

RODOLFO ALBINO DIAS DA SILVA.

We are advised by Virgilio Lucas, President of the Pharmaceutical Association of Brazil, of the death of Rodolfo Albino Dias da Silva, professor of Pharmacognosy at the School of Pharmacy, University of Brazil, late *honorary*

*member* of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. He has been succeeded by Professor Oswaldo de Almeida Costa, a pharmacologist of high standing. President Lucas advises that the latter has signified his interest in pharmacy and is a worthy successor.

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OBITUARY.

DR. GEORGE H. SIMMONS.

A very large circle of friends among American physicians and pharmacists have been grieved to learn of the death of George H. Simmons, September 1st, at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, following an abdominal operation from which he failed to rally.



*Courtesy J. A. M. A.*

DR. GEORGE H. SIMMONS.

Dr. Simmons was born at Moreton, England, in 1852, and came to the United States when 18 years of age. While in attendance at the University of Nebraska he acted in an editorial capacity and as correspondent for various lay publications. He received the degree of M.D. from the Hahneman Medical College, Chicago, in 1882 and from the Rush Medical College in 1892.

He was engaged in the practice of medicine at Lincoln, Neb., from 1884 to 1892. In 1896 he established the *Western Medical Review*, of which he was the editor, and from 1895 to 1899 served as Secretary of the Nebraska State Medical Society.

In 1899 he became General Secretary of the American Medical Association and editor of *The Journal*, and at the time of his death was editor and general manager emeritus of that publication.

During the decade 1920-1930 he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the United States Pharmacopœial Convention. During the World War he held the rank of Major in the Army Medical Reserve Corps for which service he was awarded the distinguished Service Medal in 1921.

With the beginning of his service as General Secretary of the American Medical Association that rather staid professional organization entered upon a new order of existence. From a dignified professional society meeting periodically for the discussion of scientific papers it became an aggressively militant organization in the work of medical reform. Through its special organ it attacked medical quackery and fraud in all its forms. It led a crusade in favor of the improvement of the methods of medical education and in the exposure of fraudulent degree-conferring institutions.

Under his administration the A. M. A. Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry was established, through which the method of advertising therapeutic agents to the medical profession has been radically reformed, and at the same time the *Journal* has conducted a pitiless exposure of fraudulent medicines advertised to the general public.

It may fairly be said that it has been due mainly to his organizing and administrative ability that the American Medical Association has come to be regarded as the most potent and effective organization of its kind, and that the *A. M. A. Journal* owes its commanding

position among medical publications of the world.

It may fairly be said that through his work in the A. M. A. and its *Journal* Dr. Simmons has made a deeper and more lasting impression upon the practice of medicine than any other man of his generation.

In Lincoln, Neb., Dr. Simmons became known as a leader in reform movements and a resolution adopted by the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce indicated the willingness to admit the debt of that city to him for its political cleanliness and financial soundness.

The progress of the American Medical Association and its publications and other promotions have been brought into the sketch of Dr. Simmons, published in the *Journal A. M. A.* of September 4th. The article closes with the following lines: "The medical profession of the United States owes him a debt which it could never pay and which he never wished to collect."

We are indebted to Dr. James H. Beal for some of the foregoing data.

WILLIAM A. SAILER.

William A. Sailer, former director of Sharp &

Dohme, and head of the Baltimore Drug Exchange, died September 19th, at Union Memorial Hospital, Baltimore, age 75 years. Mr. Sailer became director of Sharp & Dohme in 1908, holding the position until his retirement. He was born at Swedesboro in 1861 and received his early education at St. Louis. After the death of his father he returned to Swedesboro and entered the drug business and thereafter matriculated at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and studied at the Medical and Chirurgical College. Before going to Baltimore Mr. Sailer was associated with John Wyeth & Bro., Philadelphia.

He was three times president of the American Drug Manufacturers' Association; twice president of the Baltimore Drug Exchange. He was a member of the Union League of Philadelphia, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, of Baltimore Country Club and the City Club.

He is survived by his widow and four children: Mrs. Philip M. Brown, Essex Fells, N. J.; Mrs. Paul E. Laferty, Baltimore; Miss Elizabeth G. Sailer of Baltimore; and John Wyeth Sailer of Philadelphia.

## SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

### N. A. R. D. MEETING.

The 1937 meeting of the N. A. R. D. convened in St. Louis, September 27th to October 1st, and promises to be very important and largely attended. The activities have extended from year to year and the responsibilities have increased greatly; this year they were of unusual importance and were given the consideration deserved, so that the foundations for practice under recent enactments may be properly adjusted, with fairness to all concerned. While this represented a very important part of the St. Louis program there was other legislation and conduct of business which made the coming together from near and far well worth the coming together for discussion and action for help and profit.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The New Hampshire Pharmaceutical Association was held September 12th-14th, at "The Balsams," Dixville Notch, N. H., in the center of America's Switzerland, on beautiful Lake Gloriett. The convention was largely attended and speakers of prominence were in

attendance; among them, President E. N. Gathercoal of the A. Ph. A., R. L. Swain, President of the N. A. B. P., and H. C. Christensen, Secretary of the N. A. B. P.

The address of President Moulton covered many important points, among these changes of several by-laws and a discussion of the New Hampshire plan, and phases of the activities of his term of office. President Moulton has completed a most successful year.

Among the speakers, besides those heretofore mentioned, were Dr. Howard E. Thompson of Nashua. He presented a motion picture of Alaska with descriptions of the country. Dr. Thompson is a well-known sportsman and surgeon and his address was well received.

A feature of the meeting was a presentation of badges to former presidents and officers who had given generously of their time to pharmaceutical affairs.

The annual banquet, followed by the President's ball, was a Monday night feature.

Under arrangement of President Moulton and the hospitalities of the members the visitors enjoyed a most interesting tour through the White Mountains.