

Missouri Pharmaceutical Association.

In point of attendance, scientific work, trade interests, and amusements, the nineteenth annual meeting, held at Meramec Highlands, June 8th to 12th, was the most successful in the history of the organization.

President Eugene Soper's address dealt with practical subjects, and among others recommended membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association.

T. A. Moseley, chairman of the Committee on Legislation, submitted some radical ideas on the subject.

Dr. Francis Hemm, chairman of the Committee on Papers and Queries, presented fifteen papers, which were read and discussed. Several of the papers were accompanied by demonstrations of methods and processes.

William L. Ihardt, chairman of the Committee on Drug Adulterations, presented a lengthy and carefully prepared report on the drugs and chemicals of Missouri, showing that, as a rule, they are of good quality.

On motion by Dr. J. M. Good, the Committee on Revision of the Pharmacopœia is requested to fix the morphine strength of powdered opium at a definite figure (say fourteen per cent.), and directed that this opium or its equivalent in weaker or stronger opium be used in preparations containing opium.

Among the many visitors from other States were Dr. Albert E. Ebert, of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Shumpik, of Minneapolis; and C. F. Chalin, of New Orleans.

The secretary announced communications from more than thirty members and pharmacists of other States who regretted their inability to be present.

Fifty-two new members were elected.

The United States Pharmacal Company, of Chicago, was endorsed by the association.

To fill the vacancy on the Board of Pharmacy the following names are to be submitted to the governor: Paul L. Hess, of Kansas City; J. H. Ewing, Richmond; R. E. Maupin, Pattonsburg; A. Brandenberger, Jefferson City; Hugo Eyesell, Kansas City.

The communication from the section on education and legislation of the American Pharmaceutical Association was referred to a committee consisting of F. W. Sennewald, for the Board of Pharmacy; Dr. J. M. Good, for the St. Louis College of Pharmacy; Prof. J. M. Love, for the Kansas City College of Pharmacy; R. E. Maupin and A. Brandenberger, for the association at large.

The next meeting will be held at Meramec Highlands, June 7th to 11th, 1898. The Illinois Association will meet at Clifton Terrace, twenty-five miles north of St. Louis, the same week, and arrangements have been perfected for a joint session of the two organizations at Meramec Highlands, June 9th.

The following officers were elected:

President, Thos. Layton, St. Louis; first vice-president, Paul L. Hess, Kansas City; second vice-president, J. H. Ewing, Richmond; third vice-president, Miss F. de Wyl, Jefferson City; treasurer, Wm. Mittelbach, Boonville; recording secretary, Dr. H. M. Whelpley, St. Louis; assistant secretary, Ambrose Mueller, Old Orchard; local secretary, L. P. Hemm, Kirkwood.

Council, Eugene Soper, St. Joseph; J. M. Good, St. Louis; H. F. Hassebrock, St. Louis; A. Brandenberger, Jefferson City; W. C. Bolm, St. Louis.

H. M. WHELPLEY, M.D.,
St. Louis, Secretary.

Gelante—A New Dressing for Skin Diseases.

That prolific originator of skin medications, Professor Unna, has devised a new dressing composed of gelatin and gum tragacanth, to which he has given the name "gelante." It is prepared as follows: Pieces of gum tragacanth are macerated for a month in twenty times their weight of water; then they are exposed for a day to the action of steam, with occasional stirring, and finally strained through muslin. The same weight of gelatin is softened in water and submitted to the action of steam under pressure; the two masses are next mixed, and the mixture exposed to the action of steam for two days; it is then again pressed through muslin and receives the addition of 5 per cent. of glycerin, a little rose water and 0.02 per cent. of thymol. The liquid thus prepared contains 2.5 per cent. each of gelatin and tragacanth. When spread upon the skin it dries rapidly and forms a pliable varnish. Considerable quantities of medicament may be added to this basis; as much as 50 per cent. of ichthyol, 40 per cent. of salicylic acid, resorcin, or of pyrogallol, 5 per cent. of phenol, and 1 per cent. of mercuric chloride. Bodies which are incompatible in aqueous solutions, such as salicylic acid and zinc oxide, ichthyol and various salts are without action on each other when incorporated with this basis. The property of drying very rapidly distinguishes gelante from all other water-soluble dressings, and from the large amount of water it contains it exercises a marked cooling and refreshing action when applied to the skin; it is capable of combining with fatty bodies, and can be applied cold to the surface. It promises to be a valuable addition to dermatotherapeutics, particularly in the treatment of eczema and psoriasis.—*Bullet. Comm., after Sem. Med.*

ECG BAVAROSE.

Plain chocolate syrup.....	6½ pts.
French vanilla cordial.....	1 pt.
Cinnamon syrup.....	7 oz.
Lactic acid.....	1 oz.

For dispensing, place 2 ounces of the above syrup in a glass, add 1 fresh egg; fill up with hot or cold milk, and shake. Top off with whipped cream.

Business Methods in Pharmacy.

In these times of business stress, it is essential for the retail druggist to adopt the best business methods and to conduct his store with all proper energy and enterprise. The druggist must be, of course, a good pharmacist, but he must also be a good business man. It is not sufficient that he can make a good suppository, spread a plaster in the most approved manner, or make pills which leave nothing to be desired, either in consistency or finish, but he must also be able to purchase to the best advantage, to sell profitably, and must, in short, possess those manifold but indescribable qualities, which, taken altogether, make up what is known as "a good business man."

The druggist's books may be kept up to date and his bills paid promptly, but it often happens that there is deplorable ignorance regarding market changes, or even of the approximate price at which drugs should be bought. If a druggist is known to be well posted on prices, lower quotations will be made him than if it was known that he was not a close buyer; and goods well bought are half sold, according to the old adage.

Not all persons have the faculty of keeping prices at their tongue's end, and many require some convenient way for keeping them where they can be referred to without loss of time or trouble. Indeed, price books of suitable size and form have been found in many cases to have been the most convenient form for keeping such memoranda. The practice of having prices and quotations kept up to date in a systematic and orderly manner, to which ready references can be had, cannot be too highly recommended; nor can the advantages resulting from such practice be fully appreciated by those who have not been in the habit of thus doing.

The suggestion has been made that it is rather hard on the jobbers to urge upon their customers care in purchasing goods, inasmuch as the lower prices, which by giving attention to this matter retailers are able to obtain, is so much profit of which the jobbers are deprived. This view of the matter is, however, based upon a misapprehension, inasmuch as good buying consists not only in purchasing goods (and the best goods) at as low prices as are obtainable, but also in the placing of orders when the conditions of the market are the most favorable, and in purchasing goods in the most desirable quantities, thus getting the benefit of quantity discounts. The careful buyer can certainly, without any detriment to the parties from whom he purchases, order goods at such times and in such quantities as will evidence his care and skill, and secure to him advantages in dollars, and cents which will augment his profits in a very appreciable degree.