

of the bodies they represent, and when they return they carry back the results of their deliberation.

In this way there can be closer connection in work and reciprocal action, and the Association can better represent the interests of the whole country, and be, in effect, what it should be, a more truly representative national organization.

As one of the local branches, the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association, is entitled to and should send three delegates to the next annual meeting at Nashville in 1913, and the writer would suggest that the by-laws of the Branch be amended to provide for the selection of such delegates.

THE PHARMACIST'S DUTY TO HIS PROFESSION.*

A. G. ERKEL.

As you all know, the State Association claims a sort of parental relationship to the college, since it was the chief agency that induced the Regents to add the college to the university. The association was largely responsible for the first appropriation of \$5000 for the college in 1891. This committee therefore, is the connecting link between the college and the association. Its chief function, I take it, is to point out to the association and to the pharmacists of the Northwest what the relationship between the college and the association should be. In taking such prominent part in the establishment of the college, the association must have had in mind the great value which an educational institution of high rank would be to the profession. The inevitable inference is that the association would utilize such an institution to the utmost. The profession and the association, except a comparatively few of the more progressive individual pharmacists, have been more or less indifferent to the advantages which the college affords the calling. The standard of pharmacy, like that of any other calling, is determined largely by the standards of the individuals composing it. It can be said without fear of successful contradiction that pharmacy in Minnesota has not developed as rapidly as it could have done if it had used to the fullest the advantages and opportunities offered by the college. The number of graduates and the number of students in attendance are not at all commensurate with the numbers practicing pharmacy. This is due to a short-sightedness on part of the pharmacists who do not insist upon a sufficiently adequate training for their apprentices and clerks. They do not sufficiently appreciate the fact that their calling is a trust in their hands upon which they as trustees are bound to administer according to the duties which this trust imposes. Most pharmacists are delinquent in that they do not recognize any duties toward the profession at large. They do not look upon the profession as something concrete made up and determined by the individual members and so lose sight of their responsibilities in this respect. Every pharmacist is doing all he possibly can to improve his own conditions, but what is he doing to improve

* Read at the June meeting of the Northwestern Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

the conditions and standard of the calling of which he is a member? The duty of the pharmacist lies in two directions—first, to himself; second, to his calling. It must be obvious to those who give the matter even little thought that most progress is mental and intellectual and that, therefore, the standard of a calling is determined by the standard of the educational requirement placed upon the members of a calling. Here we have an educational institution of the university grade, rated as among the first in the country, and yet how few pharmacists are using it. It is a fact that many of the students in attendance at the college have not been sent by pharmacists—a few are in attendance against the advice of some pharmacists. It is on account of this indifference and near-sightedness on part of pharmacists that the medical and dental professions have long ago distanced us. Their growth and development have been along educational and qualitative lines. *Measured by the value of the service which the medical, dental and pharmaceutical professions render the state, the standard of pharmacy should be nearly that of medicine and far in advance of dentistry.* That this is not the case is entirely the fault of pharmacy itself. Medicine and dentistry guard their standards jealously; pharmacy is indifferent about its standard. Is there any wonder that pharmaceutical conditions are not improving more rapidly and that some of our best qualified pharmacists are leaving the ranks? Now what is one of the specific duties of every pharmacist? *It is that he send his apprentices and clerks through the College of Pharmacy or that he insist that his clerks be graduates.* If every pharmacist would do this, in ten or fifteen years pharmacy would be holding its rightful position among the honorable professions. How many of our pharmacists are going to rally to the standard?

REPORT TO THE WASHINGTON BRANCH, A. PH. A. UPON THE
1912 CONVENTIONS OF THE N. A. R. D. AND THE A. PH. A.

WILLARD S. RICHARDSON.

The N. A. R. D. convention held in Milwaukee during the week of August ninth was in many respects the most important ever held by that organization. Registration was much in excess of the thousand mark, and at all the sessions there was a large, enthusiastic, working attendance of delegates. All seemed to fully realize that they were delegates actually representing the national retail drug interests, and there was greater earnestness and broadness than I have ever before witnessed. The efforts to better the condition of the trade were not only sincere; but there was a frank and fair acknowledgement of the betterments already effected.

All the deliberations showed the N. A. R. D. to be a clean, independent organization of retail druggists exclusively; capable of fully caring for the interests of the retail trade; willing at all times to openly and sincerely cooperate with allied interests, without in any sense being subservient to them.

In connection with the U. S. P. and N. F. propaganda there was evidence of considerable progress; especially in those sections and places where the local as-