

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY

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ACTIVE MEMBER STATES.

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Florida	Michigan	Ohio	Washington
Georgia	Minnesota	Oklahoma	West Virginia
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Illinois	Missouri	Pennsylvania	Wyoming
Indiana			

(Mr. W. E. Bingham, whose article appears below, has been Secretary of the Alabama Pharmacy Board and active in Board matters for many years and his splendid grasp of Board and National pharmacy needs is evidenced in this article.—H. C. Christensen, *Editor*.)

IMPORTANCE OF N. A. B. P. DISTRICT MEETINGS.

BY W. E. BINGHAM.

Secretary Alabama Board of Pharmacy.

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy has the machinery, the well-tried plan, the men and the money which, with the right kind of coöperation by the individual member state boards will enable it to perfect an organization that will result in "the greatest good to the greatest number" of our profession in the United States, and the public which we serve. A very important part of that plan is the organization of our member-states into nine districts, the thought back of the districting plant being the welding of the states comprising a district into a harmonious unit of the harmonious whole.

Probably one of the most potentially effective methods of bringing these district states into a position to understand and coöperate each with the other, is the so-called district meeting—the get-together conference planned to be held at some central point within each District at some time between the Annual Conventions of the National Body.

The ideal condition, of course, would be such a meeting attended by all members of each state in the district, but as that is in most cases impossible, the plan of having each state represented by at least two members of each state board is a good one. Such representatives presenting the problems of their own Board and conferring with other Board Members, who in turn seek counsel and exchange experience, can in time bring about real community of thought and genuine coöperation in state board work within their District.

The drawback to the success of this plan lies in the fact that up to the present time this well-distributed representation at District meetings has in only a few

instances been secured. The fault seems to lie not with the Boards or Board members themselves so much as in the difficulty of convincing the administrative powers of the various states of the importance—the necessity of progress. These United States are no longer disinterested units, each pursuing her separate way without regard to the welfare and practice of the profession in her sister states, and just as surely as our professional interests are national, so surely must our ideas of progressive and restrictive conduct be broader than our state boundaries.

One feature which restricts the freedom of development of our profession is the attitude adopted by the political powers in some states. Every man who has ever served on a Board of Pharmacy will admit to himself, if not publicly, that he was not endowed with the qualifications of an ideal examiner, but that it required real study and adaptability. Such being the case, the condition existing in some states under which an examiner is appointed for a short term—sometimes, under the consolidation of boards plan, only from one examination to another—is not conducive to much effort on the part of the examiner by way of preparation, nor the proper feeling of pride and responsibility for the work accomplished.

We put our steadiest, most conscientious effort into the accomplishment which will endure for an appreciable period of time and, I believe, this truly applies to our work on our respective Boards.

And just as our responsibility is increased by each added year we serve, so will our interest in our district meetings be augmented when we know that our tenure of office will continue not only through the planning, but the completion of some of our plans.

The Governors and others charged with the appointment of the various Pharmacy Boards or Pharmacy Examiners will do well to consider this feature when confronted with the privilege of serving through their Board members in the betterment of our profession by means of participation in these district meetings.

It is a true and trite saying, that a person gets out of a lodge, church, or any organization, just in proportion to what he puts into it, therefore, the greater the number of board members in a district who attend the convention, the greater will be the enthusiasm and interest, and the more each Board and Board member will take back to his own State Board.

The District Conventions, being composed of a group of adjoining states, renders the expense and time of little importance compared with the amount of good that can be accomplished by attendance thereon.

Granted then, that well-attended District Meetings are a desirable feature of our progress, it follows that the ideas agreed upon at these meetings should be carried home and put into practice.

Passive assimilation may be better than nothing, but how much more desirable is the aggressive adaptation to our own needs of the experience and wisdom which can be gained through conference and the exchange of ideas, and this should be the key-note of our attitude toward our District Meetings.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because of the vast expanse, geographically, covered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the various adjoining states with a community of interest have been organized into nine districts, and through the association of these states within their districts is being developed a better understanding and coöperation throughout the National Association as a whole.—H. C. C.

NEWS ITEMS OF STATE BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

President Ford of the N. A. B. P. has appointed as his Committee on Relations of Boards with Colleges, to work with a corresponding Committee from the Association of Colleges, the following: Chas. J. Clayton, Denver, Col., *Chairman*; Sam C. Davis, Nashville, Tenn.; B. H. Newmayr, Vermilion, S. D.; Ralph C. Root, Brattleboro, Vt., and Guy Norton, Tacoma, Wash.

President Kraus of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy has appointed the following as his Committee to work with the Boards: C. B. Jordan, *Chairman*; C. A. Dye, H. M. Faser, C. H. LaWall, and Adolph Zieffe.

Word has been received recently that Arizona and Nebraska have appointed special investigators to check the operation of the various professions in conformity with existing state laws. Such inspection will afford not only much valuable information as to conditions prevalent throughout the states, but will do much to curb violations. Our good friend, Secretary A. G. Hulett, of the Arizona Pharmacy Board, who is planning a personal call on every pharmacy in his state between now and April, reports splendid coöperation on the part of Grocers in the city of Phoenix, where outside supply houses—not the regular wholesale drug houses—had stocked such stores with supplies of iodine, epsom salts, bromide-quinine tablets, etc., the sale of which is legally confined to registered pharmacists. Mr. Hulett reports that all grocers interviewed had removed these articles from sale and appeared to be glad to learn the limitations of their privileges in the handling of drugs, poisons, etc. This is a very encouraging report and we look for other interesting items resulting from Mr. Hulett's personal contact with the business and professional men of his state.

New Jersey.—Secretary Sparks, of the New Jersey Pharmacy Board, notifies us of a change in their law withdrawing the privilege of re-examination without additional fee for those who fail in pharmacy examination. The fee for Assistant Registration has been raised from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

North Carolina.—The following examination rule was unanimously adopted at the meeting of the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy held at Raleigh, N. C., November 24–25, 1925.

Applicants for license as Registered Pharmacist who can comply with the graduation requirement, but who lack the required practical experience (4 years) or who are under legal age (21 years), or both, may be permitted to take the theoretical or written examination and if successful may take the practical examination later at a regular Board meeting after they can comply with the experience requirement or have become of legal age, or both.

No certificate of said theoretical examination to be issued until the final practical examination is satisfactorily passed. The percentages of the written examinations to be reckoned with the practical and averaged for passing percentage for license to practice Pharmacy, and if satisfactory the certificate or license then to become effective.

Sixteen candidates of the twenty-one appearing at the last Pharmacy examination in North Carolina were successful.

West Virginia.—We note with regret the serious illness of Secretary Alfred Walker, of the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy since 1902, and trust before this reaches the eyes of his friends that Mr. Walker will have entirely recovered. We have been advised of the appointment of Roy B. Cook, of Charleston, to succeed, on the West Virginia Board, Dr. O. O. Older, also of Charleston, whose term expired on June 30th.

Wisconsin.—Friends of Henry G. Ruenzel, of Milwaukee, Wis.—for many years a member of the Wisconsin Board, and Secretary until 1925—will be sorry to learn that on Christmas Eve Mr. Ruenzel was struck by an automobile and his right leg injured. He is improving, however, and expects soon to be up and about.

188TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS OF MADRID.

Chemist and Druggist of January 2 gives an account of the presentation of Insignia of the Grand Cross of the order of Alfonso XII to Dr. Casares Gil in the Royal College of Pharmacists in Madrid, during the celebration of the 188th anniversary of the foundation of

the College. All pharmaceutical associations of Spain contributed towards the purchase of the insignia, as a mark of esteem of this eminent teacher of pharmacy. Dr. Casares Gil has recently been on an official mission to South America for promoting business and professional relations with South American Countries and strengthening the bonds of friendship with the pharmacists of Spain.