

before the Scientific Section of the American Pharmaceutical Association last year<sup>1</sup>, "that as long as a drop of alcohol is sold, there will be demands to stop it, but careful supervision on the part of the pharmacists will disarm many such objectors and the real mass of the people will be satisfied." The only probable solution is as pointed out by Mr. Adams in the more extended use of denatured alcohol, but it is impossible to introduce a denaturing substance which will not interfere with its use in the preparation of medicines for internal administration. As a matter of fact we should look upon all medicines in which alcohol is used as a solvent and preservative as having been denatured by the extraction of the therapeutic substances entering into them.

In conclusion, we may summarize the situation that in the preparations recognized by the medical profession and included in the United States Pharmacopoeia, and we might add also in the National Formulary, regarding the various constituents and the proportions of each in the medicaments, as well as the solvents, preservatives, and vehicles, all represent the consummation of the wisdom and experience of the past one hundred years and that it would be very unsafe to abruptly depart from this. Assuming that the secret remedy or the "patent medicine" is very similar in nature to a recognized official preparation of a similar kind, the same rule would hold good as to the content of alcohol. A demonstration that a patented remedy is lacking in content of generally recognized therapeutic ingredients should serve to condemn it, whether it contains alcohol or whether it does not.

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#### PROGRAM OF THE SECTION ON PRACTICAL PHARMACY AND DISPENSING.

As Chairman of the Section on Pharmacy and Dispensing of the A. Ph. A., I am sending out an invitation and urgent request to all who are interested in the practical work in the store to present papers before this Section next May.

Because of the meeting coming so much earlier than usual, it will be necessary to have the titles of papers furnished me not later than the middle of March, and it is desirable that the papers be received at the same time or as soon after as possible.

Some subjects which have been suggested are:

1. Constructive criticisms of the U. S. P. This is particularly pertinent as the U. S. P. Convention follows the next week.
2. The part which the pharmacist is to play in the revision of the U. S. P.
3. Consideration of new remedies.
4. Papers dealing with prescription work.
5. The pharmacist as a clinical chemist. Papers from those who have had experience along this line are especially desired.
6. What professional work can the pharmacist do to take the place of that which is passing into the hands of the large manufacturer?
7. A discussion of the affiliation of the drug clerk organizations with labor unions, and drug clerk strikes.
8. Is it desirable to have laws regulating the hours which the pharmacist may work?

Papers bearing on any phase of Practical Pharmacy will be very acceptable.

[Signed] E. A. RUDDIMAN, *Chairman*.

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<sup>1</sup> J. A. Ph. A., Vol. VIII, p. 109.