two registered pharmacists are employed in Dispensary work. The senior class is divided into sections of twos, a number that can be carefully instructed and supervised. The student spends two hours or more per day in the Dispensary, Sundays included.

The general Dispensary of the University Hospital is equipped with every convenience possible for service. The average number of drug orders and prescriptions is well over 4000 per month and includes every phase of prescription work, including of course the dispensing of narcotics and biologicals.

We believe that we have solved the problem of giving our students thorough and practical work in what should be the test to determine the students' skill in the profession of pharmacy, but the sad part of the story is this—many of our graduates in practice, especially in the smaller towns of Iowa, would starve to death if they depended upon their prescription business for a living. This again is a different story, but the successful solution of one problem may lead the way to the solution of the other.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and its branches shall become the property of the Association, with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication than those of the Association, except by consent of the Committee on Publication."—*By-Laws, Chapter X, Art. III.*

Reports of the meetings of the Local Branches should be mailed to the Editor on the day following the meeting, if possible. Minutes should be typewritten, with wide spaces between the lines. Care should be taken to give proper names correctly, and manuscript should be signed by the reporter. To maintain its activity and representation each branch should see that at least three of its meetings during the year are reported in the *JOURNAL*.

BALTIMORE.

The February meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the A. Ph.A. was held at the Emerson Hotel on February 28, 8.15 P.M.; Dr. Hermann Engelhardt presided.

The principal feature of the evening was the presentation of the slides showing the American Colleges of Pharmacy, prepared by Dr. Caswell A. Mayo. As the pictures were thrown on the screen they were explained by Dr. E. F. Kelly. The meeting was well attended, was much enjoyed, and the Secretary was directed to express to Dr. Mayo the thanks and appreciation of the Branch for the use of the slides.

The Branch reelected the following officers for the present year:

President—Dr. Hermann Engelhardt, 2912 Garrison Ave., Baltimore.

Vice-President—John C. Krantz, Jr., Baltimore.

Secretary-Treasurer—B. Olive Cole, Greene & Lombard Sts., Baltimore.

Chairman Committee on Membership—Wilm H. Schulze.

Chairman Committee on Professional Relations—Chas. L. Meyer.

Chairman Committee on Science and Practice of Pharmacy—Dr. Daniel Base.

Chairman Committee on Education and Legislation—Dr. E. F. Kelly.

B. OLIVE COLE, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

CHICAGO.

The 133rd meeting of the Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Hotel LaSalle Friday evening,

February 25 at 8:00 o'clock with President Warren presiding.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner in honor of Dr. Henry H. Rusby of New York, the speaker of the evening. The attendance at the dinner and meeting was unusually large and included visitors from the Illinois Microscopical Society, from Indiana, and a number of cities in Illinois, outside of Chicago.

Dr. Rusby presented a most interesting and instructive lecture illustrated with many fine slides on his recent exploration trip to South America. While the lecture was popular in its nature and of interest to those not especially versed in pharmacy, it was also of great value to pharmacists and those familiar with drugs, because Dr. Rusby discussed and illustrated many drug plants. He also showed pictures of wonderful cacti, orchids and other interesting plants. The scientific and economic value of this great expedition has hardly begun to be realized. Dr. Rusby stated that some of the investigations of the new plant products already indicate important medical agents. As Mr. Warren stated, in discussing the lecture,—it will be many years before the full value of the scientific discoveries are known or utilized to their greatest economic extent.

Dr. Chas. F. Millspaugh, Botanical Curator of the Field Museum of Natural History, commented most favorably upon the lecture and stated that in the new South American exploration work was being undertaken by the Museum through the generosity of Captain Marshall Field, some of the unfinished