

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LOCAL BRANCHES

"All papers presented to the Association and Branches shall become the property of the Association with the understanding that they are not to be published in any other publication prior to their publication in those of the Association, except with the consent of the Council."—Part of Chapter VI, Article VI of the By-Laws.

ARTICLE III of Chapter VII reads: "The objects and aims of local branches of this Association shall be the same as set forth in ARTICLE I of the Constitution of this body, and the acts of local branches shall in no way commit or bind this Association, and can only serve as recommendations to it. And no local branch shall enact any article of Constitution or By-Law to conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association."

ARTICLE IV of Chapter VII reads: "Each local branch having not less than 50 dues-paid members of the Association, holding not less than six meetings annually with an attendance of not less than 9 members at each meeting, and the proceedings of which shall have been submitted to the JOURNAL for publication, may elect one representative to the House of Delegates."

Reports of the meeting of the Local Branches shall 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. *Please advise us of changes in Roster and mail reports promptly.*

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

The meeting of the City of Washington Branch, A. PH. A., was held at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHARMACY on December 13th, President Briggs presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

L. E. Warren gave an illustrated lecture entitled "Pharmacy and Medicine in Ancient Egypt." The speaker traced the history of Egypt and the use of medicines and drugs by Egyptian priests. A discussion followed the lecture; Mr. Warren answered the questions.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted:

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS during the past two months there have occurred between 90 and 100 fatalities following the use of a medicinal preparation featuring sulfanilamide

AND WHEREAS according to the available data, the toxic effect was attributable not to the sulfanilamide, but to one of the ingredients in the vehicle

AND WHEREAS the toxic substance is a comparatively new chemical in the commercial field, and while not intended primarily for pharmaceutical purposes, its use in the present instance demonstrates that any chemical substance may find its way into medicinal preparations provided it possesses properties that render it attractive as a solvent, vehicle, diluent, bulk producer or what not

AND WHEREAS during the past twenty years a considerable number of new chemicals have been evolved by the manufacturers, and through aggressive salesmanship have been adapted to a variety of commercial uses

AND WHEREAS certain products have been exploited indiscriminately with little or no knowledge of their physiological effects or the industrial hazards attendant on their employment

AND WHEREAS the retail druggist usually has no first-hand knowledge of the composition of the packaged items that he is called upon to sell, and what information he possesses is confined to the declarations on the labels, the claims of the salesman, literature supplied by the producer, such data seldom if ever applying to the vehicles, solvents or diluents

AND WHEREAS when accidents occur it is often the retail druggist selling the article who is confronted with publicity and actions for damage, and even though he may eventually shift the responsibility to the original purveyor, he may suffer unwarranted notoriety and discredit.

Be It Resolved Therefore that in order to obviate this situation as well as to protect the ultimate consumer, this ASSOCIATION recommends the enactment of such legislation as may be necessary to supervise the traffic in chemical substances, in that the physiological effect of the same and the limits of their toxicity may be ascertained, and proper and sufficient labeling provided which will protect the compounder of medicinal products and pharmaceuticals, in the end

that the retailer may not be called upon to dispense dangerous substances of which he has no knowledge.

Be It Further Resolved that these resolutions be transmitted to the parent organization for appropriate action, and to the other branches with the suggestion that similar resolutions be considered.

H. C. Fuller read the program for the next meeting, which was held at the Cosmos Club, on January 17th. He stated that the new officers would be installed.

President Briggs appointed a nominating committee consisting of Messrs. Taylor, Witt, Swann and Fuller; the latter was named chairman. This committee presented the following nominations: *President*, L. E. Warren; *First Vice-President*, I. A. Tennyson; *Second Vice-President*, E. G. Swann; *Third Vice-President*, Miss P. A. Pierson; *Secretary*, K. L. Kelly; *Treasurer*, W. T. McClosky. The nominations were closed and the candidates duly elected, by unanimous vote. They were presented.

V. B. NORELLI, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.

The annual dinner meeting of the Washington Branch of the A. PH. A. was held on January 7th, at the Cosmos Club, with twenty-three present, including ladies. Retiring president Briggs expressed his appreciation to the officers and members of the Branch for their assistance during his term of office and then introduced the new president.

President Warren introduced Abraham T. Schwartz, pharmacist, stationed at the Naval Hospital, who read an instructive paper on "The Duties of a Chief Pharmacist in the United States Navy." This paper presented a critical review of the requirements and the extensive training necessary to fit a man to qualify for this position. In this capacity, his duties are largely administrative, having to do with the handling of personnel, property, and the purchase, examination and distribution of medical supplies. This paper complimented the one presented by Dr. Swann at an earlier meeting; and it was very instructive to those interested in this service.

Dr. Arthur Sievers, who has for many years been connected with the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture, presented an illustrated paper entitled, "A Brief History of Drug Culture in the United States." This paper is a comprehensive outline of the many efforts in this country to cultivate both foreign and domestic drugs. The yield and strength of the drugs so produced are good but few of these projects have been financially successful due to the relatively small amounts required to meet the present demands, the large amounts of some of these drugs collected in the wild state, and the high cost of labor. This study was undertaken to record the efforts made to meet the problem presented by the decline in domestic production and the interference in importations of certain drugs.

These papers were followed by a bibliographical sketch of the late Dr. Frederick Belding Power, presented by V. K. Chestnut.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the president, upon approval of the meeting, dispensed with the reading of the minutes and introduced one new member, Irving Ness, pharmacist at the Tuberculosis Hospital at Glendale. Chairman Fuller announced that the February meeting, to be held on the 21st, would consist of a joint meeting with the Potomac Trail Club at the Institute Building, the speaker to be Dr. T. S. Githens of Glenolden, Pa.—an illustrated talk on "The Manufacture of Antivenins for Snake Bite."

KENNETH L. KELLY, *Secretary*.

CHICAGO.

The 248th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held Tuesday evening, January 18, 1938, in the Medical College, University of Illinois. The meeting was called to order by President Emig and the report of the Nominating Committee presented, with the following nominees being elected unanimously; for the year 1938-1939: *President*, Herbert M. Emig; *First Vice-President*, Lawrence Templeton; *Second Vice-President*, R. A. G. Linke; *Third Vice-President*, Charles F. Lanwermyer; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Ralph E. Terry. *Delegate to the House of Delegates*, W. M. Gray. Committee Chairman: Membership, S. W. Morrison; Legislation, J. Harry Lindahl; Practice, Irwin A. Becker; Medical Relations, Dr. Bernard Fantus; Publicity, W. Orlo Knight.

Discussion of the plans for the celebration of the 250th meeting to be held March 15th then followed with announcement of Dr. Ernest Little as the speaker. Several suggestions were made by the group concerning this affair.

President Emig then introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Worth Gray of the Technical Service Department of Standard Oil Company of Indiana. Mr. Gray's topic was titled, "The Refining of Petroleum for Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Products."

Mr. Gray stated that until 1914, little advance in the refining of petroleum had been made in the United States with respect to medicinal products. With the outbreak of the World War and disruption of imports of foreign oils and products, the American refiners attempted to transfer the technique used for lubricating oils and greases to medicinal products with little success. Basic types of petroleum essentially similar to Rumanian oils were available but simple distillation and acid treatments were insufficient to produce suitable products. After some experimentation, it was found that ethyl alcohol could be used to wash out the offending petroleum sulfonates and other objectionable substances.

Speaking of "White Oil" or Liquid Petrolatum, Mr. Gray outlined the necessary qualifications which are considered in the choice of the crude oil to be used, such as picking a petroleum which would yield a high quality liquid petrolatum in greatest amount and with the least possible amount of by-products. Since the waste by-products are highly acid mixtures, the disposal problem is very great. They are highly corrosive to metal, low in fuel value and constituted one of the early vexious problems in their disposal. Some of this material is now used as emulsifiers, fat splitters, textile oils for the penetration of dyes, made into greases for pressure lubricants; under proper conditions they can be made into rust inhibitors, and incorporated into printing inks that effect better striking qualities. However the disposal of the excess still remains a problem.

The distillation of the crude oil is carried out in three stages, using a combined steam and vacuum still, the first fraction is used for fuel oil, the second unit is frequently checked for proper specific gravity and viscosity choosing for further refining that fraction which is twice the U. S. P. standards, since additional treatment will result in a loss of fifty per cent of the original values. The residue constitutes petrolatum after bleaching.

Several acid washings are given the high viscosity fraction with mechanical and air agitation to rid the oil of unsaturated hydrocarbons. This takes a period of thirty days or more and results in a loss of about fifty per cent of the oil. On the addition of sodium hydroxide, "mahogany soaps" result removing the residual sulfonates. The oil at this stage is washed with water and then air passed through it to "blow it bright" as it is termed. Decolorization by percolation through fuller's earth to the desired degree of color and final dehydration completes the liquid petrolatum.

The residual third fraction constitutes petrolatum which is bleached by heating with fuller's earth until the desired color results. The oil fraction is removed by diluting with naphtha and cooling to a low temperature which effects a separation. Petrolatum has a definite fibrous crystalline structure dependent upon the original source and the degree to which the refining is carried out.

Mr. Gray discussed the question of storage and packaging of these products, stating that research on this phase had been found to be extremely necessary; in fact equal in amount to that given to distillation and other refining processes.

The production of paraffin was also described with especial mention of the fact that it consists of isomeric compounds of the same carbon content as liquid petrolatum. Since paraffin consists of solids with a definite crystalline structure, their separation from liquid petrolatum is accomplished by chilling and filtering.

An exhibit of the various stages in the refining was shown and after a rising vote of thanks to the speaker, the meeting was adjourned by President Emig.

FEBRUARY.

The 249th meeting of the Chicago Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held February 15, 1938. President Emig presided and the following business was transacted: (1) announcement was made of the plans for the March meeting at which the 250th Meeting will be celebrated with a dinner at the Palmer House; (2) the secretary was instructed to prepare and convey a resolution of congratulations on the part of the Branch to Dean W. B. Day on his 67th birthday; (3) announcement was made of the appointment of Ivor Griffith as Dean of Pharmacy at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Sciences.

Following this business session, President Emig introduced the speaker for the evening, Dr. Edgar B. Carter of the Abbott Laboratories whose title was "Ampuls and Their Manufacture and Control." Speaking of Ampuls for intravenous use, since these are examples of the most difficult type to prepare, Dr. Carter outlined his discussion into three units: (1) the chemical; (2) the solvent; (3) the glass ampul itself.

The use of chemicals of reagent grade or of the highest possible purity was pointed out with reasons for the choice of such materials. Along with the use of these chemicals, certain intangible characteristics were discussed. It was pointed out that different sources of supply for the same chemically identical material did not always yield physically equal solutions. The testing of the formula for efficacy, for optimum pH range, changes under storage conditions, etc., were discussed and the importance of a careful study of all possible points stressed.

The importance of the proper care in use of sterile distilled water was then outlined by Dr. Carter. A short history of the discovery and study of febrile producing protein substances which develop in distilled water which has stood for only a short time was given. Dr. Carter pointed out the manner in which the water becomes contaminated and how necessary it is to prevent the presence of this material in the finished ampul. The use of freshly distilled water and the sterilization of the ampul solutions within a very short time after being made was pointed out as the only method of avoiding this development of pyrogens.

By giving a short history of the production of glass suitable for ampuls, the speaker introduced a very interesting topic. He pointed out the need for a special glass since the purer the water used, the greater was its corrosive effect and that the temperature of sterilization had a great influence on the amount of glass which might go into solution. Changes in pH of the solution in the ampuls due to solution of the glass and in some cases the production of glass spicules (silicate masses) was discussed, leading into an outline of the tests for glass quality. The sealing of distilled water in ampuls and the heating of these ampuls at 15 lbs. pressure for 20 minutes would determine quickly if the sample of glass was suitable, since unsuitable glass would develop characteristic silicates. The use of Jena Filax glass, the development of American glass formulas of better quality and the present high state of perfection was then outlined.

Finally, the speaker described the methods for determining sterility and how during the period of quarantine, great care is used to prevent possible error. It was pointed out that the N. F. VI for the first time gives definite methods for the sterility tests making them mandatory with all ampul solutions. Inspection techniques through the use of special lighting arrangements was explained. After this questions were asked of Dr. Carter which he answered.

A rising vote of thanks was offered the speaker.

R. E. TERRY, *Secretary.*

MICHIGAN.

The regular meeting of the Michigan Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held December 3, 1937. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at Steiner's Restaurant.

A large attendance was in evidence; Ann Arbor as usual was well represented by Dr. H. B. Lewis, director of the College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, and Professors Charles H. Stocking and J. L. Powers, of the faculty. Also Harvey Whitney, chief pharmacist of University Hospital, E. C. Watts his assistant, and Jerry C. Totzka, director of drugs and drug stores.

The meeting was called to order by President Earl Soop at 7:15 P.M. Owing to the limited time, minutes of the previous meeting were omitted. Dean R. T. Lakey reported on the activities of the Program Committee. President Soop named a membership committee in accordance with the motion of R. W. Klein to enlarge activities of the branch and its membership.

Members of the committee appointed are: Prof. C. H. Stocking, University of Michigan; Ralph J. Mills, Wayne University; J. L. Dorian, Detroit Institute of Technology; E. C. Watts, Hospital Pharmacy; Earl Soop, Students: Walter M. Chase, Industrial Pharmacy; Maison G. de Navarre, Cosmeticians; James T. Liddle, East Side; Joseph J. Burniac, West Side; R. W. Klein, North End; Leonard A. Seltzer, Downtown; out-of-state members to be added later.

John H. Webster opened a general discussion regarding the status of the assistant pharmacist after January 1938, when the new pharmacy law goes into effect. Mr. Totzka and the

members of the Board of Pharmacy were agreed that the status by law of the assistant would be no different than it has been; that is, after twenty-five years' experience as an assistant registered pharmacist he would receive a certificate as registered pharmacist, as provided in the existing law. Messrs. Stocking, Seltzer, Lakey, Webster, McCabe and Whitney took part in the discussion.

At 7:45 the meeting adjourned to the auditorium of the College of Pharmacy and Medicine of Wayne University to join with the University and the Detroit Retail Druggists' Association in a program presented by Dr. A. D. Emmert of Parke, Davis & Co. and member of the United States Pharmacopœial Committee on Vitamins and an authority in this field.

Dr. Emmert gave a most timely talk on vitamins in health and disease. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides and demonstrations on living animals showing the effects of vitamin therapy upon them. This proved most interesting to the many pharmacists and ladies in attendance, which numbered about 250. The hearers were left better equipped with knowledge on vitamins, thus enabling them to present these products more intelligently to the physician and his patients.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.

The January meeting of the Michigan Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held January 7th.

The meeting was preceded by a sizzling dinner. The two Detroit Colleges of Pharmacy were well represented by members of the faculty. Dean Lakey and Mr. Mills represented Wayne University, College of Pharmacy, and Dean Stout of Detroit Institute of Technology and Professors Dorion, Warner and Emmert. The absence of Ann Arbor representatives and the University of Michigan broke a long chain of record attendances by this loyal group. President Earl Soop, Wayne University, presided at the meeting.

It was decided to again give over a meeting to the students of the Colleges of Pharmacy. Invitations will be extended to the recognized colleges of pharmacy in Michigan to participate in this annual Student Night program.

After congratulating the F. E. R. A. Committee for the splendid results accomplished during 1937 and for harmoniously working with the Wayne County Medical Society, President Soop re-appointed the Committee composed of Leonard A. Seltzer, *Chairman*, Bernard A. Bialk, Samuel Bornstein, W. A. Frohme, T. T. Matthews and Joseph F. Tandy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M. to the auditorium of the College of Pharmacy and Medicine of Wayne University to attend the lecture arranged by the Detroit Retail Druggists' Association and the College of Pharmacy of Wayne University.

"Endocrinology and the Pharmacist," an illustrated talk, delivered by Dr. D. H. Kitchen, endocrinologist of Parke, Davis & Company, an outstanding authority in this vast field which is playing such an important part in Medicine to-day, follows.

"The first hormone isolated in its pure crystalline form was Adrenalin from the adrenal medulla by Takamine in 1901. This discovery gave added impetus to the field of endocrinology and most of our present-day knowledge dates from that time, particularly the last ten years.

"The physician at the present time has at his command a larger number of hormone preparations which are available in a high state of purity and concentration. It remains only for our knowledge of diagnosis to advance to an equal level for results with organotherapy to be even more striking.

"The pharmacist to-day has an important place in this rapid advancement. As further strides are made even greater demands will be made upon you to supply active hormones on prescription to the laity. This subject will be discussed in detail.

"The average busy physician does not have the time to keep abreast of all phases of this rapidly advancing field. How many times every day is the pharmacist asked for rather definite information covering endocrinology or organotherapy? Obviously the pharmacist has a most important rôle, and for this reason he should continue to familiarize himself with the latest developments in the field.

"The pharmacist should above all be acquainted with the purity of hormones and the methods used in standardization of these all-important weapons. He should familiarize himself

with recommendations regarding dosage, and with factors such as stability, available packages and the many other things discussed in this lecture."

Illustrations in the form of lantern slides demonstrated in general the present status of glandular physiology and therapy.

The meeting, like the previous ones, was well attended by both men and women interested in the advancement of pharmacy. They were well rewarded, as Dr. Kitchen's talk was most interesting and instructive and unusually well presented. This lecture was the third of a group of "Continuation-Study" programs arranged by Wayne University and the D. R. D. A. and they are doing much to impart knowledge to pharmacists, to enable them to serve the public health and the physician.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.

The February meeting of the Michigan Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held in the Wayne County Medical Society Building, February 15, 1938. It was preceded by a dinner. President Earl Soop called the meeting to order, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Prof. C. C. Glover, in behalf of Dr. H. B. Lewis and the faculty of the University of Michigan, extended to the Michigan Branch an invitation to hold its May meeting in Ann Arbor in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical Conference sponsored by the University of Michigan, College of Pharmacy, May 18, 1938.

The principal speaker will be Dr. Robert L. Swain, president, American Boards of Pharmacy and secretary of the Maryland State Board of Pharmacy. Other speakers will include Dean Roland T. Lakey of Wayne University; Otis F. Cook, Secretary, Michigan State Pharmaceutical Association; and R. L. McCabe, member of Michigan State Board of Pharmacy.

President Soop read an invitation from the Chicago Branch, A. PH. A. to the members of the Michigan Branch to attend the 250th meeting of the Chicago group on March 15, 1938.

The president then introduced J. Edward Richardson, former president of the D. R. D. A. and Michigan Board of Pharmacy, who introduced the speaker of the evening, Treasurer Albert E. Cobo, of the City of Detroit. He was loaned by Industry to the City when they found themselves in need in financial difficulties.

It seems all that Mr. Cobo did was to apply business sense and principles. He illustrated his talk with many startling figures taken from the records of the city treasury; \$22,000,000 was written off in five years; the first time in history that the City debt has been reduced. This was accomplished while taxes were lowered \$100,000,000 in the past four years.

A \$76,000,000 budget in five years reduced to \$59,000,000 and besides the City employees received 5% more salary than in 1929—the saving was not taken out of the employees' salary.

Selling of back taxes was stopped, as no revenue was produced by outside buyers who were interested only in receiving from the unfortunate individual who was unable to pay the normal tax. Mr. Cobo installed the part-payment plan and the City has collected \$7,000,000 in interest alone on back taxes.

In 1934 the City budget was \$8,000,000 out of balance, this was corrected by curtailing expenses and increasing the revenue. He said the City finds itself in the same position to-day, unless the budget is balanced—an increase in revenue is necessary.

WELFARE PROBLEM.

The welfare problem to-day is estimated to cost the City of Detroit \$7,000,000 and the State \$2,000,000 and the peak has not been reached according to Mr. Cobo. He said \$15,000 probably would be added making it necessary to raise \$2,500,000 to finance.

He stated it has been his endeavor to tax within the reasonable power of people to pay. The program for property tax in this City is the finest in the country, and by eliminating the tax buyer, milking of property and profiteering has been eliminated and the City Treasury was benefited.

To illustrate his point he said \$13,000,000 was paid by apartments alone when the City Treasurer began action; 15,000 apartments owed back taxes; this number was brought down to 588, unpaid after the first letter from the City Treasurer. Only 190 appeared before the Council

for reduction in taxes; 486,000 parcels of property remain on the books for unpaid taxes, many of these are vacant lots.

He said the local government employed 36,000 people, more than the population of many cities in the state. The magnitude of the City Treasurer's job was illustrated by the 976,000 new accounts set up by Mr. Cobo in the five years he has served the City.

He covered the field so thoroughly that not much was left for discussion. Joseph Kearney of the Assessor's Office asked how Detroit compared with cities of like problems. Mr. Cobo said Detroit was fourth in the amount given the taxpayer for his dollar and complimented the Assessor's Office for its aid in making this possible.

L. A. Seltzer complimented the speaker and in thanks offered a rising vote which was enthusiastically given by a good attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M., every one satisfied the city treasury was in safe hands.

The March meeting of the Michigan Branch, A. PH. A. will be held in Wayne County Medical Building, Tuesday, March 22, 1938. Dinner will be at 6:30 P.M. and the program will follow immediately. Non-members, students and ladies are cordially invited and incur no obligation. An interesting "Prescription Clinic" is planned by the program committee.

BERNARD A. BIALK, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK.

The monthly meeting of the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held on Monday evening, January 10, 1938, at Columbia University, College of Pharmacy, President Schaefer presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$302.12.

The officers were elected—see January JOURNAL, page 59.

President Schaefer introduced the officers to the meeting; expressed his thanks to Dr. Hugo Schaefer for his work in making the 1937 convention such a success, to Mr. Mason of the Program Committee and to Secretary Givens, and then turned the chair over to President Canis.

Chairman R. S. Lehman reported for the Committee on Education and Legislation.

National Legislation.—The President's message to Congress on the state of the union, was received with more favor than the public utterances of the representatives of the administration immediately preceding it. The market reacted with an upward trend.

Congress will be called upon to enact a wage and hour bill; a bill reorganizing the Executive Departments; revising the revenue law, particularly the capital gains tax and undistributed gains tax provisions; a bill strengthening the anti-trust laws.

Minimum Price Contracts Legal.—The Federal Trade Commission issued an order dismissing complaints against Bristol-Meyers Company and Yardley's in which they were charged with retail price maintenance in violation of the Clayton Act.

President Canis appointed Mr. David Mason as *Chairman* of the Program Committee, and the following Delegates and Alternates to the New York Pharmaceutical Council:

Delegates.

Otto F. A. Canis
Frederick C. A. Schaefer
Jacob Seley
Horace T. F. Givens
L. C. Jayne
Peter C. Anselmo

Alternates.

James H. Kidder
John J. Corcoran
A. White
Charles Heimerzheim
George Decker
Jack Feldman

Dr. Herman Goodman presided as chairman of the Scientific Section on a "Symposium on Color."

Dr. Goodman gave some "Introductory and Historical Remarks on Physiology and Pharmacology."

COLOR IN FOOD, COSMETICS AND DRUGS: INTRODUCTORY AND HISTORICAL REMARKS ON
PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY.*

BY HERMAN GOODMAN.

The appeal of color has been universal through the ages. The search for color has lead man into many byways, off into unknown lands and across trackless oceans. Columbus sought a short route to the color storehouses of the Indies because of the tribute exacted by the roving robber bands of the old land routes.

Natural vegetable, animal and mineral colors were relatively scarce and costly as the name Royal Purple obviously implies. Yet, an English schoolboy, home on his Easter vacation working in a kitchen laboratory on problems which have remained unsolved 100 years later, discovered the first of the coal-tar colors, mauve or Royal Purple. The lowly tar barrel has been dissected and forced to disclose many of its secret quotients of color and odor. Since 1856 coal-tar colors have practically displaced the natural products which once alone supplied the world with color.

The coal-tar barrel first tapped by the boy Perkin, also became the source of experimentation of another youth in his teens. Paul Ehrlich began his studies and experiments with coal-tar preparations. He distinguished the members of the white blood-cell series by their dyeing reactions. He discovered the acid-fast nature of the tubercle bacillus recently discovered by Koch. Ehrlich acquired tuberculosis from these studies. He produced vital staining. He named the gonococcus. He advanced the theory of the immunity reaction known as the side-chain theory. This was the source of Wasserman's efforts which led to the serological reaction or blood test for syphilis. Ehrlich evaluated the diphtheria antitoxin so it could be standardized and injected safely. He studied the oxygen requirements of living organisms. Ehrlich failed in his attempts to learn the basic nature of cancer.

But starting with the base dye substance, atoxyl, and proceeding through hundreds of chemical modifications, Ehrlich with the 606th experiment devised a dye which has been a boon to suffering man. Syphilis and frambesia have been reduced because of the dream of Ehrlich. Truth to tell, the idea of a one-dose cure which Ehrlich felt was possible has not been attained, but 606 or 914 and their modifications and substitutes on the Ehrlich formula are not dreams.

Other healing products have been taken from the coal-tar colors, as the group of flavin antiseptics and the mercury chrome carriers. There are innumerable anesthetics and soothing remedies from coal tar, too.

On the other side of the ledger, there are hosts of explosives, poison gases and other products of the tar barrel which upset national economy and lead to strife.

Cancer and cancer-like reactions to the experimental application of coal-tar quotients have been reported. Who can foretell when some student of the color art will disclose some dye which will end the scourge of the human race by revealing the cure or prevention of cancer.

The dyes which have been presented to us for the alleviation of disease, for the decoration with color and odor of our food, cosmetics and drugs are not undiluted blessings. Some few persons react differently than the great majority. Altered reactivity or allergy has been the subject of much study and concern by associations as this one and the Board of Standards of the Toilet Goods Association, for example. Allergy does not restrain us from the application of coal tars in helpful addition to the beauty of life, to the restoration of healthful life, or possibly, life itself.

Although products already available from the tar barrel are too numerous to name, it is but a beginning. To-morrow and the day after, coal tar will still remain a source of pleasure and health. We must pay our respects to the founders—Perkin and Ehrlich. We anticipate new heroes in the art and science who will carry on their work. Meantime, all people may enjoy the fruits which were beyond imagination a few decades ago.

Prof. Abraham Taub presented the subject of "Color Standardization."

He discussed the need for color standardization, the present lack of uniformity in color names and the lack of standards for colors used in cosmetics, in contrast to the standardized certified colors used in food and drug products. He enumerated the available color standards for transparent and opaque substances, the types of colorimeters and their advantages and short-

* Summary of Paper delivered before the New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, January 10, 1938, at Columbia University, College of Pharmacy, 115 West 68th Street, N. Y. C.

comings, and concluded with a description and demonstration of the spectrophotometer, as the only instrument which yields a scientific description of color. He made a plea for the use of colors of non-secret composition and expressed the hope that the industry and pharmaceutical profession would set up their own standards of uniformity and purity rather than await bureaucratic regulations.

Albert Suess discussed "Practical Methods of Color Addition to Foods and Drugs."

Kenneth W. Ebert discussed some difficulties in the manufacture of new certified colors. The talks were accompanied by color exhibits and instruments.

Several men prominent in the field took part in the discussion.

A rising vote of thanks was accorded the speakers.

FOOD, DRUG AND COSMETIC COLOR SYMPOSIUM.

The New York Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for its January meeting, arranged a symposium on color in food, drugs and cosmetics for January 10th at the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University. The scientific section, to which the public is invited, begins at 9:00 P.M.

Following the custom of offering many aspects of the same problem by several speakers, the committee has invited a number of specialists in this field. A prominent dermatologist, Dr. Herman Goodman, of the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, L. I. University, presided as chairman. The subject of color standardization was presented by Abraham Taub, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Columbia University, College of Pharmacy. Albert Suess, consulting color chemist, formerly of Leipzig University, discussed practical methods of color addition to foods and drugs. Mr. Thomasat, chemist for the Ansbacher-Siegle Corp., reviewed the chemistry of color. The talks were accompanied by color exhibits and instruments.

The symposium closed with a critique by Mr. Kenneth W. Ebert of the Interstate Color Co., and by several consulting chemists of distinction. HORACE T. F. GIVENS, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY.

The Northern New Jersey Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION met at Rutgers College of Pharmacy, January 17, 1938. Doctor Marquier demonstrated a method for quickly preparing Compound Tincture of Cardamom that from the standpoint of elegance and economy has much to recommend it. Oil of Cardamom Seed 1.0 cc., Oil of Cinnamon 0.5 cc., Oil of Caraway 0.6 cc. Tincture of Cudbear Compound 15.0 cc., Alcohol 475.0 cc., Glycerin 50.0 cc., Distilled Water 475.0 cc. Dissolve the oils in the alcohol, add the glycerin, the distilled water, and lastly the tincture of cudbear compound.

Dr. Ralph W. Clark, of Merck & Co., read a paper in which he emphasized the relation of the pharmacist to public health; the value of the prescription to the physician; the economic status of the prescription to the pharmacist; the salesmanship and showmanship potentialities of the prescription; the advertising value of the visible prescription case, and the eagerness of the prescription chemical manufacturers as well as the pharmaceutical establishments to cooperate in building better prescription business. C. L. Cox, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN OHIO.

The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Ohio Branch of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION was held at the Faculty Club of Western Reserve University on Friday, February 11, 1938. This was a dinner meeting and after some routine business matters were disposed of, the guest speaker, Dr. Gerald S. Shibley, 10515 Medical Building, Carnegie Ave., Cleveland, was introduced.

Doctor Shibley talked on "Pneumonia." Incidence, bacteriologic types, symptoms, complications and therapy were discussed. The speaker gave a considerable portion of his time to the methods employed for "typing" the disease and emphasized the point that this must be done very early in the course of its onset. Statistics were given showing the results of antipneumococcus serum treatment on the various type organisms. Serum treatment is the most successful

method for treating the disease. Other specific therapy has been rather disappointing. Oxygen inhalation by the latest improved methods may be used to advantage to carry the patient over the crisis.

N. T. CHAMBERLIN, *Secretary*.

NORTHWESTERN.

The Northwestern Branch (AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION) held three meetings on three successive days in the auditorium of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Minnesota at which the following distinguished lecturers addressed the membership of the Branch and the student body of the College.

Monday, January 31st, "Therapeutic Agents Used in the Treatment of Anemia." Dr. Frank J. Heck, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

Tuesday, February 1st, "Local Anesthetics." Dr. F. F. Blicke, Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd, "Sex-Hormone Preparations." Dr. J. D. Ralston, Parke, Davis and Co., Detroit, Michigan.

These lecturers were members of the faculty of the Pharmaceutical Institute of the University of Minnesota which was in session at the time. The officers of the Branch were fortunate in securing these men for this series of lectures.

CHAS. V. NETZ, *Secretary-Treas.*

PITTSBURGH GRADUATE CHAPTER—KAPPA PSI.

The monthly meeting and dinner of the Pittsburgh Graduate Chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity was held January 19th. The Beta Kappa Chapter was the guest of the Graduate Chapter.

There were shorts talks given by the members. Motion pictures was the added attraction for the evening.

F. J. STEELE, *Historian*.



PHARMACEUTICAL SYMPOSIUM.

The Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, presented a Pharmaceutical Sym-

posium of the Centennial Celebration, February 16th, in the Richmond Academy of Medicine Auditorium. The announcement is signed by President W. T. Sanger, Dean W. F. Rudd and the Chairman of the Program Committee, T. D. Rowe.

The Program was as follows: "The Pharmacist and Public Health," Dr. L. C. Riggan, State Health Commissioner of Virginia; "The Practice of Professional Pharmacy," Mr. Eldon Roberts, Jr., Retail Pharmacist; "The Pharmacist and The Physician," Dr. J. Leon Lascoff, President-Elect of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

President-Elect J. Leon Lascoff, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, and Hon. President, New York State Pharmaceutical Association showing Dean Wortley F. Rudd and T. D. Rowe, Pharmacy School, Medical College of Virginia, his display of correct and incorrect medical prescriptions on display in the auditorium of the Richmond Academy of Medicine where Virginia's Pharmaceutical Symposium celebrating the Medical College Centennial, was held in February. (Left to right) Dean Rudd, Dr. Lascoff and Mr. Rowe.

Photo State Chamber of Commerce.

HAROLD M. FARKAS, *Science News Director*.