

been denied. It is evident, however, to the unbiased that there can not be the most serviceable coöperation between medical men and pharmacists unless there is a degree of rank given to the latter, and the soldier is entitled to the best service; less is an injustice.

Prof. W. O. Stevens, U. S. Naval Academy, writing in a recent issue of the *Atlantic Monthly*, speaks of a British officer who was dismissed from service because of the "horrible crime" of having a sergeant dine with him. We quote in part: "The poor fellow (the officer) had grown so desperately lonely in that forsaken spot, that he summoned his sergeant and, after pledging the man to secrecy, asked him to dinner. Some time after, while in liquor, the sergeant boasted of his distinction. The matter was investigated, the subaltern was proved guilty of the horrible crime, and dismissed from the service. When I heard the story, I could not understand what there was so awful about the young officer's conduct, but was ashamed to betray the fact by asking questions. In later years, coming in contact with the military, I was given to understand that, while democracy may be all very well in politics, it has no place in the army or navy."

DRUG RESEARCH PLAN DISCUSSED IN ENGLAND.

The Chemist and Druggist, in discussing plans for drug research, states that there are distinct advantages attached to an independent institution which can work at drug problems apart from financial interests, and it is here

that the pharmaceutical institute would score. The field is, however, broad enough for both classes of research laboratories, and there are ample opportunities in the work to satisfy both the scientist and the investor. The work need not be confined, the article further states, to synthetic drugs; there is a vast field of study in plant substances upon which comparatively little modern work has been done. Many plants employed in medicine have not yielded up the secrets of their curative action. The study of drugs is a most promising one, and if it became the function of a research laboratory connected with pharmacy it would increase the reputation of pharmacy as a science.

ACACIA ADDED TO SALT SOLUTION TO GIVE GREATER VISCOSITY.

Professor Bayliss, the English physiologist, suggested the addition of acacia to salt solutions for injection in cases of shell-shock. Experience proved that the salt solution should have greater viscosity, and after considerable experimentation the selection was made of acacia, and has proven highly satisfactory. *The British Medical Journal* is convinced that many shell-shock patients of the war were saved who, without the injection of salt solution, with acacia, would certainly have died of the original injury or of the necessary subsequent operation, and comments "that medicine owes physiology a debt great beyond estimation. The debt mounts up, and this use of gum arabic is not, we think, the least of the items composing it."

OBITUARY.

JOHN FRANKLIN PATTON.

John F. Patton, president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, 1900, died March 17, 1919, after an illness of only a few hours.

The deceased was born in Lower Windsor Township, York County, Penna., December 15, 1839, the son of Ebenezer and Rebecca (Smith) Patton.

John F. Patton received his early education in the schools of York County. In 1853 he located in York and three years later entered the drug store of Dr. Jacob Hay, Sr. In 1859 he engaged with Thomsen and Block, wholesale druggists, in Baltimore, and remained with them until 1866.

In 1869 he engaged in the drug business in York, Pa., on his own account, in a building

on the site of his present store. In 1873 a flood destroyed the two drug stores owned by him. At this time Mr. Patton had already started the erection of a new building, still occupied by the City Drug Store, of which he was proprietor, and here he continued in business until the day of his death.

Mr. Patton was a frequent attendant at the annual conventions of the American Pharmaceutical Association. He endeared himself to all who knew him by his genial disposition and good fellowship, and was familiarly known to his friends as "Uncle John." He served as president of the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association in 1891, and at various times held important offices in both this organization and the American Pharma-

ceutical Association, serving in the Council of the latter from 1902 to 1905.



JOHN F. PATTON

Mr. Patton never married. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Charles B. Allen, of York, Pa., and Mrs. Eliza Arnold, of Delta, Pa. He was a member of the Lutheran church. The interment was made in Fairview Cemetery at Wrightsville.

His was a ripe and mellow old age. He had not become decrepit or superannuated. Until his death he was quick and alert in action, of unimpaired intellect, hale, hearty and cheerful.

JOSEPH KAHN.

Joseph Kahn, Instructor in Chemistry at the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy for the past fifteen years, died March 3rd in the library of the college. Professor Kahn had been suffering from heart trouble for several years and his death, though sudden, was not wholly unexpected.

He was 47 years of age, and came to Brooklyn as a boy. After completing his common

school education he entered the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, from which he graduated in 1897; thereafter he took a post-graduate course in chemistry, receiving the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy. He was elected instructor in chemistry in his Alma Mater, and later Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry.

Professor Kahn was held in high esteem by all with whom he came in contact, and was a frequent contributor to pharmaceutical literature. He was a member of the New York Pharmaceutical Association, and joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1915. He also held membership in a number of other chemical and pharmaceutical bodies.

He specialized in analytical chemistry and research work and his annual addresses at the meetings of the New York State Pharmaceutical Association were always most interesting and instructive and looked forward to by the members as a decided treat.



JOSEPH KAHN

Professor Kahn never married. He is survived by his parents and a brother, who reside in Russia.

SOCIETIES AND COLLEGES.

SECTION ON EDUCATION AND LEGISLATION, AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

Chairman Wortley F. Rudd, of the Section on Education and Legislation, A. Ph. A., is

actively at work with the other officers of the Section on the preparation of the program for the New York meeting. It is contemplated to devote one session of the Section to U. S. P. revision considerations, probably as