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The Association does not accept the responsibility for the opinions of contributors. Offensive personalities must be avoided.

## THE NEED OF AN ASSOCIATION HOME.

AS long as the A. Ph. A. continues to represent pharmaceutical progress all of its needs will probably never be satisfied; but one of these, which is becoming more emphatic each year, and one which it should be possible to meet, is that of a permanent and properly equipped association home.

Hitherto the home of the association has been wherever the General Secretary has chanced to reside, and this lack of settled habitation has interfered not only with association work generally, but especially with the making of the historical and other collections which such an association might reasonably be expected to possess.

Its archives and historical collection, such as they are, are stored at the University of Wisconsin, at Madison, while its official records and stock of proceedings are stored partly at the office of the General Secretary and partly with the publishing house which printed them. In the sixty-one years of its existence the Association has, no doubt, received a large number of books and scientific and professional publications of various kinds, but these have been disposed of almost as fast as received, and there is now only an aching void to represent what should be a library of respectable dimensions; and lamentable to say, the society does not even possess a complete set of its own publications.

Among these losses we must count not only the collections which have been dissipated, but the greater and more valuable collections of books and historical documents which the A. Ph. A. might have accumulated if it had possessed a place for their permanent preservation.

Not only should the association possess a permanent place for its archives, his-

torical collection and library, but it should have at its command suitable laboratories where the formulas proposed for inclusion in the National Formulary could be tested out, and where many of the mooted questions of U. S. P. importance could be considered. Outside of the field of official preparations, there are also a number of investigations of importance to the dispensing pharmacist which could receive attention. Formulas in pharmaceutical publications are as "thick as hops," and are no doubt selected from the best available sources, but often, very often, they are either unworkable, or yield unsatisfactory products. Evidently some of them, like the German's camel, have been evolved wholly from the inner consciousness of their authors.

With the aid of a properly equipped experimental laboratory the proposed A. Ph. A. recipe book might be expected to contain only tested and workable formulas.

A building sufficient for the purposes outlined should, of course, be located in some city where there are facilities for the publication of the Journal and National Formulary. It should be a fireproof structure, and should be architecturally in keeping with the purposes for which it is intended.

At a rough guess, the cost of the completed structure should not exceed \$50,000.00, though it should be erected in such a way as to permit of additions and expansions as needed.

With its rapidly growing membership and revenues, the Association could without much effort provide for the maintenance of such a plant, but the first cost of its erection and equipment would have to be met otherwise; and since the A. Ph. A. has given its services freely to the whole of American pharmacy, why should not the whole of American pharmacy contribute to a plant which would enable the Association to greatly increase its usefulness to the cause which it represents?

In the erection of such a structure pharmacy would not only be making provision for the satisfaction of its present and future needs, but it would also be providing a memorial for the many noble spirits, as Procter, Parrish, Maisch, Ebert, and a host of others who have enriched and dignified American pharmacy.

The *Journal* will be glad to publish the thoughts of the members upon this subject.

J. H. BEAL.



#### HOW SOME DOCTORS VIEW U. S. P. AND N. F. PROPAGANDA.

**I**T might perhaps be of advantage to pharmacists to become acquainted with some of the objections raised by doctors to the U. S. P. and N. F. Propaganda, as they have become apparent to one who has busied himself in behalf of these efforts.

Some doctors object to the therapeutic information that is gratuitously administered to them by the druggists. What, they say, do druggists know about therapeutics? And, I must confess, that some of the therapeutic ideas advanced by pharmacists in this connection, though taken from text-books, are antiquated and not in keeping with advanced conceptions. Would it not be better if pharmacists confined themselves in their literature intended for doctors to the discussion of