FIGURE 8.1
Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, 1887. (From FDA. With permission.)

was formed in 1927, to be renamed in 1930 as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In 1940, the FDA was transferred from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the Federal Security Agency. In 1953, the Federal Security Agency became the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare—now the Department of Health and Human Services.[7]

The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act

In 1938, the U.S. Congress passed the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), giving the FDA the authority to oversee the safety of food, drugs, medical devices, and cosmetics. On June 25, 1938, President Roosevelt signed the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The FFDCA replaced the Wiley Act.[8]

Wallace Janssen identified a number of improvements with the FFDCA versus the Wiley Act. These were as follows:

- Drug manufacturers were required to provide scientific proof that new products could be safely used before putting them on the market.
- Cosmetics and therapeutic devices were regulated for the first time.
- Proof of fraud was no longer required to stop false claims for drugs.
- Addition of poisonous substances to foods was prohibited except where unavoidable or required in production. Safe tolerances were authorized for residues of such substances, for example, pesticides.