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<i>Pharmacy's Unfinished Tasks:</i> DR. ROBERT P. FISCHELIS .....	301	<i>of the Frog's Foot:</i> DR. HORACE J. CHILD. <i>The Desirability of Homozygous Mice in Nutrition Experiments:</i> PROFESSOR J. F. MCCLENDON and HAROLD STREET .....	317
<i>Obituary:</i> <i>Walter Jones:</i> DR. WM. MANSFIELD CLARK. <i>Albert Mann:</i> ROBERT HAGELSTEIN. <i>Memorials.</i> <i>Recent Deaths</i> .....	307	<i>Special Articles:</i> <i>Comparison of X-Ray and Gamma Ray Dosage:</i> LAURISTON S. TAYLOR and DR. F. L. MOHLER. <i>Transmission of the Virus of Poliomyelitis to Mice:</i> DR. MAURICE BRODIE, DR. SAMUEL A. GOLDBERG and PHYLLIS STANLEY .....	318
<i>Scientific Events:</i> <i>Measurements of Gravity over the Nippon Trench; Stream Surveys of the National Forests and Parks; The Johns Hopkins University Research Conferences on Chemical Problems; Cold Spring Harbor Symposia on Quantitative Biology</i> .....	309	<i>Science News</i> .....	8
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	312		
<i>Discussion:</i> <i>What Do We Mean by a Bacterial Life Cycle?:</i> PROFESSOR C. E. A. WINSLOW. <i>The Press Service at the Pittsburgh Meeting:</i> AUSTIN H. CLARK. <i>The Cost of German Scientific Journals:</i> DR. E. D. MERRILL. <i>Gauss and the French Academy of Science:</i> PROFESSOR ARNOLD EMCH. <i>Leeuwenhoek Letters:</i> PROFESSOR BARNETT COHEN .....	314		
<i>Scientific Apparatus and Laboratory Methods:</i> <i>An Extractor Using a Solution of Volatile and Non-volatile Phases:</i> A. J. BAILEY. <i>A Simple Method for Observation of Circulation in the Web</i> .....			

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## PHARMACY'S UNFINISHED TASKS<sup>1</sup>

By Dr. ROBERT P. FISCHELIS

PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

THE preparation, standardization and dispensing of drugs and medicines constitute an activity which is indispensable to good medical care. How, where and under what conditions this professional activity can be carried on with greatest benefit to all concerned is a question that has been agitating many minds ever since the use of drugs in the treatment and prevention of disease became a part of the practice of medicine. It is not necessary to justify the existence of a separate group of practitioners to whom has been assigned the function of compounding and dispensing medicines. Pharmacists have made an important place for themselves among those engaged in providing good medical care to the people of all nations. The evidence of a changing attitude on the part of the public toward the organization of medical services, how-

ever, makes it advisable to examine, from time to time, our existing methods of furnishing pharmaceutical service and the systems by which such service is controlled.

The practice of medicine has been subjected recently to some searching inquiries on the part of professional and lay groups who are interested in providing medical care for all the people in fullest measure at a price they can pay. These inquiries have naturally included studies of pharmaceutical practice, and some interesting facts have been developed which should not be lost upon those most interested in the future welfare of the profession of pharmacy.

When we speak of pharmacists we do not necessarily limit ourselves to persons operating retail drug stores. As a matter of fact, a great deal of the practice of professional pharmacy is carried on to-day in places far removed from the corner drug store. The manufacturing function of the pharmacist, especially

<sup>1</sup>Part of an address delivered at the Third Annual Pharmaceutical Conference of the College of Pharmacy of the University of Michigan.

## *New publications in the field of science*

### **A TEXTBOOK OF GENERAL BOTANY**

By **G. M. Smith**, *Stanford University*; and **J. B. Overton**, **E. M. Gilbert**, **R. H. Denniston**, **G. S. Bryan**, and **C. E. Allen**, *University of Wisconsin*

A new and completely revised edition of the "Wisconsin Botany." In revising this text, suggestions from users all over the country have been considered. A great part of the material has been rewritten and much new material added. While the general plan of the book has been retained, some changes in division and arrangement of material have been made to make the book more readily adaptable to courses of different lengths. Summaries have been added to most of the chapters. Nomenclature has been Latinized throughout to conform to standard usage.

*To be published April 2nd*

*Probable price, \$3.75*

### **LABORATORY MANUAL IN GENERAL BOTANY**

By **Emma L. Fisk**, *University of Wisconsin*, and **Ruth M. Addoms**, *Duke University*

The revision of this manual follows that of the TEXTBOOK. Every care has been taken to make it usable in various courses. The material is so presented that it may conveniently be used for the full year's course, for the one-semester course, or for two quarters. There is considerable new material—notably on soils, water relations, types of foods, the algae, and on the general survey of the plant kingdom.

*To be published in April*

*Probable price, \$1.00*

### **DIRECTIONS FOR THE DISSECTION OF THE CAT**

By **Robert Payne Bigelow**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Entirely revised, rewritten, and rearranged for greater convenience and effectiveness. The new arrangement now makes possible a complete dissection on only one specimen. Directions for procedure have been largely rewritten, clarified, and expanded where necessary to make them absolutely clear to the student. New material has been added on muscles. Illustrations have been added to aid in particularly difficult parts of the dissection. An exceptionally complete, up-to-date reference list is given.

*Published March 19th*

*Price, \$0.90*

### **LABORATORY MANUAL FOR GENERAL GEOLOGY**

By **Mark H. Secrist**, *Johns Hopkins University*

This new manual covers both historical and physical geology. Both text and exercise material have been developed to work hand in hand with any standard textbook for the course in general geology. The maps, illustrations, and diagrams are particularly excellent. Topographic and geologic maps of the U.S.G.S. are used. Line drawings and diagrams are closely related to the text and permit easy labelling. Diagrammatic drawings of fossils are exceptionally clear and helpful. Material on block diagrams is included. There is a more detailed and systematic study of fossil plants and animals than is usual. The tables are another special feature of the book. They are unusually simple and accurate. A table giving the divisions of geologic time is included.

*To be published March 26th*

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