

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY

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ACTIVE MEMBER STATES.

Alabama	Iowa	Nebraska	South Carolina
Arizona	Kansas	Nevada	South Dakota
Arkansas	Kentucky	New Hampshire	Tennessee
Colorado	Louisiana	New Jersey	Texas
Connecticut	Maine	New Mexico	Utah
Delaware	Maryland	North Carolina	Vermont
D. of Columbia	Massachusetts	North Dakota	Virginia
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Georgia	Minnesota	Oklahoma	West Virginia
Idaho	Mississippi	Oregon	Wisconsin
Illinois	Missouri	Pennsylvania	Wyoming
Indiana	Montana	Rhode Island	

THE N. A. B. P. CONVENTION.

In view of the fact that the President's Address and the outstanding interesting points of the convention were given space in the September issue of this Department, and in view of the further fact that probably before this number reaches our members the Secretary's office will have mailed to all members of State Boards of Pharmacy a synopsis of the proceedings of the convention, mention here will be confined to a few items of interest and the resolutions passed by the Association.

The convention was held in the Coronado Hotel at St. Louis, Mo., Monday and Tuesday, August 22nd and 23rd. Thirty-two States were represented by a total of 80 delegates.

It will be agreeable news to all that the Rhode Island Board of Pharmacy presented an application for active membership with full reciprocal privilege at one of the convention sessions, which was accepted by unanimous vote of the convention. The announcement was greeted by prolonged applause. A similar welcome was extended to New Jersey, another State which affiliated during the year. With these two States added, 46 States and the District of Columbia now hold active membership in the National Association Boards of Pharmacy with full reciprocal privilege under the general rules and regulations of the Association. New York holds associate membership which entitles that State to delegate representation with privilege of discussion and vote but without the reciprocal agreement. California, therefore, is the only State remaining outside of the fold. It was brought out that this State should now have been in line for membership in the N. A. B. P. but because the reciprocity clause incorporated in the recently passed law which becomes effective January 1, 1928, is inconsistent with the established system of reciprocity, it may have to be changed before that State can qualify for reciprocity.

The Secretary's report showed that 1142 reciprocal applications were issued during the past year and that while this was about 275 less than the preceding

year, it was stated that it was not an indication of a falling off in the demand for reciprocity but was accounted for by the cessation of the rush to Florida of the latter part of 1925 and the early part of 1926, when more than 300 applications were issued for that State. Taking this into consideration, the showing for the past year was above the normal.

SURVEY OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY.

The Executive Committee, believing that a thorough and impartial survey of the colleges of pharmacy of the United States is necessary to decide which schools shall be approved for recognition by the N. A. B. P. member boards of pharmacy, in its report asked the opinion of the Association on such a project. The Committee estimated that the cost of such a survey, conducted over a period of two or three years, would be approximately \$10,000. After a thorough discussion by the convention, the trend of which was favorable, the whole matter was referred back to the Executive Committee with authority to act.

Following the adjournment of the convention, the Committee met and discussed the question of the survey. As a first step, arrangements were made for having a tentative outline of the method of procedure prepared to be submitted to the annual meeting of the Committee to be held in Chicago, probably in April.

Reports presented by the various officers and committees were of more than usual interest, and while space will not permit detail here, every board member should not only read the synopsis of the proceedings of the convention when received, but should also give careful consideration to the complete reports when these later appear in the printed annual proceedings.

Resolutions and recommendations, in substance as follows, were presented and adopted:

THAT we believe it is very important to develop a system of supervised experience in Pharmacy, comparable to clinical work acquired in medicine and dentistry. We therefore urge that an effort be made in our Colleges in coöperation with the Boards to work out a program of this nature.

THAT the failures of college graduates in Board examinations are largely a local condition and should not be considered too seriously as a national question. We recommend that the college men and boards in each locality where such a condition exists get together and try to find the answer to the problem.

THAT colleges should graduate only students who have passed in all their college work with at least the general required minimum grades.

THAT when colleges revise their curricula to include commercial pharmacy work, it should not be done by the sacrifice of time now given to professional courses.

THAT coöperation to a greater extent be established between faculties of colleges of pharmacy, boards of pharmacy, and state educational systems.

THAT we favor the application of intelligence tests in order to better orient and classify the entering students in colleges of pharmacy.

THAT publicity of examination questions shall be limited to exchange between boards and colleges, if so desired, within the discretion of each, and that board questions shall not be given out for publication in drug journals.

THAT we recommend to the colleges of pharmacy and boards of pharmacy that they adopt the four-year course at as early a date as feasible, not later than 1932.

THAT inasmuch as the benefits derived from the joint district conferences held during the year have been so apparent and so universally expressed, we recommend that such conferences be continued.

THAT the members of the Boards and the Faculties be urged to procure copies of the Charters' report (Basic Material for a Pharmaceutical Curriculum) and make a careful study of the same.

THAT this Association endorse the decimal metric standardization of weights and measures for the United States as the only legal standard.

THAT all members of boards of pharmacy not now members of our parent organization, The AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, affiliate with that organization.

THE DRUG CLERK UNION AND RECIPROCITY.

The passing of a resolution during the closing hours of the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association convention recommending that "excessive" reciprocity be guarded against shows, to say the least, short-sightedness on the part of the element sponsoring the resolution. This action cannot be given weight, however, as the resolution was passed when only a handful of delegates remained and therefore does not represent the opinion of the rank and file of pharmacists of Illinois.

First, what is "excessive" reciprocity? When the largest employment bureau in Chicago for pharmacists has a list of employers waiting to grab the first available registered man, does it indicate a more than normal influx into the State? Is it a protection of public welfare to allow drug stores to be run in violation of the law? What other alternative has the owner when he cannot procure registered help? What chance has the Board to get a conviction when the owner can prove that he could not obtain the required help? Have the drug clerk union agitators thought of this?

What is the complaint against reciprocity? Some pharmacists labor under the delusion that once they obtain registration in a State they can reciprocate with any of the other forty-seven boards. This is not true. Any pharmacist is limited to reciprocating only with the States in which he was eligible to take examination at the time of his original registration. Any pharmacist eligible to reciprocate with Illinois is eligible to take the examination there, and if he really wants to practice in that State, he probably will not let an examination keep him out. Any fair-minded person realizes that reciprocity is a great boon to pharmacy, and that the principles on which it is established are unbiased and fair to all.

Who benefits the most by reciprocity? Undoubtedly, the drug clerk. Then why do these agitators of the local drug union in Chicago object to reciprocity and persist in circulating false rumors? Obviously, it is a selfish attempt to use the big stick to boost wages. If their vision of such a condition were accomplished by abolishing reciprocity, would wages be permanently increased in Illinois? Will the substitution of apprentices and assistants wherever possible and operation with illegal help, coupled with the established alibi that it is impossible to secure registered help, benefit the drug clerk? These same agitators would undoubtedly be the first to howl if they could not leave Illinois by reciprocity should occasion require it.

H. C. C.

PHARMACEUTICAL ARITHMETIC.

In a recent editorial in the *American Druggist* attention is called to the fact that more candidates in examination fail in pharmaceutical arithmetic than in any other subject. The question is asked whether this apparent shortcoming

in mathematics is responsible for many of the poor business methods to be found in drug stores. The article concludes, "Doesn't this question require an answer?"

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

Arizona.—The Supreme Court of Arizona recently handed down a decision that the provision of the pharmacy law requiring a registered pharmacist to be in charge of a store or place of business where patent or proprietary medicines and "household remedies" are sold is unconstitutional. The Court ruled that the statute restricting the sales of such items to registered pharmacists is not in the interest of public health, but creates a monopoly in favor of the pharmacists as against other dealers.

This is a marked contrast from the Minnesota Supreme Court decision which held that the sale of aspirin be restricted to an establishment in charge of a registered pharmacist.

Colorado.—A new set of rules and regulations was adopted by the Board on July 2nd to conform with recent changes in the state pharmacy law.

Sixty applicants presented themselves for the September examination, and out of this number fourteen have been granted full registration and five assistant's certificates.

A passing percentage of 23.4 is reported for the May examination, eleven out of fifty-five candidates making the grade. This is a trifle higher than last year's average which was 21 per cent.

Ernest J. Howard, a member of the Board, is conducting classes for student and graduate nurses at the Presbyterian Hospital, Denver.

Georgia.—The following officers were elected at a recent meeting of the Board: M. D. Hodges, *President*; Jesse Mitchell, *Vice-President*, J. B. Pendergrast, *Secretary*. The new Secretary's address is 420 Moreland Ave., N. E., Atlanta, Ga. He succeeds Claude Roundtree of Thomasville.

L. C. Waldrop of Tallapoosa has been named to succeed J. E. Bush of Barnesville as a member of the Board. The appointment is effective November 4th.

Kentucky.—A proposed drug store ownership bill has been printed in full in several recent issues of the *Journal of the Kentucky Pharmaceutical Association*. The latter is the official organ of the State association and is mailed to every Registered and Assistant Pharmacist in the State monthly.

The ownership bill is along the approved lines, provides for exemption for those in the business at the time of passage, and also requires annual registration of pharmacies.

This advance publicity given to make the pharmacists of the State familiar with the provisions of the bill before it is introduced in the legislature shows a well thought out campaign. Success should result from such efforts.

Michigan.—The annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, shows that 630 Registered Pharmacist candidates were examined during the year, of which number 227 were successful; also 338 Assistant candidates were examined, and 268 of them were successful in passing. Thirty candidates were accepted by reciprocity from other States and 28 Michigan registrants reciprocated with other States.

Missouri.—President H. W. Reuter and W. W. Largent of the Missouri Board of Pharmacy recently spent a day at Springfield, Illinois, in conference with the Illinois Board of Pharmacy and officers of the Department of Registration and Education of that State.

President Reuter is reported to have made the statement recently that the next and following examinations in Missouri will be much more difficult than heretofore, owing to the raising of pharmaceutical standards.

Missouri has been very active in prosecuting violations of the pharmacy law, and many convictions have been obtained which should serve as a warning to others.

Montana.—J. A. Riedel, Secretary of the Montana Board of Pharmacy, was one of the guests of honor at the recent South Dakota State Association convention, and made a very interesting address.

New Mexico.—David L. C. Hover, of Cloudcroft, N. Mex., has been appointed secretary of the New Mexico Board of Pharmacy to succeed Thomas J. Price of Clovis, who resigned recently.

New York.—George W. Mather of Schenectady has been appointed Secretary of the New

York Board of Pharmacy to succeed John A. Dixon of Albany, who resigned recently to take the position of inspector for the City of New York.

North Dakota.—The Board of Pharmacy will meet at the Chemistry Bldg., Agricultural College, Fargo, North Dakota, on Tuesday, November 8th, at ten o'clock A.M. for the purpose of examining applicants for registration.

Oregon.—E. E. Magee of Klamath Falls has been appointed a member of the Board of Pharmacy to succeed W. H. Schuller of Portland. Mr. Magee served at his first examination in June.

President L. B. Russell of the Oregon Pharmaceutical Association in addressing that body at its annual convention in July paid a very pleasing compliment to the pharmacy board by saying, "Our relations with the State board of pharmacy during this past year have been ideal. They have permitted the officers of this association to work and confer with them. While the laws have been strictly enforced, no druggists have been embarrassed with superfluous restrictions. They have given this Association the greatest assistance and coöperation."

Frank S. Ward, Secretary of the Board, compiled a complete résumé of the Oregon Pharmacy Law as well as the By-Laws of the Board, under date of July 1, 1927. The booklet also contains a list of all the registered pharmacists in the State giving addresses. Another feature greatly appreciated by the N. A. B. P. for its historical value is a complete list of members who have served on the Pharmacy Board since 1891 with dates of such service.

Secretary Ward was an active participant at the N. A. R. D. convention recently held at Kansas City, Mo.

Pennsylvania.—The first victory in the legal attack on the Pennsylvania Ownership Law goes to the pharmacists of the State. Three judges have ruled in the Louis K. Liggett Co. case that there is no need for an expression of opinion at this time as there has been no interference with the Liggett interests.

Under the Pennsylvania Ownership Law, the chain interests will not be permitted to open new stores unless all the officers of the corporation are registered pharmacists, and under this provision, the L. K. Liggett Company cannot expand.

South Dakota.—Eight out of thirty-one candidates who wrote the June examination at Brookings have been granted registration certificates.

The following names were placed on the eligible list for appointment by the Governor to the Board of Pharmacy: L. E. Highley of Hot Springs, Otto L. Uhlig of Sparefish and Fred Vilas of Pierre. L. E. Highley is the present incumbent and has done very efficient work during his term of office.

Board member Henry J. Schnaidt spent the summer vacation touring Yellowstone Park accompanied by his wife and son.

Tennessee.—As a result of the July meeting held in Memphis, fifteen candidates have been granted registration as pharmacist, a total of fifty-six having taken the examination.

The next examination will be held at Knoxville during the week of November 15.

Texas.—Wilford Harrison, Ex-President of the N. A. B. P., was presented with a beautiful diamond and platinum pin on behalf of the Texas Pharmaceutical Association at the recent N. A. B. P. convention, as a token of appreciation from his Texas friends. W. H. Cousins, our Texas Secretary, made the presentation in a most appropriate manner.

W. H. Cousins, owner and publisher of the *Southern Pharmaceutical Journal* as well as Secretary of the Texas Board of Pharmacy, recently had a good surprise pulled on him by his daughter and associate editor, Miss Margaret Cousins. The surprise consisted of a celebration on the twentieth birthday of the publication, and some twenty pages of congratulations and good wishes were received from a large number of friends and published in the September issue. "Cuz" replied in his characteristic and interesting style under the title, "What Shall I Say?"

Utah.—Nation-wide attention is being directed toward the recent error of an unregistered clerk in Utah, working in violation of the law of that State, who sold strychnine for quinine. Result—a customer died.

Secretary Culley of the State Association, in commenting on the case, says, "It is the purpose of the pharmacy law to protect the public from uneducated, incompetent help. The poor clerk making the error can hardly be blamed. He was hired to do the best he could. There was

no one in the employ of the firm who could tell him what to do and what not to do. None of them were qualified under the law or by experience. There is a fault somewhere."

In analyzing the cause for such negligence, Secretary Culley continues, "Under the new law all professional examining laws were brought together under one head called the department of registration, under an appointed director, who must not be a member of any of the professions he represents. Just think of one man running fifteen professions and knowing nothing of any one of them. That is the present law. It is the duty of the Director to see that each profession is protected from the uneducated and incompetent. Evidently, owing to political affiliations this particular store was allowed to run in violation of the law."

Virginia.—The Board has adopted a ruling, effective July 1, 1928, requiring all candidates for admission to the Assistant Pharmacist examination to show proof of graduation from a four-year high-school course or equivalent established to the satisfaction of the State department of education.

A REPORT OF PROGRESS ON A PROCEDURE IN PRESCRIPTION PRICING.*

BY LEONARD A. SELTZER AND A. ALTON WHEELER.

At the meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION at Philadelphia last year we presented a paper on "A Procedure in Prescription Pricing." The procedure outlined was designed to reflect, in the final result, the cost of material used, a fee for service rendered, and a further item; the latter to be so graded as to provide a sufficient margin of profit on small sales and yet avoid prohibitive prices on larger quantities. Moreover, the necessity for a differentiation reflecting the varying types of service rendered in different stores was emphasized; for, while a uniform price in any particular store is a *sine qua non* in any pricing scheme, it is not an end to be sought when considering different stores rendering different degrees of service. The writers further set out to find an algebraic formula for determining the price of all prescriptions, but failing to do so, being uncertain if it were possible, and yet feeling that the experience and method evolved was of value, made a report as stated at the last meeting.

By way of explanation of our presenting another paper on the same subject, it might be in order to say that in the further study of this problem we now believe that we have the formula sought. This discussion is, therefore, not supplanting what we tried to establish in the previous paper; it simply supplies the formula by means of which the end sought is obtained in a more simple and easy manner and the right and reason of the results more easily explained and defended, if necessary.

The search for a formula is a search for those factors which are common to all prescriptions and which (factors) contain those elements in which prescriptions are either similar to, or in which they differ from, each other and as a result of which similarity or difference they may be classified in groups. A definite value can then be given to the factor representing these elements. We believe that there are just three such factors—that they are definite and comprehensive, that not only are there three factors, but that all three are always found in every prescription, that from the customer's standpoint they cover everything that he should pay for, and from the pharmacist's standpoint they are items all of which he is entitled to collect for.

* Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing A. PH. A., St. Louis meeting, 1927.