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HISTORY OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PHARMACEUTICAL
ASSOCIATION: A STUDY OF FUNCTIONS, 1902-1950

BY

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CHAPTER I
THE YEARS BEFORE 1902

The hand of organized pharmacy first touched Mississippi in 1856, when Matthew Franklin Ash, a Jackson pharmacist, became a member of the four year old American Pharmaceutical Association.¹ It was at least thirteen years later, in 1869, before any pharmaceutical organization was formed within the state, according to the meager records which have survived. The 1869 founding date² is not accepted by some authorities,³ who prefer the year 1871. Depending on this matter of founding dates and the question of exactly what constituted a genuine state pharmaceutical association at the time, Mississippi may have been either the third or the sixth state in the union in which a state pharmaceutical association was formed. A less ambiguous distinction was achieved by the Mississippi State

¹Proceedings of the American Pharmaceutical Association (Philadelphia, 1852-1860, 1862-1911), vol. 7, 480; hereinafter cited as APhA Proceedings and identified by volume number.

²Article in American Druggist, vol. 13 (August, 1884), 157. APhA Proceedings, vol. 32, 26.

³Edward Kremers and George Urdang, History of Pharmacy, revised by Glenn Sonnedeker (3rd ed., Philadelphia, 1963), note 48 on 355, 379; hereinafter cited as Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy.

Pharmaceutical Association when it became the third state association to accredit delegates to the American Pharmaceutical Association, in 1871.⁴

In 1870 Ash had attended the annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association in Philadelphia and had been elected to the Executive Committee,⁵ appointed to a Committee on Legislation which was formed that year,⁶ and appointed to the Nominating Committee as a member from the association at large.⁷

Ash was elected third vice-president of the national association in 1871,⁸ and served on three committees as well.⁹ Two years later another member of the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association, John F. Buck, also of Jackson, was elected second vice-president of the national association.¹⁰

Delegations from the Mississippi Pharmaceutical Association

⁴APhA Proceedings, vol. 19, 46-47. The New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association and an organization of San Francisco pharmacists known as the California Pharmaceutical Society accredited delegations in 1870. APhA Proceedings, vol. 18, 17-18.

⁵APhA Proceedings, vol. 18, 4, 49-50, 106.

⁶Ibid., 109, 114-115, 124-125.

⁷Ibid., 22.

⁸APhA Proceedings, vol. 19, 50, 52.

⁹Ibid., 37, 70, 86-87, 99.

¹⁰APhA Proceedings, vol. 21, 3, 54-55.

were sent to the annual meetings of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1871, 1872, and 1873.¹¹ The availability of names of officers or places and dates of meetings also attest to the continued existence of a Mississippi association in these years and perhaps in 1874.¹² The only event which indicated an extension of the life of the association beyond 1874 was Ash's accreditation as a delegate from the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association at the American Pharmaceutical Association meeting in 1876.¹³ By generous estimates, then, the first state pharmaceutical association in Mississippi may have been in existence for eight years, 1869 through 1876.¹⁴

However, Ash and other Mississippi pharmacists continued their membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association in an unbroken line from 1856. In 1880 one of them reported to the national association the passage of a poison

¹¹APhA Proceedings, vol. 19, 46-47; vol. 20, 72; vol. 21, 34.

¹²Article in Druggists Circular, vol. 16 (May, 1872), 96. Proceedings of the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association, meeting of June 10-12, 1963, Jackson, Mississippi (printed at Oxford, Mississippi, 1963), 13-14; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1963. Initial citations of other volumes are listed as MSPA Proceedings with identification data; citations are annual rather than by volume because of variation in volume numbering.

¹³APhA Proceedings, vol. 24, 21, 597-598.

¹⁴For chronological listing of officers and other evidences of organizational activity, see Appendices A and B.

law in Mississippi.¹⁵ However, following 1876 the next evidence of organization within the state is the organizational meeting in 1883, the proceedings of which have been preserved and are in the possession of the School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi.¹⁶ Officers and places and dates of meetings are known for the years 1883 through 1888.¹⁷ An 1889 meeting was scheduled but no evidence has been uncovered to indicate whether or not it took place.¹⁸ In that year and in 1890, however, Joseph William Eckford of Aberdeen represented the Mississippi association on the American Pharmaceutical Association's Committee on the National Formulary.¹⁹ Acceptance of Eckford's representation as evidence of the continued existence of the Association would mean that the second organization, like the first, survived for a span of eight years, 1883-1890.

¹⁵APhA Proceedings, vol. 28, 578, 582-583. See Revised Code of the Statute Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1880 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1880), Section 2930.

¹⁶Also printed as appendix to MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 20-21, 1933, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1933 or 1934, place not known), 57-72; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1933.

¹⁷"State Pharmaceutical Associations," Druggists Circular, vol. 51 (January, 1907), 125. Articles in Pharmaceutical Record, vol. 5 (June 1, 1885), 177; vol. 6 (July 1, 1886), 206; vol. 7 (June 1, 1887), 172.

¹⁸Articles in Pharmaceutical Record, vol. 9 (February 18, 1889), 57; vol. 9 (May 6, 1889), 144.

¹⁹APhA Proceedings, vol. 37, v; vol. 38, v.

The 1883 Association evidently was not very active by 1890, because in 1891 groundwork was laid for a new organization. The American Pharmaceutical Association met in New Orleans that year and seven Mississippi pharmacists took advantage of the proximity of the meeting and attended.²⁰ While together on that occasion they organized a third Mississippi association²¹ which was chartered and incorporated in 1893.²² There is no evidence that this organization, called the Mississippi Pharmaceutical Association, lasted beyond 1894.²³ During its four-year existence, however, it posted the most significant result of pharmacy organization in the state up to that time, the 1892 passage of the first Mississippi pharmacy law which required a license to practice pharmacy.²⁴ Matthew Ash, the pioneer of organized pharmacy

²⁰APhA Proceedings, vol. 39, 253-254.

²¹"State Pharmaceutical Associations," Druggists Circular, vol. 51 (January, 1907), 125.

²²MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 14-15, 1927, Meridian, Mississippi (printed in 1927 or 1928, place not known), 22-26; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1927.

²³Druggists Circular, vol. 51, 125.

²⁴Annotated Code of the General Statute Laws of the State of Mississippi for 1892 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1892), Chapter 103. Enactment of a local statute in Adams County in 1844 is cited in Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 380.

in Mississippi, lived long enough to see the pharmacy law enacted, and died in 1893.²⁵

The stages of development described here are sometimes referred to as "reorganizations."²⁶ However, the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association which was founded in 1902 demonstrated no formal recognition of ties with past associations until 1927, when members voted to number their annual conventions consecutively from 1883 in spite of the lack of records of meetings for each intervening year.²⁷ Their action was based on an account compiled by A. S. Coody, a member of the Association, in which he said, "It is almost certain . . ." that the 1883 organization was Mississippi's first;²⁸ otherwise they might have felt as justified in claiming origin in 1869 or 1871 as in 1883.

The shadowy years of the Association seem less an enigma when viewed in the context of other state associations as described by the authors of History of Pharmacy:

The general American appetite for independence expressed itself both in the formation of the early American pharmaceutical associations and in their decline when

²⁵APhA Proceedings, vol. 50, 1109.

²⁶See for example Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 379; and Druggists Circular, vol. 51 (January, 1907), 124-125.

²⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 70-71, 93-94.

²⁸Ibid., 22-42.

the independence of the drug trade no longer seemed endangered.

On the other hand, there were pharmacists in America imbued, because of their origin and education, with an appreciation for authority. These individuals were pharmacists of German descent who came to the United States in the turbulent years before the German Revolution (1848) or in consequence thereof. Often ambitious and competent, they gained a steadily growing influence over the development of American pharmacy. . . .²⁹

The desire to secure a pharmacy law, or amendments to a law considered unsatisfactory, caused most of the revivals of early and inactive state associations.³⁰

These contrasting attitudes toward independence and authority and this link between association-founding and law-writing are evident in the following chapters which trace the accomplishments of the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association in the period 1902-1950. The 1902 beginning date for this study was chosen not only because of its significance as an organizational milestone but for the more compelling reason that no records have been unearthed to reveal very much of the functions of the organizations which existed prior to 1902.

The ending date has obvious significance on the calendar, marking the end of a half-century. Furthermore, the Association, while it achieved quite a lot in its first four decades or so, never achieved a state of membership, confidence,

²⁹Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 177-178.

³⁰Ibid., 181.

and financial stability which was altogether satisfactory until shortly after World War Two. One of its presidents conveniently provided a claim of success in 1948 to help define the moment at which the Association could be said to have "arrived."³¹ After reaching this plateau the Association proceeded apace, broadening its functions and quickening its tempo. The Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association fits the pattern described by the commentator who says that ". . . by midcentury, state associations in general were gaining wider support . . . , enlarging administrative facilities, and sharing more fully in the professional as well as the economic concerns of pharmacy."³²

In one sense the divisions of function employed in this study, that is, the chapter titles, are a genuine reflection of the multiple tasks Mississippi pharmacists have wanted their Association to perform. In another sense the divisions artificially separate some activities which in fact were conjoined. The legislative function, for example, did not serve a purpose in itself but was the instrument of professional and commercial undertakings alike. If this fact is kept in mind, the arrangement can serve its purpose without distorting reality. It is simply a framework which attempts to help clarify the activities of several hundred men who were very, very busy for a half-century.

³¹See below, 108.

³²Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 181.

CHAPTER II
PROFESSIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Practitioners of the pharmaceutical arts in Mississippi in the period 1902-1950 were members of a profession in transition. A single high standard of professionalism and ethical practice was not one of their legacies from the nineteenth century. On the contrary, a scramble of motives and ideals characterized the men who were dispensing drugs in the state when the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association was organized in 1902. In the ensuing half-century the Association served as the focal point for the hopes and ambitions of the individual members of an aroused profession. The first task of the proponents of a more rigorous professionalism was to tighten the membership requirements of the Association itself. Then it was not long before the need was felt for a program of public relations to enhance the profession in the public eye, and for an improvement in relations with the medical profession. The Association also functioned to some extent in fulfilling its members' needs for scientific expression.

A Search for Status

As late as 1906 a loose membership code would make members of several stripes of men, from botany teachers to soda water salesmen. The incoming president that year, B. L. Clarke of Kosciusko, expressed the viewpoint of those members who favored latching the gate on indiscriminate recruiting. He remarked on the ironic possibility that as matters stood the Association might have to take action against one of its own members in carrying out its purpose of confining the practice of pharmacy to registered pharmacists.¹ The Association responded by acting to close the rolls to all but pharmacists licensed to practice in Mississippi. Salesmen and certain others could be accorded non-voting honorary membership.²

This tightening of membership requirements took place concurrently with other expressions of a growing professional consciousness. In 1906 the secretary, O. W. Bethea of Meridian, informed the other members that there was not at the time

¹MSPA Proceedings, meeting of July 23-24, 1906, Crystal Springs, Mississippi (printed at Nashville, Tennessee, 1906 or 1907), 13-17; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1906.

²Ibid., 61-62. Membership standards did not remain static. In 1963 the By-Laws provided that registered pharmacists, assistant pharmacists, and limited license holders, as well as managers and owners of drug stores who were active members as of July 26, 1961, were, subject to certain other requirements, eligible for active membership. MSPA Proceedings, 1963, 76-77.

". . . a monument in America erected to the memory of a pharmacist," and told of plans to build one.³ The members were fond of flattery like that they heard from one of their early guest speakers from outside the profession:

We know pharmacy as one of the oldest professions that the history of the world bears record of, coming down through the shadows of the dark ages, it bears down to us through the history of all nations and all times a precursor of life and civilization and today the history of every village, town and city in our state bears witness to the beneficence of your profession, your integrity and civic pride.⁴

Early presidential addresses stressed high aims and encouraged a raising of standards in the practice of pharmacy in Mississippi,⁵ and informal remarks on the floor occasionally reflected the determination of early leaders like O. W. Bethea to ". . . elevate an honorable profession."⁶ In 1907, in a paper on "Professional Pharmacy," A. S. Coody of Osyka expressed gratification for the greater respect he believed had been

³MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 47. He referred to a national campaign to honor William Procter, Jr., who is credited with inspiring the founding of the American Pharmaceutical Association. A bronze statue of Procter now stands in that Association's Washington, D.C., headquarters building. Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 172, 430-431.

⁴MSPA Proceedings, meeting of July 24-25, 1907, Gulfport, Mississippi (printed at Morning Sun, Iowa, 1907 or 1908), 12; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1907.

⁵Ibid., 16-22.

⁶Ibid., 14.

accorded pharmacists since the turn of the century.⁷

Other members, however, placed emphasis on the work yet to be done in raising standards. One was concerned over his conviction that ". . . the druggist in Mississippi is no more than a merchant; he buys and sells, but he don't make things."⁸ Sentiment was growing in favor of requiring college education for pharmacists, although one faction of the membership was reluctant to see unlettered practicing pharmacists suffer from the impending change. A vote on a matter germane to the issue of higher education indicated the small edge held in 1913 by the all-out college enthusiasts, who won by a narrow 14-10 margin.⁹

In the search for ways to ". . . add to the prestige of Pharmacists, and bring the profession into a position more in keeping with its proper sphere," A. S. Coody urged in 1915 that pharmacists be included on the State Board of Health.¹⁰ And one of the earliest U. S. casualties of World War I was the

⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 55-61.

⁸MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 10-11, Gulfport, Mississippi (printed at Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 1913 or 1914), 23-31; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1913.

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 9-10, 1915, Jackson, Mississippi (printed at Laurel, Mississippi, 1915 or 1916), 51; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1915.

wounded pride of the pharmaceutical profession as its members began to go into the Army as enlisted men. A. S. Coody, as chairman of the Legislative Committee, proposed that the Association go on record as insisting that the Army create a pharmaceutical corps and give pharmacists commissions. For Coody it was too much that pharmacists in the Army were not even at the level of the "horse doctors." H. M. Faser, first dean of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, assessed the pharmacist's army status as barely above a chambermaid's.¹¹ There is no indication that any action was taken to make the Association's views known to the Army, but at any rate this professional slight was still around to nettle the Association when World War Two came along.¹²

The war also gave the Association a chance to prove it meant what is said about raising standards. It unanimously passed a resolution introduced by its 1918 president, J. A. Beard of McComb, opposing temporary licensing as a war measure to alleviate the scarcity of employees. Beard called instead for a renewal of the determination to raise standards and also

¹¹"Proceedings of the Fifteenth Annual Convention, Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association," in Proceedings of the Tri-State Pharmaceutical Association, meeting of June 12-14, 1917, Memphis, Tennessee (printed at Jackson, Tennessee, 1917 or 1918), 106-108; hereinafter cited as Tri-State Proceedings, 1917.

¹²See below, 17-20.

expressed concern about the low pay of the profession.¹³

After several years of exhortation to its own members, the Association began to feel a need to convey to the general public a suitable image of the pharmaceutical profession. The 1914 president, G. W. Simmons of Utica, recommended in his annual address the formation of a publicity committee. It was duly formed and went right to work.¹⁴ Its chairman in a burst of hyperbole reported to the Association the following year that his committee had been so successful it had ". . . almost been charged with monopolizing the Press."¹⁵

The 1920 president, Claude E. Anding of Flora, called on the Publicity Committee ". . . to create in the minds of the laity, through publicity, the place we are endeavoring to fill as professional men, that we are worthy of our hire and that we are also overworked and underpaid for the high class services rendered."¹⁶ Anding recognized the threat to professional standing that was inherent in the advent of prohibition and the

¹³MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 12, 1918, Jackson, Mississippi (printed at Laurel, Mississippi, 1918 or 1919), 3-5, 23, 25; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1918.

¹⁴MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 9-10, Jackson, Mississippi (printed at Laurel, Mississippi, 1914 or 1915), 6, 47-49, 81-82; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1914.

¹⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 55-57.

¹⁶MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 8-9, 1920, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1920 or 1921, place not known), 11; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1920.

pharmacist's responsibilities thereunder. He warned the membership against dispensing palatable grain spirits freely, and the Association responded by pledging its ". . . most hearty co-operation" in the enforcement of the Volstead Act.¹⁷

In attempting to understand the great need for recognition felt by members of the Association in its early days, one needs to visualize the scene in 1920, when President Anding stood before the annual convention, holding up the front page of a Mississippi daily newspaper so that everyone there could see it. He was obviously proud of the full column and a half devoted to coverage of the Association. He informed those at the meeting that it told the ". . . position that we occupy and should rightfully occupy."¹⁸ The pharmacists were not ungrateful. They frequently sent words of thanks to newspapers which had given coverage to the Association.¹⁹ Steps were also taken to keep the publicity mill grinding. In 1920, for example, the Publicity Committee was voted \$100 for its work,²⁰ an uncommon boon in an era of slim budgets when only the Legislative Committee was regularly financed. In 1920 committee

¹⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 13, 41.

¹⁸Ibid., 29.

¹⁹See for example, MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 14-15, 1921, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1921 or 1922, place not known), 63; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1921.

²⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 41.

chairman S. B. Key of Jackson shrewdly recommended that committee members be from the cities having the largest newspapers, so that important releases could be distributed without delay.²¹

This early period of growing professional consciousness was capped in 1922 by the formal adoption of a code of ethics.²²

Seventeen years later, however, the Association was still not satisfied that the desired image of the profession was firmly fixed in the public mind. President D. B. Sharron of Jackson, devoting his entire annual address to a discussion of pharmacy as a profession, deplored the frequent humorous references to the drug store as a ". . . department store or hot dog stand." He found nothing wrong with having a wide range of merchandise on sale in drug stores but regretted that such derogations should thus be provoked.²³ Meanwhile the ambitious publicity program of the Association had lost headway. The state of affairs can be judged by reading what is practically the full text of the committee chairman's report in 1938: "I haven't very much to report. I sent our publicity to the daily newspapers and papers out of the state.

²¹MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 12.

²²MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 15-16, 1922, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed in 1922 or 1923, place not known), 78-80; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1922.

²³MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 19-21, 1939, Meridian, Mississippi (printed in 1939 or 1940, place not known), 12-18; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1939.

Some of them published it, some did not."²⁴ Perhaps it is only a coincidence that immediately after this flaccid statement, the Publicity Committee dropped out of sight. There is no evidence of its existence from 1939 through 1944, although it continued to be called for in the by-laws as a principal standing committee. It reappeared in 1945 as the Public Relations Committee, with S. B. Key as its chairman, although the newly enacted constitution and by-laws, like the old, called for a "Publicity Committee."²⁵

The coming of World War Two sparked the issue of status anew. President M. K. Patterson of Jackson in 1942 felt that the pharmacy profession was "at least forty years behind our brother profession, the Physician." He bemoaned the lack of support given to their organization by pharmacists in contrast to organized medicine and organized labor. He quoted a pharmacist on military duty as writing:

A pharmacist is rated no higher than the embalmers, the soda fountain boys, the saw filers, the mattress makers, or a fellow who has just had a first aid course. On the other hand the nurses, veterinarians, dentists, and physicians all have a corps and are

²⁴ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 13-15, 1938, Gulfport, Mississippi (printed in 1938 or 1939, place not known), 56; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1938.

²⁵ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 19-20, 1945, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1945, place not known), 8, 111-112; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1945.

commissioned upon enlisting, but the pharmacists--what a joke.

Patterson asked that a resolution be sent to every state pharmaceutical association in the United States asking them to join in urging each congressman to help establish a pharmacy corps.²⁶

Vigorous support was given to the demand for establishing a corps by Charles E. Wilson of Corinth and F. W. Duckworth of Booneville.²⁷ No doubt taking a cue from the emotionally charged war propaganda then circulating, the Association published a full-page advertisement in its 1942 Proceedings which asked

COULD YOU Look a dying soldier in the face and tell him honestly that you had done everything within your power to support the Pharmacy Corps bill so that he and all others might have the same attention while fighting for democracy as they had back home?²⁸

Congress passed a law July 12, 1943, establishing a Pharmacy Corps in the Medical Department of the Army. The law provided that registered pharmacists could be commissioned to serve in the new Corps. It also admitted pharmacy students to special units of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, a

²⁶MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 15-17, 1942, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed in 1942 or 1943, place not known), 10; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1942.

²⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1942, 18-20, 40.

²⁸Ibid., 57.

privilege already accorded students of medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine.²⁹ At last the pharmacist was up to the level of the horse doctor, even in the R.O.T.C.

But the Army moved slowly. Perry Hemphill of Jackson, president in 1944, felt that in spite of the Pharmacy Corps law, there had been a failure ". . . to gain any recognition of our profession as a profession with the Armed Forces."³⁰ With the war almost over, President Briggs Smith of Meridian concluded that the law had been kept from functioning fully and blamed it on ". . . the powers that be."³¹ It took the Association one more year to place the blame more specifically, when it went on record as strongly condemning the Army Surgeon General's purported attempt to ". . . annihilate the Pharmacy Corps." On the other hand the Secretary of the Navy was commended for his attitude toward pharmacists.³²

The Association gave its unanimous endorsement to the

²⁹Public Law 130, United States Statutes at Large, 1943 (Washington, D.C., 1944), vol. 57, part 1, 430-431.

³⁰MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 20, 1944, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1944, place not known), 12; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1944.

³¹MSPA Proceedings, 1945, 16-18.

³²MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 19-21, 1946, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1946, place not known), 54-56, 107; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1946. The Navy had a long tradition of relatively favorable policies toward pharmacists. See Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 302-303.

principles embodied in a new proposed bill affecting pharmacists in military service.³³ It became law August 4, 1947, as the "Army-Navy Medical Services Corps Act of 1947." The Pharmacy Corps was abolished and Pharmacy Sections were established in the Medical Service Corps of the Army and of the Navy.³⁴ It had been thirty years and two wars ago that A. S. Coody first apprised the MSPA of the need for insisting that the armed services grant commissions to pharmacists.

A post-war surge of publicity efforts found the Association encouraging drug store owners to take a page in each county newspaper in Mississippi ". . . to promote a more ethical knowledge . . ." of the profession during National Pharmacy Week, in order to bring about better public understanding.³⁵ Briggs Smith, chairman of the Public Relations Committee, urged co-operation by individual druggists in ethical promotions to help bring the professional significance of their work into "sharp focus." Smith admonished the Association, "For healthy public relations let us speak truth." He told the members to quit talking about working fourteen hours

³³MSPA Proceedings, meeting of May 28-29, 1947, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed in 1947, place not known), 42, 89-90; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1947.

³⁴Public Law 337, United States Statutes at Large, 1947 (Washington, D.C., 1948), vol. 61, part 1, 734-736.

³⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 62.

a day every day when nine hours a day six or six and a half days per week was closer to the truth.³⁶

In 1949 members were assigned as "reporters" in districts throughout Mississippi as a part of an organized drive for more publicity.³⁷ A resolution passed in 1950 required that future presidents appoint a Press Relations Committee. Representatives in each of the Association's ten districts were to send news of the profession to all publications with circulation in Mississippi.³⁸ The new committee was to function in addition to the Public Relations Committee. Not since the early 1920's had the Association's drive for professional recognition been so strong. On both occasions the ending of war seemed to provide a stimulus for activity.

In 1950 members of the Association could look back on several major accomplishments affecting their professional status. They had attempted both to put their own house in order and to create in the layman's mind a favorable image of the pharmaceutical profession in the state. But with cause for some satisfaction on this score, and with military recognition

³⁶ MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 83-84.

³⁷ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 21-23, 1949, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed in 1949, place not known), 72; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1949.

³⁸ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 13-15, 1950, Edgewater Park, Mississippi (printed in 1950, place not known), 80; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1950.

accorded their profession, the Association's continuing efforts to get publicity bespoke the chronic uneasiness of the pharmacist over the matter of professional status.

The Physician-Pharmacist Relationship

Closely tied to the Mississippi pharmacist's concern over his professional status has been his relationship with the medical profession. The relationship has been under almost constant scrutiny by the MSPA from its founding, and a bettering of relations has been the result. The antagonism and suspicion of the earliest years of the century have given way to amity and co-operation. President Anthony Fly of McComb felt certain in 1906 that in most instances the pharmacist and the physician were ". . . really and candidly estranged toward one another." He encouraged the members to cultivate close friendships with doctors.³⁹

But a year later H. M. Faser said the two professions had not been co-operating and had in fact been "drifting apart." He was determined to get the medical profession more interested in the United States Pharmacopoeia and National Formulary and in so doing to retard the sale of proprietary medicines.⁴⁰

³⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 21.

⁴⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 52-54.

Affecting the physician-pharmacist relationship was national pure food and drug legislation, the passage of which caused some Mississippi pharmacists to fear that they might be placed ". . . under the control of the doctors."⁴¹ It can readily be seen, therefore, that the matter of relations between the two professions was more than a matter of vanity and idle concern. It had real meaning for practitioners in both professions.

Self-criticism played a part in the improvement of relations. G. C. Kendall, executive committeeman from Meridian, urged in 1908 that the pharmacist leave diagnosis and prescribing to the physician.⁴² The twin evil to "counter prescribing" as seen by leaders in both professions of that era was the "dispensing doctor." It was recognized that the elimination of these two practices would help draw the two professions together.⁴³

An uncertain step toward cementing better relations was taken in 1910 when a young physician, J. S. Ullman of Natchez, was invited to address the MSPA on the physician-pharmacist relationship. Ullman, an officer in the Adams County Medical Society, hailed the pharmacists as brother

⁴¹MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 52-54.

⁴²MSPA Proceedings, meeting of July 11-12, 1908, Meridian, Mississippi (printed at Morning Sun, Iowa, 1908 or 1909), 43; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1908.

⁴³MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 63-66.

scientists but felt they were separated from physicians by ". . . too wide a gulf." The greatest difficulty, as he saw it, was that ". . . the pharmacist has too little of the professional man in his make-up--the physician too little of the business man." He agreed with the pharmacists' position on the sale of proprietaries and said that progress was being made in gaining the physicians' co-operation in the matter. But he sternly lectured the pharmacists for helping manufacturers exploit patent medicines by placing "vile and lascivious advertisements" on billboards in Mississippi. He also took them to task for counter prescribing, especially the dispensing of ineffective drugs for the treatment of venereal disease. The members of the MSPA were told that avoiding such practices would help them rank with physicians, and they were advised to become "disseminators of knowledge" in order to assist the state public health program.⁴⁴

Ullman had taken his opportunity to speak frankly and forcibly, and some pharmacists rose to challenge his remarks from the floor. But O. W. Bethea saw Ullman's appearance before the Association as "an opening wedge" in the development of better relations between the two professions.⁴⁵

⁴⁴MSPA Proceedings, meeting of May 12-13, 1910, Natchez, Mississippi (printed at Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 1910 or 1911), 18-22; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1910.

⁴⁵Ibid., 18-22.

There was some resistance to this movement by a minority of Mississippi pharmacists. O. P. McPherson of Gloster wanted the physician to embrace the pharmacist as a brother professional whether the physician liked it or not, and cockily declared, "I prescribe everything from pills to doctors, the doctor with me is just a part of my business. I send him when he is indicated only." McPherson maintained that the physician was more dependent on the pharmacist than vice versa. His concept of the way for Mississippi pharmacists to get professional recognition was to bottle their own remedies, such as his "Formula 121."⁴⁶

Some Mississippi pharmacists were suspicious of physicians, as the member who said that pharmacists "almost daily" were catching physicians' mistakes which were serious enough to cause death, but thought it folly to rely on a physician for similar protection or co-operation. Even a man like H. M. Faser had his suspicions. He feared that a certain American Medical Association proposal on the treatment of venereal disease was in reality the first step towards ending the sale of patent medicines. The physicians' motive in putting forward the measure, according to Faser, was to make more money. Another sign of distrust was S. B. Key's advice that pharmacists not

⁴⁶ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 10-11, 1919, Vicksburg, Mississippi (printed in 1919 or 1920, place not known), 19-21; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1919.

learn the techniques of bacteriology. It was inadvisable, he said, because some physicians would guess at the bacteriological analysis anyway. Then they would treat the patient before getting the report, according to Key, and if there were trouble later would say the pharmacist made a mistake.⁴⁷

No real improvement in the relationship with physicians was evident until the 1920's. The Association then began a formal program of liaison with the Mississippi State Medical Association, and in a few years evidence of the success of the program began appearing. MSPA delegates to the annual medical association conventions had been named each year since as early as 1906 but, according to C. E. Anding, the MSPA had been unable to get its delegates to attend. In 1922 Anding read the address which he had made to the medical association. In it he deferred to the physicians and told them of ways in which the MSPA was trying to be worthy of the physician. He paid the medical association the compliment of saying the pharmacists would build on the physicians' precedent in writing their code of ethics. Anding prescribed a purgative for both professions, to rid them of their jealousies and bad practices.⁴⁸

Anding's visit was reciprocated that same year when a delegate from the Mississippi State Medical Association attended

⁴⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1919, 71, 79.

⁴⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1922, 27-33.

the annual meeting of the MSPA. The medical association's retiring president, Dr. Henry W. Boswell of Sanatorium, deplored counter prescribing and substitution of drugs by pharmacists. He told the MSPA the pharmacist should not behave as a mere merchant but as a member of a profession with the responsibility for safeguarding human lives. He declared that the medical association wanted to make the exchange of delegates with the MSPA a permanent arrangement, saying, "Closer relationship means advancement for both professions." He congratulated the pharmacists on the success they had achieved in enacting legislation in which they were interested.⁴⁹

These formal efforts by the two associations began paying dividends. In 1926 the president of the MSPA could speak of the "intimate and cordial relations" existing between pharmacists and physicians.⁵⁰ A. S. Coody in 1927 commented on the "remarkable" change in the attitude of the Mississippi physician toward the pharmacist in ". . . the last few years." S. B. Key commented that physicians were getting away from dispensing and pharmacists were getting away from counter prescribing.⁵¹

⁴⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1922, 39-45.

⁵⁰MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 8-9, 1926, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1926 or 1927, place not known), 12-13; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1926.

⁵¹MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 55-56.

There is no indication of any setback in the Association-sponsored improvement in physician-pharmacist relations. Throughout the 1920's and 1930's the emphasis was on cordiality. Two events are symbolic of this closer bond. One was the campaign by W. H. Anderson, Booneville physician and editor of Mississippi Doctor. No idea could have been better calculated to please the members of the MSPA than a concept publicized by Dr. Anderson which visualized four branches of the medical profession: the physician, the pharmacist, the dentist, and the nurse. Dr. Anderson actively encouraged the use of prescription drugs instead of proprietaries. In his remarks he was more considerate of pharmacists than some other Mississippi members of the medical profession had been, placing most of the blame for friction on the physician.⁵²

The second symbol of better relationships was an occasion at the 1935 annual meeting of the MSPA when a state medical association delegate declared, with unabashed enthusiasm, "Long live organized pharmacy!"⁵³ Coming from a doctor, these words were especially sweet.

One benefit of the close relationship was the ability

⁵²MSPA Proceedings, meetings of June 15-17, 1936, Jackson, Mississippi, and June 15-16, 1937, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed in 1937, place not known), 29-39; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1936 and 1937.

⁵³MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 18-19, 1935, Tupelo, Mississippi (printed in 1935 or 1936, place not known), 43; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1935.

of the physicians and pharmacists of the state to co-operate on legislation of mutual concern and to reciprocate in aiding each other's legislative efforts. J. P. Wall, Jackson physician and president of the Mississippi State Medical Association in 1939, was one of the leaders in encouraging mutual legislative efforts.⁵⁴

A Professional Relations Committee was created in 1945. It tended to emphasize the importance of individual efforts in creating good relations. In a faint echo of the friction of the old days, the committee expressed distress over the appearance of ". . . more and more clinics and dispensing doctors," but it emphasized its belief that the proper corrective was for the pharmacist to study new preparations and thus be able to be of greater assistance to both physician and customer.⁵⁵ The Scientific Problems Committee advised the same course, as a way to hold the ". . . respect, confidence, and admiration . . ." of physicians.⁵⁶

Thus the work of cementing a strong bond between the Mississippi physician and the Mississippi pharmacist had resulted from the formal approach to the matter by their two associations in the early 1920's. As the half-century ended,

⁵⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1939, 28-32. MSPA Proceedings, Meeting of June 17-19, 1940, Edgewater Park, Mississippi (printed in 1940 or 1941, place not known), 7-8; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1940.

⁵⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 44-46.

⁵⁶Ibid., 38-44.

changing conditions and the development of new drugs were creating for the pharmacist the higher degree of professional respect he had long sought, as the physician came to depend on him more and more as a drug consultant.

Professional Papers

Using as a measuring stick the Mississippi pharmacists' own concept of the role their Association could play in the exchange and dissemination of scientific information, it is clear that by 1950 it had not been accomplished satisfactorily.

It was natural that the members should look to a member active in pharmacy education for leadership in this field. H. M. Faser, as dean of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, waged a continuing effort to draw the attention of the Association to scientific matters. Even so he achieved little response from his fellow members.

Faser believed that one of the most important reasons for meeting was the opportunity to deliver and hear papers.⁵⁷ But the few scientific papers delivered at the Association's annual meetings were given largely by Faser's students or by the representatives of drug companies. The earliest papers dealt with the compounding of drugs and running the prescription department, and the emphasis was as likely to be on making

⁵⁷ MSPA Proceedings, 1919, 31.

a profit as on scientific matters. Later, drug company representatives gave papers on biological products, bacteriology, and similar subjects. Faser's students gave papers on simple chemical processes such as the denaturing of alcohol.

President C. E. Anding said in 1920 that he had never seen a scientific article by a Mississippian in the professional pharmaceutical journals. On his suggestion the name of the cognizant committee was changed from Papers and Queries to Scientific Questions. Anding thought a more inspiring committee name might encourage the members to greater efforts.⁵⁸ The small miracle he anticipated did not come to pass. In 1914 Faser had said that the Association never had enough papers,⁵⁹ and in the year after the committee name was changed Faser said he worked pretty hard soliciting papers but got only one reply.⁶⁰

In the 1920's Faser's students gave papers on the history of cinchona, cascara sagrada, and similar topics, but the committee complained that it had to make the same frustrating report each year: no papers from members. One of Faser's faculty members, George L. Burroughs, said that inducing a

⁵⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 8-9.

⁵⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1914, 55.

⁶⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 12.

member to write a paper on a scientific subject was ". . . much like assigning a theme to a freshman."⁶¹ Faser said in 1927 that it was not an easy matter to get people to write, partly because as soon as a reading was announced, ". . . about half the crowd begin to leave." He said there were more prizes offered for papers than there were papers.⁶²

When Elmer L. Hammond succeeded Faser as dean of the Pharmacy School in 1929, he encouraged the work of the Committee on Scientific Questions with a knowledge of the lethargic response he could expect. Hammond commented in 1940 that the president of the Association had no idea of what the committee was supposed to do. Hammond's letters to other members of the committee went unanswered. Hammond's remark had the virtue of getting right to the point:

After twelve years of association with the members of this organization, I know very well that most of you are more interested in the entertainment, the recreational activities, and the commercial activities than you are in Scientific Relations.⁶³

In 1947 President J. W. Duckworth of Booneville gave the members the incredible advice that they should keep up with scientific advances in pharmacy by participating in, of all

⁶¹MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 46.

⁶²Ibid., 69-70.

⁶³MSPA Proceedings, 1940, 43-45.

things, meetings of the Association. His other line of advice was more sound: to read books and periodicals. Duckworth decried the "gross commercialism" of the day and said, "Far too many pharmacists want to be regarded as professional men without fulfilling the obligations that this designation demands,"⁶⁴ There was no recorded scientific discussion at the annual meeting that year but the members did watch a movie on the value of vitamins.⁶⁵

The spokesman for the committee in 1948 concluded that it was just as well that his time was limited since there seemed to be so little interest in scientific matters among retail pharmacists. He said he had made a study of the Proceedings ". . . for a good many years back . . ." and had found few scientific reports. Those he had found were described as meager in the matters they covered.⁶⁶ His report was certainly accurate.

An enlarged committee of ten was named for 1949, but having a larger committee simply meant that more men would be inactive. None of the ten was ready with a report, which was given by an eleventh man, Raymond F. Burst of Jackson, not a

⁶⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1947, 30.

⁶⁵ Ibid., 85.

⁶⁶ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 15-17, 1948, Greenwood, Mississippi (printed in 1948, place not known), 58; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1948.

committeeman. He was, however, the man for the job, and he gave what was probably a realistic appraisal of the scientific interest of the Mississippi pharmacist. He saw his duty as the dispensing of scientific information on drugs to the patient and to the physician. He mentioned some of the new agents that the physician and the pharmacist had to work with: antibiotics, hormones and synthetic substitutes, agents used in metabolic disorders, and hematics and other cardiovascular agents. He advised the members to keep good libraries and gave them a short recommended bibliography. He advised them to hold scientific seminars at district meetings and to give time and attention to manufacturers' representatives, or "detail men," who supply information on new drugs.⁶⁷

In 1950 the chairman of the committee, T. C. Waldrup of Soso, in another one-man performance, reiterated Burst's advice. Cortisone and ACTH were on the way, he reminded his fellow members, as he urged the Mississippi pharmacist to look to the future and be prepared to cope with the growing demand for drug knowledge. He predicted enhanced prestige for the profession as the pharmacist increasingly played the role of pharmaceutical consultant to the physician. The Association gave unanimous endorsement to Waldrup's report.⁶⁸

⁶⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 38-44.

⁶⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 70-72.

The Association, then, had failed to live up to members' expectations of how it could perform the scientific function. The few scattered efforts in this direction had been mostly the work of students and manufacturers' representatives. Never had the members developed a spontaneous interest in exchanging scientific information at their annual gathering.

There is no commanding reason to compare their performance in this regard with Mississippi physicians. However, the pharmacist himself has frequently used the physician as a standard of professionalism by which to judge himself. In this case it is a standard of which he fell far short. Mississippi doctors have been prolific in their production of papers for presentation at their annual meetings. As published in their Transactions, these collected papers constitute an interesting contribution to medical literature.⁶⁹ With physicians there is a compulsion to transmit their medical experiences to their colleagues, or indeed, in the absence of a colleague, to whoever is near at hand. For the pharmacist the compulsion is to talk business. But the new role given the pharmacist by the proliferation of new agents, along with his own higher level of education, might be expected to heighten his interest in the exchange of scientific information.

⁶⁹See for example Transactions of the Mississippi State Medical Association, vols. 34-56 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1901-1923).

Summary

At midcentury, Mississippi pharmacists as well as their public had a clearer concept of the pharmacist's professional status, due to the Association's efforts in soul searching, setting higher standards, and improving public repute. The Association had been instrumental in bringing the physician and the pharmacist into a closer professional relationship. As a matter of professionalism the Mississippi pharmacist was beginning to believe that his scientific interest lay in equipping himself to supply the physician and the public the information required on the multitude of drugs and other agents available.

However, as will be seen later, the Association's efforts toward a higher ethic of professionalism were to an extent fettered by the pharmacist's interest in the commercial aspects of his occupation. The quest for financial profit seemed at times to be capable of overriding the Association's professional interests.

CHAPTER III

TWO PROFESSIONAL TASKS

Inseparable from the Mississippi pharmacist's growing professional consciousness was his sense of responsibility for public health and for pharmacy education. The Association served both as the agent in developing this sense and the vessel for transmuting it into action. While pharmacy education was given the attention due a blood relation, however, public health was treated like a step-child; sometimes provided for but sometimes neglected.

Public health affairs have plainly been of secondary interest to the MSPA. The Association in its early years even tended to be hostile to public health measures if they seemed to contain any threat to the pharmacist's mode of marketing. The two chief matters of concern in the public health field for Mississippi pharmacists have been the control of addictive drugs and the campaign against venereal disease.

Public Health

The term "drug fiend" had currency in the early years of the century when the members of the MSPA were being warned

against the promiscuous sale of addictive drugs. They were also told that the pharmacist had a duty to talk to the user and try to save him from becoming a "fiend."¹ Concern over the use of paregoric by drug addicts caused the Association to resolve in 1907 to seek to have a state drug inspector appointed. H. M. Faser and J. C. McGee of Jackson agreed that paregoric was being ". . . abused in Mississippi most grievously."²

During the same era, in a related problem, McGee, as secretary of the State Board of Pharmacy, had found a number of pharmacists violating federal law by dispensing grain alcohol without denaturing it. They had also been selling Jamaica ginger and antiseptic for drinking purposes. The Association agreed to try to stop such violations.³

After the Eighteenth Amendment became operative, the president of the Association warned that liquor dealers might masquerade as pharmacists. That same year an official from the Treasury Department spoke to the Association on the Harrison Narcotics Act, first passed in 1914 and subsequently amended by the Revenue Act of 1918. The members' attitude toward the enforcement of this measure may be judged by their rising vote of thanks to the official when he had concluded his explanation

¹MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 21-22.

²Tri-State Proceedings, 1917, 107-108.

³MSPA Proceedings, 1918, 21.

of the workings of the act.⁴

The presidential address in 1926 praised Mississippi pharmacists for their obedience to the prohibition and narcotic laws. The praise was based, said the president, A. C. Streatly of Vicksburg, on a statement by the Federal District Prohibition Director absolving drug stores from blame in the violations that had occurred in Mississippi. Streatly urged every pharmacist in Mississippi to continue the record of obedience.⁵

The activities of the Association in policing the sale of drugs have constituted a major program with public health benefits by controlling the sale of addictive drugs and by channeling the sale of other drugs and agents through licensed pharmacists. It is difficult, however, to draw a line between the public health and private profit aspects of such measures. After the passage of a drug policing law in Mississippi in 1934, executive committeeman F. W. Duckworth said that at first glance it appeared to be a public health measure, but he hoped it would have the effect of taking patent medicines out of grocery stores eventually.⁶ The 1935 president shared this

⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 12-13, 53-69.

⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1926, 12.

⁶MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 19-20, 1934, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1935, place not known), 61; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1934.

attitude.⁷

In regard to venereal disease, Mississippi pharmacists were asked to refrain from selling worthless preparations and thus interfering with the venereal disease program which was organized in Mississippi in 1918.⁸ A committee was named by the Association that year to work on the problem, and the Association was pledged to co-operate in the campaign against venereal disease. But there was resentment among the pharmacists at being asked to give up a portion of their drug trade without being consulted on the measures to be taken. They felt the program should not be conducted as a campaign against patent medicines. Some threatened to withdraw their support if the sale of patent medicines was endangered. There was also some element of "informing on the customer" in the program, as the pharmacist saw it, and he did not want to be branded by his customers as an informant.⁹

As it had served to influence the attitude of pharmacists toward physicians, the Association took formal steps that led to a more co-operative attitude on the part of its members

⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1935, 25.

⁸Felix Joel Underwood and Richard Noble Whitfield, Public Health and Medical Licensure in the State of Mississippi 1798-1937 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1938), 77-78; hereinafter cited as Underwood and Whitfield, Public Health 1798-1937.

⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1919, 13.

toward venereal disease control. State health officers began to address meetings of the Association on the prevention and cure of venereal disease.¹⁰ C. E. Anding tried to inspire the members by telling them ". . . we have chosen our profession that we might aid in combating diseases of all kinds." But even Anding, while protesting that the pharmacist wanted to do his moral duty, complained that the program had undesirable features, meaning the provisions that appeared to constitute a campaign against patent medicines. Still he insisted that the pharmacists wanted to pull in harness with the physicians in combating venereal disease.¹¹

Hardie R. Hays, physician and director of the Bureau of Venereal Diseases of the State Board of Health, spoke to the Association in an attempt to dispel the pharmacists' apprehensions, which he thought stemmed from a misunderstanding of the particulars of the program. He blamed the high incidence of venereal disease in Mississippi on doctors, druggists, retailers, and everyone who was failing to see to it that the venereal disease victim got proper treatment. He said the need for a campaign arose out of the fact that 78 per cent of the cases of venereal disease went to ". . . druggists, dago joints, retail merchants and negroes . . ." for treatment. Dr. Hays

¹⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1919, 31.

¹¹MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 11.

was able to quiet some of the druggists' fears on the subject of patent medicines and was accorded a rising vote of thanks.¹²

In 1937 D. V. Galloway, physician and health officer of Lauderdale County, who became supervisor of venereal disease control for the state in 1939, told the Association that syphilis was Mississippi's worst health problem and that Mississippi ranked forty-seventh among the states in its efforts to combat the disease. At his request the MSPA gave its endorsement to the Mississippi Social Hygiene Association, an instrument of venereal disease control, and a committee was appointed to work with it. An indication of the interest shown in the matter by the Association is the fact that three of its leading members, P. K. Thomas, Charles E. Wilson, and Lew Wallace were appointed to the committee.¹³

When matching funds were appropriated by the national government for venereal disease control purposes, an MSPA committee was formed to work with a corresponding Mississippi Medical Association committee to work for a large allotment of funds to Mississippi.¹⁴ In addition to such Association action, the 1940 president said that the pharmacist's individual responsibility was to educate the public against attempting

¹²MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 47-53.

¹³MSPA Proceedings, 1936 and 1937, 63-64.

¹⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1939, 76-77.

self-medication in treating syphilis and gonorrhoea and to send victims of these diseases to a physician for treatment.¹⁵

Another public health problem, sanitation, impinged upon the Mississippi pharmacist not so much as a professional duty but as a responsibility in his capacity as a server of food and drink at the soda fountain. It added to early resentment toward other public health programs when pharmacists as a group were singled out by sanitation laws and lectured on cleanliness by sanitation officers.¹⁶

When the state began giving typhoid vaccinations and Pasteur treatments, and was preparing to manufacture rabies treatment in the state's own laboratory, a spokesman for the State Board of Health told the members of the MSPA they were ". . . no better than highwaymen . . ." if they let commercial interests stand in the way of co-operating. No significant opposition to the state's program developed in the Association, but the Board of Health's request for MSPA help in securing more funds for vaccine manufacture apparently went unheeded.¹⁷

Greater co-operation in public health matters might have been gained from the MSPA if its frequent requests for a pharmacist to be placed on the State Board of Health had been

¹⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1940, 10.

¹⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 71-73.

¹⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 15-18.

granted. Sentiment for a seat on the Board was voiced early in the history of the Association,¹⁸ and repeated in connection with the venereal disease campaign in 1919.¹⁹ President Charles E. Wilson recommended in 1931 that a major effort be made to get a pharmacist on the State Board of Health. The Association formally adopted his proposal but it was not made part of the Association's major legislative program that year.²⁰ A state law created a seat for a dentist on the Board of Health in 1926 and specified that he be a member of the state dental association.²¹ To the present time it is the only non-M.D. seat on the board. The MSPA has ceased to show strong interest in securing a seat for a pharmacist.

But MSPA interest in public health has grown. It is an area of professional concern which can be said to belong more to the later years of the Association than to the earlier. M. K. Patterson of Jackson was one of the first modern presidents to put new emphasis on this facet of the pharmacist's responsibility when in 1942 in his annual address he called the pharmacist "a guardian of public health."²² President Marshall C.

¹⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 51; 1918, 13.

¹⁹ MSPA Proceedings, 1919, 13.

²⁰ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 22-23, 1931, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed at Jackson, Mississippi, 1932), 17; herein-after cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1931.

²¹ Underwood and Whitfield, Public Health 1798-1937, 83.

²² MSPA Proceedings, 1942, 14.

Smith of Hattiesburg expanded on this theme in 1950, saying that the Association should formulate a plan to ". . . make more adequate medical care available to all our people." He professed to be motivated in part, however, by a fear of "socialized medicine" and ". . . government regimentation of . . . the drug store."²³ Blanks Culpepper of Meridian when serving as chairman of the Public Relations Committee spoke of the Mississippi pharmacist's interest in promoting "positive health" by assisting in the prevention of disease. He, too, felt constrained to add that a voluntary health program might help prevent the coming of "socialized medicine."²⁴

The MSPA was given this notice in a Mississippi public health history published in 1950:

Lending cooperation in many public health endeavors, the Association was particularly helpful in the fight against venereal diseases. Contributing in numerous ways to better health for the people of Mississippi, the Pharmaceutical Association assisted in health progress.²⁵

The possibility of a new public health responsibility for the MSPA was called to the attention of its members by W. M. Triplett of Long Beach, chairman of the Trade Relations Committee in 1950. He spoke of the need for preparing for

²³ MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 25.

²⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 91.

²⁵ Underwood and Whitfield, Public Health and Medical Licensure in the State of Mississippi 1938-1947 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1950), 288-289.

defense against atomic attack and the pharmacist's duty to aid in stockpiling drugs. This new development, he said, emphasized the necessity for the Mississippi pharmacist to look at matters from national and international points of view. Triplett closed on a note which seemed to presage a greater concern by Mississippi pharmacists for public health, perhaps not as inhibited by commercial motives as sometimes had been the case, when he said that the pharmacist was at that time better than ever prepared to answer the question, "Am I my brother's keeper?"²⁶

Pharmacy Education

The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy has enjoyed the attention, support, and praise of the MSPA since the school's founding. A Department of Pharmacy was established at the University July 1, 1908, and classes began September 24. A member of the Association, Henry Minor Faser, headed the new department. Faser informed the members on the staff, curriculum, and equipment of the department and the academic degrees it offered. He made an effort to impress on them the value of the department and to overcome whatever "practical objections" might be raised to the curriculum. The Association passed a resolution asserting its confidence in Faser and pledging him

²⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 91.

its support and co-operation. A. S. Coody spoke in favor of formal education as a prerequisite to pharmacy board examination, and Faser asked that graduates of his department be licensed without further examination by the board.²⁷

The legislation that Faser wanted was approved March 29, 1910,²⁸ and in October of that year seven graduates of the University of Mississippi were licensed to practice pharmacy in the state without being required to take a state board examination.²⁹ Coody, while serving in 1913 as chairman of the Legislative Committee, "emphatically" condemned this registration law. He deplored what he felt to be the element of discrimination and special privilege it represented. Coody contended that the graduates would have better standing and self respect if they took the state board examination. It is interesting to note that in Coody's absence, Faser read the report in which this statement was made. It is not clear whether Faser, the originator of the no-examination provision, approved Coody's suggestion at the time or not;³⁰ but two years later Faser did remark that at one time he had favored repeal

²⁷MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 17-18, 1909, Vicksburg, Mississippi (printed at Morning Sun, Iowa, 1909 or 1910), 46-47; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1909.

²⁸Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1910 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1910), Chapter 165. MSPA Proceedings, 1910, 30.

²⁹MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 13-14, 1911, Greenville, Mississippi (printed at Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 1911 or 1912), 82; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1911.

³⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1913, 74-76.

of the provision. At any rate, in 1915 Faser recommended leaving the law as it was, granting licenses to graduates without further examination, and the Association gave him its unanimous backing.³¹

In 1921, in a related matter, Faser and Coody were in agreement that no requirement for practical experience should be added to the special provision for University of Mississippi Pharmacy School graduates.³² Thus Faser's original view prevailed, and a diploma from the Pharmacy School continued to have special significance for the Association and under the law.

The prerequisite for education prior to board examination, suggested by Coody in 1909, was finally written into law in 1920. "Quiz schools" and "diploma mills" were thereby inspired to become active in Mississippi to get men by the board before the law became effective, an activity of which the Association took note and disparaged.³³

Repeated signs of support were given by the Association in the pharmacy department's early years. Almost yearly the members were exhorted to encourage their employees and

³¹MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 89-90. The law remained in force in 1962. Mississippi Code, 1942, Annotated, recompiled vol. 6-A, 1956 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1957), with 1962 Cumulative Supplement (Jackson, Mississippi, 1963), Chapter 9, section 8850.

³²MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 21-29.

³³MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 92.

other young men to go to "Ole Miss" and study pharmacy.³⁴ The department was praised for raising pharmacy standards in the state, and resolutions were passed expressing great confidence in Faser.³⁵ The School of Pharmacy, as it became in 1920, was given assurance of the "unqualified support" of all members of the Association.³⁶

An early proposal that all University of Mississippi pharmacy graduates be admitted to the Association without paying an initiation fee was not approved, but on the recommendation of President C. E. Anding in 1920, the members of a "junior association" at the University were made honorary members of the MSPA and were exempt from dues.³⁷

In 1922 the Association further demonstrated its support of pharmacy education when it began to print in the annual Proceedings a list of colleges which were members of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties. Under the new prerequisite law, only graduates from these schools were eligible for licensing in Mississippi or for appointment to the State Board of Pharmacy.³⁸

³⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1911, 82; 1915, 19, 37-39.

³⁵ MSPA Proceedings, 1913, 45; 1919, 57-59.

³⁶ MSPA Proceedings, 1922, 11.

³⁷ MSPA Proceedings, 1913, 45, 72; 1920, 8, 39.

³⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1922, 81-82.

By 1926 the president, A. C. Strealby, was able to note that practically all pharmacists then entering state ranks were University of Mississippi graduates. He predicted that in a few years the Association would be ". . . almost an alumni organization of the School of Pharmacy, University of Mississippi." When Strealby referred to the dean it was as "OUR Dr. Faser."³⁹ Two years later another president noted that "Dr. Faser's products" were in the majority on the new state board. Three of its five members were University of Mississippi graduates.⁴⁰ In 1931 F. W. Duckworth became the first Ole Miss graduate to be elected president of the Association, according to Faser, who counted 21 graduates of the school among the approximately 50 men then present. Faser said that over 300 students had been graduated by the school in its 23 years of operation and that 98 per cent of them were then practicing in the state.⁴¹

It has already been noted that the school possessed an initial source of favor with the Association in that a member of the Association was the school's first head. Faser maintained an extremely high degree of approval throughout his

³⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1926, 11.

⁴⁰MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 19-20, 1928, Jackson, Mississippi (printed at Brandon, Mississippi, 1928 or 1929), 20; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1928.

⁴¹MSPA Proceedings, 1931, 49.

tenure. Partly responsible for the feeling toward him was his interest in the practical side of operating retail pharmacies in Mississippi. A crowning tribute in this regard was given by W. N. Temple of Bude in 1928. In his paper "Commercial Pharmacy in the Country Drug Store," Temple listed eight principles of success, one of which was the rigid enforcement of the canons of the "Prince of Pharmacists, our own Dr. Henry Minor Faser," whose practical business ideas, he said, ". . . have probably meant more to the young generation of Pharmacists than any one man in the profession."⁴² When academic excellence could thus be translated into practical value in the country drug store, there was no gainsaying Faser's great capacity for maintaining good relations between the Association and the school.

In a resolution in 1930 the Association claimed that pharmacy in Mississippi had made "far greater advancement" than in other states. It was claimed that Mississippi ranked among the first after having been at the bottom ". . . a few short years ago." The reason for the great advancement, said the resolution, was the School of Pharmacy of the University of Mississippi.⁴³

⁴²MSPA Proceedings, 1928, 70-72.

⁴³MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 18-19, 1930, Vicksburg, Mississippi (printed at Jackson, Mississippi, 1931), 38; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1930.

When Elmer L. Hammond succeeded Faser as dean, he put emphasis on the practical side of pharmacy in his first address to the Association, "Training the Retail Pharmacist." He quickly won praise for himself and for the school from the 1930 president, Charles E. Wilson.⁴⁴ Hammond enlarged on Faser's practice of giving reports to the Association on the status of pharmacy education at the University.⁴⁵

During the lean 1930's, Hammond had the support of the Association in his attempt to enroll sufficient numbers of students. In the Proceedings each year a full page advertisement was given free by the Association for the purpose of urging enrollment in the school.⁴⁶ This effort was sometimes expanded, as in 1935 when three pages of advertising and description were devoted to the school.⁴⁷

T. H. McMillon of McComb, who doubtless spoke the feelings of almost every member of this "alumni organization" when he declared, "I love Ole Miss . . . ," deplored the fact that in 1931 only twelve would graduate from the Pharmacy School.

⁴⁴MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 11-12, 1929, Gulfport, Mississippi (printed in 1929 or 1930, place not known), 25-26; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1929. MSPA Proceedings, 1930, 19.

⁴⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1930, 26-30; 1931, 26-30; 1933, 49.

⁴⁶See for example, MSPA Proceedings, 1929, 63.

⁴⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1935, 9-11.

He encouraged his fellow members to talk to young men in high school and get more of them to make pharmacy their life work.⁴⁸

But in 1937 another member concluded that they were still not doing enough to urge boys to go to the University.⁴⁹ Dean

Hammond told the Association in 1940 he had had an annual average of nineteen entrants for the past twelve years, which he said was only half as many as should have come.⁵⁰

Before the enrollment in the school could be raised to a satisfactory level, World War Two began. With many normal pursuits almost at a standstill, President W. H. Rose of West Point nonetheless was advising members in 1943 to look to the future and plan to take steps to recruit boys and girls for enrollment in pharmacy school.⁵¹ Rose may have been the first in the Association to call attention to the co-ed potential.

The secretary declared the following year that the school faced a crisis and must have more students. The Association was still carrying the free one-page advertisement in the Proceedings, and that year it also sent a poster to each high school in the state, soliciting enrollments in the School of Pharmacy. The secretary reminded members that they must make

⁴⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1931, 45.

⁴⁹ MSPA Proceedings, 1936 and 1937, 76.

⁵⁰ MSPA Proceedings, 1940, 36-38.

⁵¹ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 22, 1943, Meridian, Mississippi (printed in 1943, place not known), 10; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1943.

individual efforts as well.⁵²

With the war over the school groaned for space, but as the coming large groups of graduates were awaited, some prescription departments were temporarily closed for lack of registered men. However, the Association did not relax its interest in high standards. It adopted the attitude that returning war veterans should ignore on-the-job training and go to college instead.⁵³

The first large post-war graduating class in 1948 delivered 46 graduates. The Association gave evidence of its glee as it extended active membership to all 46 without fee, an unprecedented largess. The following year the graduating class was even larger, totalling 81.⁵⁴ The temporary glut caused some members to make the incorrect assumption that there would soon be more pharmacists than jobs. They recommended the Pharmacy School course be lengthened to six years.⁵⁵ On another occasion members of the Association showed their interest in the school's affairs by passing a resolution which favored the establishment of a state college of pharmacy along

⁵² MSPA Proceedings, 1944, 36.

⁵³ MSPA Proceedings, 1947, 28, 66.

⁵⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1948, 40; 1950, 87.

⁵⁵ MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 87.

with a four-year medical school and general hospital in one great medical center.⁵⁶

In addition to recruitment, the Association was active in encouraging scholarly work at the School of Pharmacy. In 1922, when the chairman of the Finance Committee, C. E. Anding, found the Association in good financial condition for a change, he recommended that a scholarship medal be awarded each year to the graduate receiving the highest average. Anding expressed the hope that eventually the Association would be able to give a scholarship instead of a medal. The Association approved the medal, which was supposed to cost about 25 dollars per year.⁵⁷

Two years later Anding returned to the idea of a scholarship and proposed that about 100 dollars be provided therefor. His suggestion was referred to a committee and thereafter sank from sight.⁵⁸ The scholarship was mentioned again hopefully a few years later but met with no success.⁵⁹

⁵⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1945, 94-95. When a medical center was ultimately established at Jackson, the Pharmacy School remained at the University's Oxford campus.

⁵⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1922, 56, 58. Winners were H. L. Herrington, Ellisville, 1923; L. A. Pigott, Tylertown, 1924; M. O. Clark, Verona, 1925; S. H. Butler, McCalls, 1927; H. K. Jackson, Liberty, 1928; J. L. Hicks, Jr., Laurel, 1929; W. W. Johnson, Jr., Sibleyton, 1930; and D. G. Griffith, Prentiss, 1931. No award was made in 1926 or after 1931.

⁵⁸MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 9-10, 1924, Vicksburg, Mississippi (printed in 1924 or 1925, place not known), 73, 86; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1924.

⁵⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1928, 60-62.

In 1932, hit by hard times, the Board of Governors decided not to order the medal that year because of lack of funds,⁶⁰ and the medal, too, sank from sight, never to be reinstated, although the by-laws provided for its award until a new constitution and new by-laws were adopted in 1945.⁶¹

Ten years after the medal was discontinued, the Association returned to the field of scholastic encouragement when it voted to establish a non-profit corporation to be known as the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association Student's Loan Fund.⁶² In 1943 when it was reported to the annual meeting that the fund had been incorporated, a total of \$1,060 was immediately pledged by members who were present.⁶³

The Association in 1945 passed a resolution suggesting that a drug store be established on the University of Mississippi campus and that profits from its operation go to the Loan Fund. The drug store proposal was talked over again in 1949, this time with emphasis on its value in affording experience to student pharmacists, but no action was taken.⁶⁴

Meanwhile the Loan Fund grew on contributions alone.

⁶⁰MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 7-9, 1932, Natchez, Mississippi (printed in 1932 or 1933, place not known), 23; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1932.

⁶¹MSPA Proceedings, 1945, 106-115.

⁶²MSPA Proceedings, 1942, 32.

⁶³MSPA Proceedings, 1943, 13-14.

⁶⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1945, 30; 1949, 73-76.

Its balance rose to around \$5,000 before the first loan was ever made. It was a loan for \$200, and the year it was made the ceiling on the loan was raised from \$200 to \$400 per year. Few were then asking for loan help. Actually the Association had made no effort to encourage requests for loans up to that time, wanting to build up a balance that would be self-perpetuating. In 1949 information on the Loan Fund began to go out to the state's high schools.⁶⁵

By 1950 four loans had been made, each amounting to \$200. The Fund had assets of \$5,757.55. In a related move, the Association began to look outside itself for monies, and unanimously passed a resolution instructing the Legislative Committee to try to get more state financial support for pharmacy education, support that would be comparable to that afforded medicine and dentistry.⁶⁶

In the post-war period the Association felt compelled for the first time to inject itself into the matter of maintaining a practical curriculum at the University. One year the president called for a "practice school" to be established there, as he expressed a need for "better-rounded" graduates.⁶⁷ The idea of a campus drug store has already been noted in

⁶⁵ MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 48, 89-93.

⁶⁶ MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 78, 80.

⁶⁷ MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 52, 60; 1949, 32-34.

this connection. This concern over "practicality" was not related to any change in policy at the school. Rather, it reflected two factors over which the school had no control. One was the increasing number of boys and girls going directly to college from high school without substantial previous experience in a drug store, and the other was simply the greater number of brand names and other retailing data to be dealt with in the modern drug store. Dean Hammond, who had always emphasized practical training, began pushing for a change in licensing, maintaining that a man should have a year of experience in a drug store in addition to his college education before being ready for licensing.⁶⁸

At the same time, however, there was a renewal of reaction against the provisions for licensing men as assistant pharmacists when they had only experience and no formal education and were unable to qualify for full standing. The Legislative Committee was instructed in 1949 to try to gain repeal of the provision in state law for the licensing of assistant pharmacists. It was the concensus of the Association membership that to continue licensing them was unfair to men with college training.⁶⁹

⁶⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 76-79. For an account of Hammond's summertime stint behind the prescription counter, see MSPA Proceedings, 1944, 26.

⁶⁹ MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 89-93.

Both these proposals relative to licensing became major legislative objectives. Repeal of the assistant licensing law was given top priority. Requirement of one year's experience as well as graduation from the Pharmacy School was second in priority. A related matter, that of the campus drug store, was held in abeyance pending the possible move of the Pharmacy School to the medical center in Jackson. But the pharmacist's preoccupation with restriction of competition was allowed to supervene. An unforeseen threat to the Association-backed retail price maintenance program developed in the legislature, and everything had to take second place to "fair trade." Being unable to concentrate on the assistant's law, the Legislative Committee was unable to secure its repeal. The one-year experience bill did not even get consideration.⁷⁰

One of the most valuable professional achievements of the Association has been its active support not only of the University of Mississippi Pharmacy School itself but also of the tradition of higher education for pharmacists. On the one hand the Association has attempted to raise both the enrollment and the standards of the School by its recruitment efforts and its programs of scholarship medals and loans. On the other hand the Association has given willing recognition to the professional competence of the University of Mississippi pharmacy

⁷⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 50-60.

graduate by supporting legislation to license him without requiring further examination.

Summary

The half-century ended with Mississippi pharmacists still in a state of professional transition. This was true in spite of the gains they had made. Their professional consciousness had been developed as described in the previous chapter. Also, the Mississippi pharmacist had a heightened sense of responsibility for public health as a result of Association efforts. And the Association had made its greatest tangible contribution to professionalism through its support of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy and the professional recognition it accorded the college-trained man. But the unlettered man was still present in Mississippi pharmacy. A major effort to change licensing laws was in the wind. The pharmacist was only beginning to make full use of the Association as a forum for public health ideas. Major challenges lay ahead in providing or securing additional funds for pharmacy education.

That the Association would play a major part in this continuing process of transition was certain. The Association had given evidence that it could serve as the instrument for raising the standards of pharmacists-at-large in Mississippi at least somewhat nearer those of the profession's leaders.

CHAPTER IV
BUSINESS INTERESTS

"We are all in the drug business for the purpose of making a living . . . ," J. W. McCorkle of Meridian told his fellow members in 1906. He believed that the primary task of the Association was to work for the improvement of business arrangements, especially in the area of maintaining price levels and curbing the competition of general stores in the drug trade.¹ In a paper delivered in 1915, T. E. Wallace of Charleston, chairman of the Papers and Queries Committee, declared, ". . . the druggist who has not been a financial success has not been a complete success in life." Wallace gave voice to reflections on the degree of altruism involved in serving the bodily cares of miscellaneous mortals, reflections perhaps not unlike those in the minds of other pharmacists and physicians as well:

A few years of experience in looking through the plate glass at people of all callings in life and at the evening pleasure seekers as they pass, teaches us that beyond a doubt the pharmacist gives the longest service for the least money of any profession

¹MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 48-51.

in the world. We believe that every druggist in the country is in business for revenue. . . .²

Wallace prosaically appraised higher professional standards as a means of increasing revenue, believing that passage of the prerequisite law would enable the Mississippi pharmacist to get higher prices for prescriptions.³

S. M. Covington of Summit, 1921 president of the Association, feared price competition from retail grocers selling drugs. He warned members that wholesale grocers and their traveling salesmen were enemies of the pharmacist as they fostered the sale of medicinal products by retail grocers. He favored restrictive legislation as a means of combating price competition from grocers. The handling of items in the medicinal line, Covington believed, should by law be the private preserve of registered pharmacists.⁴

Members of the Association heard another call for restrictive legislation in 1923, when they were told that "menaces" to their business success were the department stores which cut prices on toilet articles and the grocery stores and "Dago Stands" which sold patent medicines and related items.⁵ No one rose to

²MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 60.

³Ibid., 62.

⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 7-8.

⁵MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 12-13, 1923, Meridian Mississippi (printed in 1923 or 1924, place not known), 47-53; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1923.

disagree with a jobber who declared at a meeting of the Association in 1924, "We are all working for the profit." He encouraged members to employ salesmanship. When a man buys a box of aspirin for the relief of symptoms, went the jobber's advice, sell him salts to get to the cause. It was his opinion that more could be accomplished by pharmacists through co-operation than through competition.⁶

President Charles E. Wilson in 1931 returned to the theme that raising the professional status of the Mississippi pharmacists could be a profitable operation. He, too, was concerned about price competition, and he urged members to buy from jobbers who did not sell to grocery stores.⁷

"The Government has had to come to our rescue," President H. B. McInnis of Lumberton declared in the depression year of 1933. The business crisis, he said, had heightened the need for ". . . a militant membership to fight the battles of the Retail Druggists. . . ." McInnis repeated the advice that members should buy only from wholesalers who did not sell to grocers, and he called for the passage of laws ". . . to stop predatory price cutting."⁸

The anti-competition sentiments of the members as

⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1924, 74-79.

⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1931, 12-15.

⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1933, 17.

evidenced in these statements made in the formative years of the Association were channeled into the retail price maintenance efforts which became effective in the 1930's, as will be seen later.

Making a Profit on Drugs

The Association showed an early concern over the promotion of proprietaries from a business as well as professional point of view. The pharmacist's plight was ascribed to the fact that detail men persuaded physicians to ask pharmacists to stock more and more new proprietaries from year to year, and therefore many remained on the shelf. The answer, members were repeatedly told, was to resist this demand for proprietaries and to promote preparations from the United States Pharmacopoeia and National Formulary. It was said they would make more money as well as helping the physician and saving the patient's money.⁹

Anthony Fly, who had served as president of the Association, spoke in 1909 of the possibility of increasing pharmacists' profits by discouraging physicians from making excessive use of proprietaries in their practice. His bitterness on the subject was not concealed:

⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 23, 41-43; 1907, 36.

The medical science is great, but the average doctor is not, he is no greater than the laity from which he sprang and to which he is fast returning, for we behold him now, with them, scratching in the dung hill of the proprietaries in search of remedies.¹⁰

When a change in attitude toward proprietaries began developing, it was related to profit-making rather than to the medicinal virtue of the preparations. F. A. Rutherford of Jackson gave a paper in 1913 in which he maintained that the pharmacist should be interested neither in praising nor in condemning proprietaries but in handling them with the greatest possible margin of profit. He was unconcerned that proprietaries might not add to the pharmacist's professional standing; and he advised his fellow members to sell the goods that sell themselves and, being intentionally ungrammatical, to think of "Them Profits."¹¹

In addition to serving as a forum for attitudes on the sale of drugs, the Association provided an opportunity for members to exchange ideas on profit-making from other lines they handled. They heard a paper in 1910 which waxed enthusiastic in describing profitable sidelines which could be developed by a pharmacist, such as an icehouse or a soda fountain, or the sale of picture frames, building supplies, eyeglasses, cameras,

¹⁰ MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 17-18, 1909, Vicksburg, Mississippi (printed at Morning Sun, Iowa, 1909 or 1910), 29-31; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1909.

¹¹ MSPA Proceedings, 1913, 85-88.

fountain pens, and jewelry. A cardinal business principle of the erstwhile apothecary, they were told, should be to attract small boys and girls.¹² To demand legislation to prohibit the sale of drugs by general merchants, while pharmacists themselves expanded into general merchandising, constituted an irony that did not escape the attention of the Association; and members were advised to stick to their lasts, or rather, to their mortars and pestles.¹³ It was advice that most did not take.

Members were given tips on the use of advertising, an area in which they were told they should be prominent. Papers were given which told how to make up ads and write ad copy. Packaging, displays, direct mail, newspapers, road signs, and circulars were subjects of discussion, and it was recommended that lowered prices be advertised.¹⁴ O. P. McPherson, the bottler of "Formula 121," sent a paper to the 1925 meeting of the Association in which he gave drug advertising his hearty endorsement and said:

. . . I even have my branding iron for my cattle "121." Everyone in this section [the Gloster area] knows my tonic

¹²MSPA Proceedings, 1910, 50-51.

¹³MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 13; 1922, 9.

¹⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 31-40; 1927, 75-76.

and I want them to know my cattle, so why not make Old Brindy a walking ad for my drug store?¹⁵

A sympathetic view of laboring conditions has prevailed among Mississippi members of this profession that both manages and labors. From time to time leaders in the Association have advised members to pay their employees well. At one time a suggestion was made that a pharmacist's fee be added to each prescription charge, the proceeds going to the employee filling the prescription.¹⁶

A. S. Coody claimed in 1925 that average wages in Jackson were: Negro plasterers, \$1.50 per hour; carpenters, 90 cents; and pharmacists about 35 cents, the way he figured it. G. C. Kendall, concerned over working conditions, said, "A man who works his force sixteen hours a day does not deserve any consideration at all."¹⁷

Eighteen years later, in 1943, President W. H. Rose in his annual message proposed that the Association encourage shorter working hours and Sunday closing. His proposal was adopted. The 1946 president, J. R. Williams of Lexington, said that the shorter hours had paid dividends to those who had adopted them. Volume had increased, customers had co-

¹⁵MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 9-10, 1925, Biloxi, Mississippi (printed in 1925 or 1926, place not known), 53; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1925.

¹⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1925, 22-23; 1926, 34.

¹⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1925, 23.

operated, and everybody was happier, according to Williams, who urged that more members adopt a policy of shorter hours.¹⁸

Papers were given and discussions were conducted occasionally on other business procedures, such as prescription pricing,¹⁹ accounting systems for drug stores,²⁰ methods to assure profits,²¹ and insurance. The Association took a definite step in the area of insurance. After a "fire insurance crisis" in 1920, the Association secured the entrance into Mississippi of what it felt to be a reputable company. It was a rare instance in which the man handling the matter, C. E. Anding, got 100 per cent replies from letters he sent to members asking for suggestions on the matter. As a result of the Association's interest, a stock company, the American Druggists Fire Insurance Company, of Cincinnati, began doing business in the state.²² Anding became its agent and later left the drug business to work full time in insurance.

Retail Price Maintenance

It was noted above in the discussion of the commercial

¹⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1943, 12, 28; 1946, 42.

¹⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1926, 57-61.

²⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1926, 61; 1927, 72-75.

²¹MSPA Proceedings, 1940, 45-47; 1946, 76.

²²MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 39-43.

philosophy of members of the Association that maintenance of price levels and thwarting of competition have been acknowledged goals throughout the Association's modern history. A paper on "The Possibilities of the Mississippi Pharmaceutical Association" in 1906 set the tone for the Association's attitude on price-fixing when it urged ". . . by all means maintain prices. . . ." ²³ President B. L. Clarke in 1907 stated his belief that the Sherman anti-trust act was being interpreted in such a way as to make it an aid rather than a hindrance to monopoly. The Association passed Clarke's resolution that the United States Senate and House be petitioned to amend the Sherman Act ". . . so that reasonable trade agreements and associative efforts may be recognized and protected." ²⁴

President A. S. Coody in his 1910 address remarked, ". . . I do not believe in the competitive theory. I know that the most successful men and successful enterprises are those where competition has been eliminated and co-operation substituted." ²⁵ On Coody's suggestion in 1921 the Association gave its endorsement to a proposed federal law that would permit manufacture of standard products on which the price would

²³ MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 49.

²⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 20, 44.

²⁵ MSPA Proceedings, 1910, 31-32.

be indicated and on which price-cutting would be prohibited.²⁶ President J. A. Moss of Biloxi in 1923, fearful of competition from chain drug operations, urged that the Association become active in retail price maintenance. He proposed that the Association go so far as to package its own line in order to combat price-cutting.²⁷

J. W. Quin, a wholesaler and honorary member of the Association, told those at the 1924 meeting, "There is a great deal more to be accomplished by co-operation than if people regard each other as competitors." He encouraged a drive to secure 100 per cent membership by Mississippi retail druggists in the MSPA so that complete co-operation could be secured.²⁸ Later, Quin served as chairman of the Trade Relations Committee, traditionally composed of one drug manufacturer, one drug wholesaler, and three drug retailers. Declaring that the interest of the three groups represented on the committee was the same, namely an interest in net profit, he delivered the committee's report favoring "price standardization" and condemning price-cutting. The report received the endorsement of the Association.²⁹

²⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 45- 59.

²⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1923, 14-16.

²⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1924, 79.

²⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1926, 20.

"The enemy must be annihilated," President G. C. Roberts of Greenwood declared in 1934, as he drew a bead on those who would promote price competition. He exhorted his listeners to demonstrate their loyalty to associations which worked to limit competition and said that ". . . price stabilization underlies the fundamental commonwealth of mankind."³⁰

For fourteen years, beginning in 1921, the Association expressed its endorsement of different versions of retail price maintenance bills being considered by the national congress. On occasions copies of the Association's resolutions were mailed to the members of the Mississippi congressional delegation.³¹ The Association was told in 1935 that Senator Arthur Kapper of Kansas, one of the authors of the latest version of the bill, saw a possibility of reviving the bill since the National Recovery Act codes had then been discarded.³² But by that year President Lew Wallace had despaired of getting national legislation and suggested the Association's weight be thrown behind an effort to get a retail price maintenance law through the Mississippi legislature.³³

The path to success had been found. After favorable

³⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1934, 19-21.

³¹MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 45, 59; 1926, 67; 1927, 96; 1928, 38.

³²MSPA Proceedings, 1935, 70.

³³Ibid., 25-29.

action by the Mississippi legislature, the Mississippi Fair Trade Council, as it was called, was set up by the MSPA to administer retail price maintenance contracts. The Council's nucleus would be the Board of Governors of the Association. The president of the MSPA would be chairman of the Council and the MSPA secretary-treasurer would be the Council's director. A cadre of "captains," "lieutenants," and "sergeants" drawn from the membership of the MSPA would report instances of price-cutting to their "superior officers."³⁴

Abe Plough of the Plough Chemical Company of Memphis, speaking on retail price maintenance in 1938, assured the members that the operation of retail price maintenance contracts would not only serve to maintain prices but with the co-operation of more manufacturers it would result in ". . . the raising of those minimum prices now considered too low."³⁵

Two side effects of the spirit of retail price maintenance were noted. One was the additional involvement of the Association in state politics. S. B. Key, explaining that G. B. Herring, campaign manager for Dillard W. Brown, had sponsored the retail price maintenance bill through the Mississippi legislature, read to the 1939 meeting a telegram from Herring saying, "LETS GO TO TOWN WITH DILLARD W. BROWN

³⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 31-33, 61.

³⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 39-43.

FOR STATE TAX COLLECTOR."³⁶

The other effect, had it not aborted, could have resulted in a radical change in the status of the MSPA, which had always been a voluntary organization. In connection with the expense of administering the retail price maintenance operation, Chester E. Jones of Jackson, a member of the Commercial Problems Committee, proposed that all registered pharmacists in Mississippi be required by law to be members of the MSPA, and that mandatory annual dues of five dollars be imposed. Along with his basic proposal Jones put forth an elaborate new system of officers and rules to be adopted. Most of the members present must have felt like the one who spoke out and said, "There is whole lot to that!," because they voted to refer the revolutionary proposal to the Resolutions Committee, which in turn found it too hot to handle and referred it to the incoming administration. At this stage, however, Jones' comment was that because of the feelings aroused by his proposal the members should ". . . forget it all."³⁷

The members of the Association seemed to be aware their customers might be reluctant to believe that resale price maintenance was for the customer's own welfare. A member of the Tennessee Pharmaceutical Association who had worked

³⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1939, 22.

³⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 59-61, 82-84.

in the retail price maintenance operation there visited the MSPA meeting in 1938 and warned the Mississippians if they raised certain prices in the course of developing retail price maintenance, not to tell customers the increased prices were due to the retail price maintenance law. To do so, he said, would be courting repeal of the law as a result of public opposition. He advised that customers be told instead that increased prices were due to ". . . extra taxes, social security, overhead, operating cost, etc., and that the price has been increased a little in order to bring about better social conditions for the public at large. There is not a patriotic citizen but can be appealed to by a few remarks of that kind."³⁸

There seemed to be no limit to the hyperbole in which proponents of retail price maintenance would engage in order to persuade the public to pay higher prices cheerfully. Theodore Christianson, public relations counsel for the National Association of Retail Druggists, made a talk to a meeting of the Association which was also broadcast on a Jackson radio station. In it he said, as paraphrased in the Proceedings, ". . . the price-chiseler [is] a public menace and Stalin's and Hitler's most potent ally in destroying the economic power which makes America impregnable and therefore secure." Consumers were said to approve the retail price maintenance

³⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 57-58.

operation while opposition came from ". . . certain powerful groups with a selfish interest to protect . . . subsidized authors and writers . . . college professors so steeped in outmoded laissez faire economic theories and so void of practical experience that they cannot see the realities of present-day business."³⁹

Secretary N. V. Doty of Jackson reported in 1947 that retail price maintenance was under fire from newspapers. "These editorials merely make reading matter for editors to send out. Evidence points out that all of the editorials assailing Fair Trade were written by the same author." While not claiming to know who the author was, Doty had no doubt that he was "some crackpot."⁴⁰ The following year Doty alleged that chain stores were working for the repeal of retail price maintenance legislation, ". . . trying to assume the holy cloak of altruism to cause public opinion to condemn Fair Trade practices."⁴¹ Whatever the chains may have been doing, it was clear "fair trade" supporters had not been idle nor unimaginative in their own efforts to sway public opinion.

The Mississippi Fair Trade Council's receipts during

³⁹MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 16-18, 1941, Jackson, Mississippi (printed in 1941 or 1942, place not known), 36-38; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1941.

⁴⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1947, 78.

⁴¹MSPA Proceedings, 1948, 90.

its first year of operations, 1938-1939, amounted to \$1,761.54, all but \$93.47 of which was spent. The income came from members' contributions and from manufacturers' payment for certain services. Expenditures dropped to \$262.52 in 1942-1943 when there was less activity because of the imposition of wartime price ceilings by the national government. In 1946-1947 only \$181.86 was spent. In 1949-1950 expenses had climbed to \$1,298.78, including \$334.54 allotted to the Legislative Committee, \$300.00 turned over to the National Fair Trade Council, and \$600.00 for the secretary's salary. After the year's expenses the balance held by the Council amounted to \$2,977.34.⁴²

The retail price maintenance operation was not, however, given full support by Association membership. Charles E. Wilson, secretary of the Association and director of the Fair Trade Council, reported in 1941 that only 6 per cent or so of Mississippi drug stores were contributing to the Council's support. In 1942 he described Mississippi retail price maintenance efforts as a "farce." Only 20 per cent participation was reported in 1944. In his last report as director of the Council, in 1946, Wilson asked, "Just what do you want to do about it-- just what will you do about it, applaud like hell what I have said and go home and forget all about it?" The state's pharmacists only contributed \$30.00 to the Council's support that year.

⁴²MSPA Proceedings, 1939, 37-39; 1943, 24-25; 1947, 79; 1950, 101-103.

In 1950, R. I. Martin of Purvis, then the Council's director, said that not enough pharmacists were supporting the retail price maintenance operation.⁴³

There is reason to suggest that Mississippi pharmacists may have been rendered a disservice by being involved in retail price maintenance. There is no evidence that the Association functioned adequately in determining whether retail price maintenance would indeed benefit the Mississippi pharmacist financially or further the ideals of public service and professionalism he professes to cherish. In connection with the most recent attempt to gain passage of federal legislation dealing with resale price maintenance, the President's Council of Economic Advisers reported:

Although a small number of individual retailers might be better off, for retailers as a whole, the "protection" afforded by price maintenance would be illusory. Retailers would not gain; but their customers would lose.⁴⁴

The Economic Advisers outlined in detail the repercussions which small retailers have not taken into account in their zeal for retail price maintenance, and summarized their findings in this way:

⁴³MSPA Proceedings, 1941, 46-47; 1942, 22-24; 1944, 30-34; 1946, 98-99; 1950, 101-103.

⁴⁴Council of Economic Advisers, Probable Effects of the Proposed Quality Stabilization Act on Prices, Incomes, Employment, and Production (Washington, D.C., 1963), 2.

Since aggressive competitors would use nonprice competition to improve their market positions, most small retailers would not in the end be better off under the Quality Stabilization Act, and their incomes would be increased only temporarily.⁴⁵

A merchant who condemns collectivism as a "foreign" or "European" intrusion, yet advocates retail price maintenance, would find it difficult to square himself with the Economic Advisers' philosophic support for their position:

In general, our market system uses the pressures of price competition to weed out the inefficient and to select the goods and services (including retailing services) that best satisfy consumer demand. In retailing, as in other sectors of the economy, this flexible competition has produced for the American consumer a great variety of goods and services and marketing techniques. This selection process is essential to our free market economy. By comparison, European markets, where resale price maintenance is more generally found, have not generated the variety of innovative distribution practices that we enjoy.⁴⁶

This latest attempt to enact federal retail price maintenance legislation was also opposed by the Department of Commerce,⁴⁷ the Department of Agriculture,⁴⁸ the Bureau of the

⁴⁵Council of Economic Advisers, op. cit., 3.

⁴⁶Ibid., 4.

⁴⁷House Report No. 566, 88th Congress, 1st sess. (Washington, 1963), 20-22.

⁴⁸Ibid., 23-24.

Budget,⁴⁹ and the Federal Trade Commission,⁵⁰ among others.

The MSPA has never had a stated purpose of promoting the economic interests of drug manufacturers, but if the analysis of the Council of Economic Advisers turns out to be correct, the MSPA will find itself in the position of having aided manufacturers to the detriment of the individual pharmacist and his customer, two parties whose welfare the Association has sought to protect since its founding.

There is no intent to imply here that the matter of retail price maintenance can be resolved easily. In attempting to explain pharmacists' support for the movement, one authority comments:

Competition in prices is an integral part of trade and as old as commerce itself. Its advantage to society has its limitations at that point where it becomes profitable only for a certain group of individuals and threatens the actual general economic order on which society is built. . . .⁵¹

In a sense, fair trade has run counter to the American commitment to "free enterprise." Yet, it supports an equally traditional concern for the life-chance of small, independent entrepreneurs.⁵²

Thus the individual pharmacist who has felt his economic

⁴⁹House Report No. 566, loc. cit., 22-23.

⁵⁰Ibid., 24-28.

⁵¹Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 267.

⁵²Ibid., 271.

well-being threatened has resorted to an explicable counter-measure. But he may have been wrong. The MSPA has done little to acquaint its members with information on which they could make a sensible decision regarding retail price maintenance. In the absence of such information they have nonetheless involved themselves organizationally, financially, and philosophically in a retail price maintenance operation.

Working with the Veterans Administration

The dilemma facing the advocate of free enterprise is based in part on deciding which procedures will aid in its cultivation and which will not, in a highly complex society such as the United States has become in the twentieth century. A Veterans Administration program following World War Two brought the MSPA face to face with another example of this puzzle. The VA set up a system whereby veterans under its medical care could get prescriptions filled at local pharmacies, thus leaving this source of revenue in the hands of private businesses. Some members of the Association professed reluctance to have anything to do with the government but realized that their refusal to co-operate would necessitate the establishment of drug centers by the VA. Actually there was never any serious challenge to instituting the program, only vocal opposition.

It became an Association issue because under the VA's program the MSPA would serve as clearing house and collection

agency for all such business done in the state. In 1946 the Association unanimously endorsed a contract with the VA to initiate the arrangement, and in another unanimous vote the secretary was specifically authorized to enter into the contract.⁵³

A year later President J. W. Duckworth said he had gotten an idea of what "socialized medicine" would be like by reading the VA's instructions, but nevertheless he recommended a renewal of the contract so that any member who wished to participate would be enabled so to do. Duckworth said that since there had been "much opposition" to the program he would call on Secretary N. V. Doty to explain more fully how the program would work. Doty did so, and commented that in spite of some objections to the "regimentation" features of the program, he felt it would be ". . . a break for us in a monetary way." The contract was renewed by acclamation.⁵⁴

The following year, 1948, Doty reported that the VA arrangement was ". . . beginning to shape up nicely in our state," and the contract was unanimously renewed.⁵⁵ In 1949 the vote was not quite unanimous but renewal was approved,⁵⁶

⁵³MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 26, 58, 107.

⁵⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1947, 24, 66-69.

⁵⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1948, 89, 96.

⁵⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 106.

and in 1950 a unanimous vote was again recorded on the issue.⁵⁷

The Issue of Control

The irony of the pharmacist's attitude toward "regimentation" lies in the fact that his chief purpose in participating in an association has been to secure the weight of government behind the regulations he has deemed necessary to his profession. An interesting dichotomy is sometimes evident in statements by officers and members when they rise to protest governmental regulation: in the next breath they call for further legislation. In 1923 a member of the Trade Relations Committee, P. R. Reid of McComb, in complaining about competition from department stores and grocery stores, said, ". . . the Drug Store is required to pay more privilege taxes, make out more 'Blooming' reports, and subjected to more Rules and Regulations than all the aforesaid Merchants combined." After this cavil against regimentation, Reid called for further legislation to protect the pharmacist from "unfair" competition.⁵⁸

R. H. Redus of Starkville, chairman of the Commercial Problems Committee in 1938, boasted of the power of the Association in influencing legislation. But, seemingly unaware of

⁵⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 105. The Association continued contract arrangements until 1963, when VA centers began direct handling of payments. MSPA Proceedings, 1963, 59.

⁵⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1923, 49.

the significance of the Association's involvement with the law-making process, he proceeded to say that in Mississippi the pharmacist's two greatest problems were taxation and governmental supervision. Redus added:

You can beat a druggist out of an account, you can call him from a warm bed late at night, but don't try to "regulate or supervise" him. A druggist naturally hates to be "supervised."

He concluded that druggists were just born to suffer tedious public service, taxation, licensing, and governmental control.⁵⁹

In spite of their long history of organizing to influence legislation, spending money to influence legislation, and entering into politics to influence legislation, members were able to applaud Joe Shine, identified as a visitor from Chicago, when he told a meeting of the Association, "You fellows depend too much on laws. You want to run your own business. You don't want the legislature running your business."⁶⁰

The attitude of these speakers is not altogether paradoxical, however. In part their statements simply illustrate the fact that they want to be the ones who do the regulating. "Regulation by outsiders is resented," Redus said, as he told of pharmacists in Wyoming being irked over being scolded on

⁵⁹ MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 65.

⁶⁰ MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 104.

carelessness in handling food. "Matters of regulation of the drug business should come from within the ranks of the association and not pellmell from those who seek to regulate us," he told his fellow members.⁶¹ The truth of course is that the preponderance of regulation has indeed originated within the profession itself.

One aspect of this resistance to regulation has been the continual voicing of warnings within the Association against government medical care programs.⁶² President J. W. Duckworth told his fellow members in 1947 that "socialized medicine" in the United States had the backing of subversive political elements. He claimed to find a parallel to socialized medicine in the VA prescription contract arrangements but nevertheless recommended renewal of the contract. Right on the heels of these protests he spoke of using the MSPA's "collective strength" to gain passage of a bill in the state legislature which would restrict the use of the words "drug store" and "pharmacy" and similar designations to shops run by registered pharmacists.⁶³

Pharmacists are operating in the tradition of political democracy when they seek to oppose legislation or governmental operations which they deem undesirable. No suggestion is made

⁶¹MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 66.

⁶²See for example MSPA Proceedings, 1944, 76; 1946, 24, 93-96; 1949, 69-70, 96.

⁶³MSPA Proceedings, 1947, 22-26.

here that it be otherwise. But pharmacists have embraced the governmental process for their own ends to an extent that few professions have, and it seems some of them are less conscious of the implications of their history in this respect than they might be.

However, members of the MSPA have not allowed their verbal protests against "regimentation" to inhibit the implementation of certain policies they have deemed constructive. President Duckworth, later in the same session in which he spoke critically of socialized medicine, said in connection with the Veterans Administration contract, "I hate to be a pessimist, but it looks like we are heading for a socialized economy. If we don't get in on the ground floor, we may be left out entirely."⁶⁴

⁶⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1947, 68.

CHAPTER V
LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

The Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association, like most state pharmaceutical associations,¹ was organized principally to secure state laws governing the practice of pharmacy. After a reorganization of the Mississippi association in 1891, Mississippi's first pharmacy law requiring a license to practice pharmacy was enacted in 1892. Therefore pharmacy legislation was on the books when the 1902 reorganization of the Association took place. However, the new group was motivated by a desire for (1) means of enforcing the existing law and (2) complete revision of the existing law.

Laws on Licensing and Practice

President Anthony Fly in 1906 called for the creation of an office of state drug inspector, claiming that there were nearly as many unregistered as registered men practicing pharmacy in Mississippi.² In the same year a member of the Executive

¹Kremers and Urdang, History of Pharmacy, 181, 196.
Also see above, 5-7.

²MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 19-20.

Committee, S. L. Caine of Columbus, said that the Mississippi pharmacy law was "totally inadequate." One innovation in which Caine was particularly interested was a provision giving the Association a hand in selecting members of the State Board of Pharmacy Examiners. At the time the governor of Mississippi had the full responsibility of board member selection.³ Both Fly's call for a drug inspector and Caine's demand for a voice in board member selection were eventually written into law as a result of Association efforts.

Another provision ultimately enacted was the requirement for formal pharmacy education at the college level as a prerequisite for licensing. President A. S. Coody called for such legislation in 1910 and repeated his call as chairman of the Legislative Committee in 1919.⁴ In a related matter, in 1910, the Association achieved its first notable success with the state legislature, when a law was passed which provided that graduates of the University of Mississippi Pharmacy School be registered to practice pharmacy without further examination.⁵

³ MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 43-44. In 1906 Fly was president of the State Board of Examiners and Caine was secretary. Hence their observations were those of men directly involved in the matter of licensing. MSPA Proceedings, 1910, 26.

⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1910, 30; 1919, 27.

⁵ Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1910 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1910), Chapter 165. MSPA Proceedings, 1910, 30.

But for the most part members of the young organization met with failure in their efforts to influence legislation. The lesson learned in ten years of disappointment was that by accepting less than complete revision of the pharmacy law they could make a legislative beginning. The pharmacy law which was enacted in 1916, as a result of Association efforts, replaced the 1892 statute, but under it the MSPA had not achieved three of its chief objectives: a drug inspector, an educational prerequisite provision in the licensing law, and participation in naming the members of the State Board of Pharmacy.⁶

The call for a drug inspector was immediately renewed but without success; and pharmacy law enforcement through inspection and other means was not provided until the enactment of pertinent laws in 1934 and 1948.⁷ The Association was more successful with the other two legislative objectives, the prerequisite law and participation in state board selection. In 1920 Mississippi became one of the first fourteen states⁸ to pass a prerequisite law.⁹ In 1922 the Association gained the

⁶Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1916 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1916), Chapter 114.

⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1917, 104-108; 1918, 11; 1919, 27. Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1934 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1934), Chapter 338; Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1948 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1948), Chapter 396.

⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 10.

⁹Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1920 (Jackson,

right to nominate twenty men from whom the governor named five to the Board of Pharmacy.¹⁰

Therefore it would not be entirely correct to cite the passage of the 1916 pharmacy law by itself as a milestone in Mississippi pharmacy legislation. In terms of the announced goals of the Association and the delays and compromises it had to accept to achieve its purpose, the laws passed in the period 1916-1922, taken as a group, signify Mississippi pharmacy's first major legislative accomplishment since the passage of the 1892 law.

The Association next began working on a bill which would restrict the use of signs bearing such names as "drug store" and "apothecary" to shops operated by licensed pharmacists. After near-successes in 1928, 1930, and 1932,¹¹ a drug store sign law was finally secured in 1948.¹² The law which was enacted was described by Chester E. Jones, secretary of the

Mississippi, 1920), Chapter 316; supplemented by Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1926 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1926), Chapter 307, which defined the meaning of "Recognized College" under the law.

¹⁰ Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1922 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1922), Chapter 251. Later the law was changed to read that the MSPA would nominate 21 men from whom the governor would appoint four, the fifth to be the executive secretary, named by the MSPA. Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1934 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1934), Chapter 338.

¹¹ MSPA Proceedings, 1928, 24; 1930, 28; 1932, 27.

¹² Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1948 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1948), Chapter 396.

State Board of Pharmacy, as ". . . much stronger than the majority of the states that have a similar law."¹³

During the 1920's and 1930's the Association found a new dimension in its legislative struggle. As well as attempting to secure the passage of legislation it thought desirable, the Association struggled vigorously against legislation of which it disapproved. Such legislation originated chiefly from two quarters: (1) merchant groups outside pharmacy who resisted the Association's attempt to restrict the sale of drugs and (2) pharmacists themselves who were not in sympathy with the Association's goal of raising licensing requirements and professional and educational standards. T. O. Slaughter of Waynesboro, chairman of the Legislative Committee, commented in 1935 that after 1920 ". . . much destructive legislation . . . had been proposed. . . ," and added, "most of it was defeated. . . ."¹⁴ President H. H. Jones said in 1940 that attempts to "tear down" the structure of professional pharmacy in Mississippi were often aided by ". . . men in our own ranks . . ." and in ". . . one or more instances . . . by practicing physicians." He emphasized, however, that the Mississippi State Medical Association had aided the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association in its legislative efforts.¹⁵

¹³ MSPA Proceedings, 1948, 101.

¹⁴ MSPA Proceedings, 1935, 60.

¹⁵ MSPA Proceedings, 1940, 7.

Two types of legislation opposed by the Association were particular reciprocity laws which would have had the effect of lowering Mississippi's licensing standards and provisions for "limited licenses" which would have had the same effect. In 1932 the Association gained repeal¹⁶ of a reciprocity law which had been enacted in 1930.¹⁷ Another reciprocity law enacted in 1932¹⁸ was practically made inoperative by the Association's opposition in the courts and was superseded by an Association-backed reciprocity law in 1934. The 1934 law also provided, among other things, for direct enforcement of registration requirements.²⁰

The second type of legislation which posed a problem for the Association was concerned with issuance of various types of limited license for the practice of pharmacy. Proponents of such legislation were able to generate formidable political power against which the Association was unable to mount total opposition. Illustrative of the Association's

¹⁶Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1932 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1932), Chapter 276.

¹⁷Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1930 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1930), Chapter 63.

¹⁸Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1932 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1932), Chapter 277.

¹⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1935, 61.

²⁰Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1934 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1934), Chapter 338.

manner of dealing with this issue was the passage of limited license provisions in 1942.²¹ While the Association helped write these provisions, they did not represent the solution deemed most desirable by the Association, but, in the words of the chairman of the Legislative Committee, D. B. Sharron, were ". . . something of a compromise. . . ." ²²

At midcentury the Association was working for further legislation on licensing standards. Members voted almost unanimously to instruct the Legislative Committee to continue to press for changes in the limited license law.²³ They voted 292 to 60 to instruct the Committee to work for legislation adding a one-year's experience provision to the statute granting registration to University of Mississippi Pharmacy School graduates without further examination.²⁴

Product Laws and Tax Laws

While the main thrust of the Association's legislative activity has been toward securing laws governing pharmacy

²¹Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1942 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1942), Chapter 324.

²²MSPA Proceedings, 1942, 28.

²³MSPA Proceedings, 1950, 50, 60.

²⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 116.

licensing and practice, it has also concerned itself both with enactment and enforcement of laws dealing directly with products sold by pharmacists and laws dealing with taxation. In the former category, the Association co-operated in enforcement of the Harrison Narcotics Act by conducting programs to acquaint members with the act's requirements,²⁵ and gained passage of an amendment to the Mississippi narcotics act to make it conform with provisions of the Harrison Act.²⁶

The Association also acted to gain compliance with liquor prohibition statutes after passage of the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and the enactment of the Volstead Act.²⁷ While national prohibition was in effect the Association interested itself in state legislation pertaining to the sale of medicinal products containing alcohol.²⁸ Its aim was summarized in 1927 by Secretary-Treasurer A. S. Coody, who said that the Association should help frame bills which would ". . . prevent the sale of preparations for beverage purpose and at the same time permit the public to purchase ordinary household remedies and

²⁵ MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 72-80; 1920, 53-71.

²⁶ MSPA Proceedings, 1924, 18. Laws of the State of Mississippi, 1924 (Jackson, Mississippi, 1924), Chapters 248 and 249.

²⁷ MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 12, 35; 41; 1926, 12.

²⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1921, 33-35; 1924, 18.

culinary preparations with the smallest amount of cost and inconvenience."²⁹

The Association also supported proposed legislation dealing with the sale of coitional prophylactics³⁰ and legislation regulating the sale of barbituric acids.³¹

A long struggle was waged against taxation on the fountain sale of "Coca-Cola" and other forms of soda water taxation.³² From time to time the Association worked for the repeal of various state privilege taxes and opposed the imposition of new ones.³³ Special taxes on the retail sale of tobaccos and other so-called "nuisance taxes" were for a long period a special target of the Legislative Committee.³⁴ Methods of general sales tax collection also got the attention of the Association.³⁵

²⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 17.

³⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1932, 77; 1948, 64.

³¹MSPA Proceedings, 1939, 82-85.

³²MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 31-32, 39; 1908, 25-27; 1909, 19, 42; 1910, 31, 39; 1922, 58; 1924, 18; 1929, 18-19; 1930, 32; 1932, 31. MSPA Proceedings, meeting of June 11-12, 1912, Greenwood, Mississippi (printed at Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 1912 or 1913), 31; hereinafter cited as MSPA Proceedings, 1912.

³³See for example MSPA Proceedings, 1918, 13; 1919, 27; 1928, 25; 1929, 18; 1932, 31.

³⁴See for example MSPA Proceedings, 1924, 18; 1928, 19; 1929, 17-19; 1930, 32-35; 1932, 31; 1937, 70; 1939, 79.

³⁵See for example MSPA Proceedings, 1935, 23; 1939, 78.

Methods for Gaining Influence

In overcoming the difficulties encountered in reaching its legislative goals, the MSPA developed a method which included application of pressure at two points: (1) direct lobbying during legislative sessions and (2) individual member contacts with members of the legislature in their respective counties.

S. L. Caine, chairman of the Legislative Committee in 1907, encouraged members to get acquainted with legislators and to familiarize them with the proposed pharmacy law endorsed by the Association.³⁶ He had said earlier, "While we may not be good politicians ourselves, we must at least get the good politicians on our side."³⁷

In 1908 Secretary O. W. Bethea drew applause from his fellow members when he declared at the annual meeting that the MSPA must become ". . . a power in the country, and personally I will not give one iota of support to any candidate who will not pledge himself to the relief of pharmacy."³⁸

President G. W. Simmons surveyed the early failures of the MSPA to gain passage of pharmacy legislation and vowed ". . . our fight must be made at the coming elections. . . . The time for us to pass a pharmacy bill is at the elections. . . ." ³⁹

³⁶ MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 39.

³⁷ MSPA Proceedings, 1906, 44.

³⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1908, 51.

³⁹ MSPA Proceedings, 1914, 43.

A. S. Coody, as chairman of the Legislative Committee in 1915, also emphasized the importance of getting pledges prior to election time, saying, "Druggists can frequently do a great deal along this line on account of the candidates standing around the drug stores."⁴⁰ Coody went further than any other member had gone in attempting to influence the legislature through political maneuvering when he suggested that the Legislative Committee not be appointed until after the August primary elections. He commented:

It is a well known fact that we have in Mississippi two factions with lines as firmly drawn and issues as clearly defined as between the two great political parties. The Legislative Committee and especially the Chairman should be selected from the dominant faction.⁴¹

After an objection by G. C. Kendall, who regarded this ploy as "petty politics," Coody withdrew the recommendation from his report.⁴² Another tactic for making the Legislative Committee more effective was put into practice at one time. All members named to the Committee were men who resided in or near Jackson and hence could more conveniently be active at legislative sessions.⁴³ Not only was travel difficult in the

⁴⁰ MSPA Proceedings, 1915, 49.

⁴¹ Ibid., 51.

⁴² Ibid., 53, 80-81.

⁴³ MSPA Proceedings, 1918, 9.

early years of the Association, but also at the time a full-time secretary was not employed; therefore volunteer work in the capital city was even more important.

Members were repeatedly exhorted to exert what influence they could on legislators in their respective counties,⁴⁴ and to leave no doubt as to their attitude, members approved the following resolution in 1926:

RESOLVED, that the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association . . . declare its purpose and policy hence forth to urge the retail druggists of Mississippi to take an active interest in politics. . . .⁴⁵

The following year one member, R. T. Taylor of Seminary, made a report to the Association which indicated he could act in hearty concurrence with the resolution: ". . . I have given the candidates [in Covington County] to understand if they don't commit themselves to me, I am going to fight them tooth and toe nail."⁴⁶

In an amusing incident the Association almost got more credit for political activity than was desired. In 1928, J. W. Culver of Jackson, who served that year as a member of the Publicity Committee, was quick to correct an apparently exaggerated

⁴⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1920, 74; 1921, 37, 45; 1924, 31; 1925, 13; 1926, 16.

⁴⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1926, 65.

⁴⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 91.

statement made by Mississippi Governor Theodore G. Bilbo when he made an appearance at the annual meeting:

GOV. BILBO - It was my pleasure, during the recent session of the Mississippi legislature, to save your profession, because if I had not vetoed the George cigarette and tobacco tax bill, you would have been a profession of lickens instead of pharmacists.

In this connection I want to express my profound appreciation for all those beautiful boxes of cigars that I received as a result of the veto of this bill.

MR. CULVER - One box wasn't it, Governor?

GOV. BILBO - Yes.⁴⁷

Bilbo, who told the members he had once owned a drug store,⁴⁸ was made an honorary member of the MSPA on a motion by C. E. Anding, chairman of the Legislative Committee, in appreciation of Bilbo's tax bill veto.⁴⁹

Anding began a practice of mailing a letter to members of the Association following legislative sessions, telling which legislators voted favorably on pharmacy bills, so members would know who the "friends of pharmacy" were.⁵⁰ When he proposed to embellish this procedure by sending to each county a poster with the names of legislators who voted against the interests of pharmacists by voting for "nuisance taxes," he was threatened

⁴⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1928, 12.

⁴⁸Ibid.

⁴⁹Ibid.

⁵⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1928, 27; 1929, 19.

with a citation of contempt by the legislature.⁵¹

Some "friends of pharmacy" spoke at annual meetings of the Association, such as Senator J. H. Culkin of Vicksburg,⁵² of whom Secretary S. B. Key remarked in 1938, "If the time ever comes when we can be of service in any way to Senator Culkin, we are certainly obligated to do it."⁵³

Hugh White and Mike Conner, while gubernatorial candidates, promised to work for the repeal of privilege taxes in answer to telegrams from the Association quizzing them on the matter. Lester C. Franklin, another candidate in the race, did the same,⁵⁴ and he also spoke at the annual meeting of the Association to make his views known in person. Serving at the time as chairman of the State Tax Commission, Franklin called privilege taxes ". . . inexcusable . . . unnecessary. . . ." ⁵⁵

Lieutenant Governor Dennis Murphree, speaking at a meeting of the Association in 1934, claimed credit for appointing T. O. Slaughter, a legislator and a member of the MSPA, to the Public Health and Quarantine Committee of the Senate.⁵⁶

⁵¹MSPA Proceedings, 1930, 29.

⁵²Ibid., 63-70.

⁵³MSPA Proceedings, 1938, 15-17.

⁵⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1930, 34-35.

⁵⁵Ibid., 71-72.

⁵⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1934, 57.

Reference has already been made to the telegram read at a meeting of the Association, saying "LETS GO TO TOWN WITH DILLARD W. BROWN." Brown's campaign manager had guided Association-backed legislation through the legislature.⁵⁷

D. B. Sharron, when serving as president of the Association in 1939, hailed Thomas Bailey, who spoke at the annual meeting, as a friend of pharmacy.⁵⁸ And a full page photograph of a legislator appeared in the 1922 Proceedings, accompanied by the caption, "Dr. S. W. Glass, Lyon, Miss., Member of the Legislature from Coahoma County and a Staunch Friend of the Druggists."⁵⁹

The Association recognized very early that the best friends pharmacy could have in the legislature would be pharmacists themselves. An early suggestion that pharmacists run for legislative seats was made by George L. Moore of Jackson in 1908, the year he was elected first vice-president of the Association.⁶⁰

L. H. Wilkinson, Jr., of Greenwood, who served as Local Secretary in 1912, suggested that the Association ". . . have one druggist in each county run for the Legislature. In

⁵⁷ See above, 72-73.

⁵⁸ MSPA Proceedings, 1939, 32-36.

⁵⁹ MSPA Proceedings, 1922, opposite 57.

⁶⁰ MSPA Proceedings, 1908, 24-25.

that way we might get fifteen or twenty druggists in the Legislature and that would mean something."⁶¹

President G. W. Simmons repeated the suggestion that the Association work to get pharmacists elected to the Legislature.⁶² A. S. Coody, chairman of the Legislative Committee in 1918, concurred in the idea there should be pharmacists in the Mississippi legislature.⁶³

Then, in 1927, the chairman of the Legislative Committee, S. B. Key, proudly announced to his fellow members at the Association's annual meeting, ". . . I am a candidate for the legislature. . . ." ⁶⁴ Key was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives and then resigned from the Legislative Committee.⁶⁵ In the same year that Key announced his candidacy, Secretary-Treasurer A. S. Coody noted that pharmacists in several counties were candidates for seats in the legislature and said, ". . . these should receive the whole hearted support of every druggist."⁶⁶

T. O. Slaughter was elected to a seat in the Mississippi

⁶¹MSPA Proceedings, 1912, 41.

⁶²MSPA Proceedings, 1914, 43.

⁶³MSPA Proceedings, 1918, 15.

⁶⁴MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 44-45.

⁶⁵MSPA Proceedings, 1928, 22.

⁶⁶MSPA Proceedings, 1927, 17.

Senate in 1931, and during a portion of his senate term he also served as chairman of the MSPA Legislative Committee.⁶⁷

In 1950, then, members of the Association could look back on major legislative successes which had been accomplished through good organization, electioneering, and direct tactics at legislative sessions. There was another factor in their success, a factor which makes it incorrect to assume that pharmacy law in Mississippi reads as it would if the MSPA had been able to write the law exactly as it wished. It was the element of compromise with opposing interests, found necessary by the Association in working with the legislature. For example, S. B. Key, chairman of the Legislative Committee in 1946, explained the Association's attitude toward private bills which permitted board examination of some men not otherwise eligible. When a number of these bills were introduced, Key reported that they were not fought because ". . . we did not want to incur any ill will of the Legislators introducing them."⁶⁸

Chester E. Jones, Secretary of the State Board of Pharmacy, recommended in 1949 an amendment which would broaden registration of vendors under the state poison law. He explained:

If you go up there and say that Jim Jones out there on Possum's Neck can't sell

⁶⁷MSPA Proceedings, 1932, 31; 1935, 60.

⁶⁸MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 66.

anything, you are in for a bad time in the Legislature. But, if you go up there and amend it, and let him sell, provided he meets certain qualifications, then it isn't such a booga-bear at all.⁶⁹

A Legislative Philosophy

A. S. Coody, in a paper delivered before his fellow members in 1907, had provided the young Association with a legislative creed, insisting that the regulation of pharmacy in Mississippi be left to pharmacists. He believed that to do so would be in the best interests of everyone.⁷⁰ In the later years of the Association the principle enunciated by Coody was still a cherished one. Members voted for a resolution in 1946 vowing that any attempt to regiment pharmaceutical services would be opposed.⁷¹ The president of the Association in 1941, N. S. Fox of Louisville, had offered a "battle cry" for members to carry into legislative wars: "What is against Pharmacy and its standards is against me, what is for them is for me. I will fight to the bitter end to preserve and improve Pharmacy."⁷²

⁶⁹MSPA Proceedings, 1949, 88.

⁷⁰MSPA Proceedings, 1907, 58.

⁷¹MSPA Proceedings, 1946, 50.

⁷²MSPA Proceedings, 1941, 14.

The struggle must have seemed bitter at times. It had certainly been difficult. The small Association of 1902, composed for the most part of relatively young men, had returned from legislative struggles for a decade without trophies of victory. From it had grown an influential organization composed of men active in Mississippi's public affairs. It had developed financial resources, political friends, and a mode of operation which made it effective in shaping pharmacy law.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

The course of the Mississippi State Pharmaceutical Association was charted very early. Its members knew in 1902 as they did in 1950 that their Association could serve them in improving pharmacy education, in raising professional standards, and in making arrangements to help ensure commercial success. They knew, too, that these ends would be served by favorable legislation. This is why they came together.

They also came to talk. Some of them labored behind prescription counters remote from other friendly pharmacists. A friend was very likely to be another man who shared the conviction that the practice of pharmacy in Mississippi could change, could grow, could improve. Men like this met at Crystal Springs, at Gulfport, at Vicksburg, at Natchez. Fulfillment of some of their aims was achieved simply by being in the same place at the same time. They could exchange professional ideas, compare business nostrums, and take steps to aid enforcement of drug laws. Other purposes had to await a day of organizational strength when the Association could enlist the power of government in its drive for the self-regulation of pharmacy.

Pharmacy in the state wielded enough influence by 1908

to see a department of pharmacy established at the University of Mississippi. In 1910 it got special licensing provisions for graduates of that department. In 1920 formal education was made a prerequisite for board examination and licensing. A series of laws 1916-1922 signified success for the Association in achieving its legislative program for the licensing and practice of pharmacy. The legislative struggle has continued. The Association has met changing circumstances with new approaches to pharmacy law. Its legislative triumphs did not come easily after 1922, but they came regularly, and served the Mississippi pharmacist's professional and commercial goals.

The concerns of professionalism and commercialism are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Members of the Association have never felt compelled to decide whether theirs should be a business association or a professional one. Considering their role in society, such a choice would certainly be difficult. It is true that frequent dialogues have turned on whether the MSPA should place greater emphasis on one aspect of the pharmacist's occupation than the other, but for the most part members have taken for granted that the Association's character, like their own, would be dual.

Acceptance of this dualism, however, does not keep the Mississippi pharmacist from asking whether or not, by overburdening his Association with commercial tasks of unresolved worth, or by inhibiting its professional action by reluctance

born of commercial aims, he has kept it from functioning in the best interest of his own professed goals. Specific instances of conflicting purposes occurred in connection with public health and with licensing. The public health responsibility was jeopardized at an early stage by the concern of some Mississippi pharmacists over their income from patent medicine sales. Two proposed laws affecting licensing were neglected temporarily because "everything had to take second place to fair trade."

In terms of allotment of time and effort, then, business interests have the potential of nudging professional aims aside. It must be emphasized, however, that in the main task of raising standards through education and licensing, the Association has rarely allowed commercialism to supervene. Indeed, it has been the bulwark against lower licensing standards. Prescription counters have been closed by Association members, in some instances, in preference to a temporary lowering of standards. Furthermore, the Association's participation in public health matters and professional concerns has consistently increased.

Mississippi pharmacists have not spoken with one voice regarding their relationship with government. Individuals have even given expression to conflicting attitudes within their own minds. In terms of utilization, however, the disposition of the Association has been plain. By entering into the legislative process, by mobilizing governmental power and conducting it along lines drawn by the needs of his profession, the

pharmacist has adopted an alternative to the centrally-directed collectivism that some say is essential in a complex society, as well as an alternative to the complete individual independence toward which others strain. It is a pragmatic alternative which claims to see a need for co-operation rather than competition, and for enforced principles of practice rather than undisciplined exploitation of the drug trade.

The Association's accomplishments in law, along with those in pharmacy education, professionalism, and commercial arrangements, made it possible for President Cecil L. Allred of Hazlehurst to state in his annual address in 1948:

A new era has dawned upon Pharmacy in Mississippi - an era of democratic processes - an era of organized efforts - an era of understanding and cooperation - an era of substantial membership and financial stability - an era of progress!

This is the day which every Association officer from 1883 until 1948 has dreamed of and hoped for.¹

¹MSPA Proceedings, 1948, 46.

APPENDIX A

PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF THE MISSISSIPPI
STATE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION¹

Year	President	Other Information
1869		Founding date in some journals
1870		Ash on three APhA committees
1871	Matthew F. Ash	MSPA delegates to APhA
1872	Matthew F. Ash	MSPA delegate to APhA
1873	Hampden Osborne	MSPA delegate to APhA
1874	John T. Buck	APhA membership
1875	John T. Buck	APhA membership
1876		MSPA delegate to APhA
1877		APhA membership
1878		APhA membership
1879		APhA membership
1880		APhA membership
1881		APhA membership
1882		APhA membership
1883	J. W. Eckford	First reorganization
1884	J. W. Eckford	MSPA delegates to APhA
1885	John P. Finlay	MSPA delegates to APhA
1886	John P. Finlay	APhA membership
1887	Byron Lemly	APhA membership
1888	Byron Lemly	APhA membership
1889		MSPA represented on APhA
1890		committee, 1889 and 1890
1891	Byron Lemly	Second reorganization
1892	Byron Lemly	State's first true pharmacy law
1893	H. F. West	Association chartered
1894	H. F. West	APhA membership
1895		APhA membership
1896		APhA membership
1897		APhA membership

¹Based on list in MSPA Proceedings, 1963, 13-14; supplemented by sources cited with text, 1-5 above, and APhA Proceedings, vol. 32, 542; vol. 33, 613. Membership in the American Pharmaceutical Association by individual Mississippi pharmacists is indicated in years for which no other evidence of pharmacy organization is available.

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Other Information</u>
1898		APhA membership
1899		APhA membership
1900		APhA membership
1901		APhA membership

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>
1902-1903	C. W. Whitney	1943-1944	Perry Hemphill
1903-1904	J. F. Moore	1944-1945	D. B. Smith
1904-1905	J. F. Moore	1945-1946	J. R. Williams
1905-1906	Anthony Fly	1946-1947	J. W. Duckworth
1906-1907	B. L. Clarke	1947-1948	C. L. Allred
1907-1908	S. L. Caine	1948-1949	S. N. Parkin
1908-1909	M. W. Hyde	1949-1950	Marshall Smith
1909-1910	A. S. Coody	1950-1951	J. E. McDuffie
1910-1911	W. P. Craig	1951-1952	J. R. Germany
1911-1912	C. L. Jackson	1952-1953	B. M. Triplett
1912-1913	T. A. Holcombe	1953-1954	W. H. Catchings
1913-1914	G. W. Simmons	1954-1955	Claude Marron
1914-1915	J. C. McGee	1955-1956	A. W. Hemphill
1915-1916	H. M. Faser	1956-1957	N. V. Doty
1916-1917	G. C. Kendall	1957-1958	J. B. Gathright
1917-1918	J. A. Beard	1958-1959	L. W. Dyre
1918-1919	C. E. Anding	1959-1960	B. H. Allen
1919-1920	C. E. Anding	1960-1961	J. T. Morris
1920-1921	S. M. Covington	1961-1962	S. K. Armstrong
1921-1922	P. K. Thomas	1962-1963	George Worthen
1922-1923	J. A. Moss	1963-1964	George Abdo
1923-1924	W. H. Rayner		
1924-1925	S. B. Key	<u>Year</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
1925-1926	A. C. Streatly	1871-1872	W. P. Creecy
1926-1927	J. T. Mathis	1872-1873	John T. Buck
1927-1928	J. W. Holt	1873-1875	P. H. Keefe
1928-1929	R. T. Taylor	1883-1888	H. F. West
1929-1930	C. E. Wilson	1891-1892	J. C. Schotel
1930-1931	C. E. Wilson	1892-1893	D. E. Holt
1931-1932	F. W. Duckworth	1893-1894	Carson Lemly
1932-1933	H. B. McInnis	1902-1904	L. M. Dampeer, Jr.
1933-1934	G. C. Roberts	1904-1910	O. W. Bethea
1934-1935	Lew Wallace	1910-1913	H. M. Faser
1935-1936	J. S. Puller	1913-1919	Flora Scarborough
1936-1937	S. J. McDuffie	1919-1932	A. S. Coody
1937-1938	C. H. Hayes	1932-1940	S. B. Key
1938-1939	D. B. Sharron	1940-1946	C. E. Wilson
1939-1940	T. H. Spencer	1946-1948	N. V. Doty
1940-1941	N. S. Fox	1949-1950	R. I. Martin
1941-1942	F. K. Patterson	1950-	Mrs. W. W. Johnson
1942-1943	W. H. Rose		

APPENDIX B

PLACES OF MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI
STATE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

1871	May 29	Jackson
1872	April 5	Holly Springs
1873	April 9	Vicksburg
1874	April 8	Columbus
1875	April 14	Meridian (scheduled) ¹
1883	June 12	Jackson
1884	May 20	Aberdeen
1885	May 19	Natchez
1886	May 19	Jackson
1887	May 17	Jackson
1888	May 15	Meridian (scheduled)
1889	May 14	Natchez (scheduled)
1891	April 27 - May 1	New Orleans, Louisiana ²
1892	May 10	Jackson
1893	May 9-10	Jackson
1894	May	Jackson (scheduled)
1902	July 10	Jackson ³
1903	May 19	Meridian
1904	April 6	Jackson
1905	July 17	Crystal Springs
1906	July 23-24	Crystal Springs
1907	July 24-25	Gulfport
1908	July 11-12	Meridian
1909	June 17-18	Vicksburg
1910	May 12-13	Natchez
1911	June 13-14	Greenville
1912	June 11-12	Greenwood

¹Meetings were scheduled in 1875, 1888, 1889, and 1894 as indicated, but no records are available to confirm that they were held. No information has been uncovered on meetings prior to 1902 other than the sixteen shown.

²The dates given are the dates of the annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association at which a reorganization of the Mississippi association occurred.

³A meeting was also held in Jackson on October 7, 1902.

1913	June 10-11	Gulfport
1914	June 9-10	Jackson
1915	June 9-10	Jackson
1916	June 13-14	Meridian
1917	June 12-14	Memphis, Tennessee
1918	June 12	Jackson
1919	June 10-11	Vicksburg
1920	June 8-9	Jackson
1921	June 14-15	Jackson
1922	June 15-16	Biloxi
1923	June 12-13	Meridian
1924	June 9-10	Vicksburg
1925	June 9-10	Biloxi
1926	June 8-9	Jackson
1927	June 14-15	Meridian
1928	June 19-20	Jackson
1929	June 11-12	Gulfport
1930	June 18-19	Vicksburg
1931	June 22-23	Biloxi
1932	June 7-9	Natchez
1933	June 20-21	Jackson
1934	June 19-20	Jackson
1935	June 18-19	Tupelo
1936	June 15-17	Jackson
1937	June 15-16	Biloxi
1938	June 13-15	Gulfport
1939	June 19-21	Meridian
1940	June 17-19	Edgewater Park
1941	June 16-18	Jackson
1942	June 15-17	Biloxi
1943	June 22	Meridian
1944	June 20	Jackson
1945	June 19-20	Jackson
1946	June 19-21	Jackson
1947	May 28-29	Biloxi
1948	June 15-17	Greenwood
1949	June 21-23	Biloxi
1950	June 13-15	Edgewater Park
1951	June 12-14	Jackson
1952	June 10-12	Edgewater Park
1953	June 16-18	Edgewater Park
1954	June 15-17	Biloxi
1955	June 14-16	Jackson
1956	June 11-13	Edgewater Park
1957	June 10-12	Edgewater Park
1958	June 16-18	Edgewater Park
1959	June 15-17	Biloxi
1960	June 13-15	Edgewater Park
1961	June 19-21	Edgewater Park
1962	June 11-13	Edgewater Park
1963	June 10-12	Jackson

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Printed at Morning Sun, Iowa, 1908 or 1909.
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Printed at Morning Sun, Iowa, 1909 or 1910.
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Printed at Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 1910 or 1911.
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Printed at Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 1912 or 1913.
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Printed in 1922 or 1923, place not known.

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Printed in 1923 or 1924, place not known.

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Printed in 1924 or 1925, place not known.

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