

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH

Compiled by A. G. DuMez, Reporter on the Progress of Pharmacy.

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THE FIELD OF THE HOSPITAL PHARMACY.*

BY HOMER F. SANGER.¹

The president of your Chicago Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association asked me to give you a brief survey of hospitals of the United States as a background for the study of the hospital pharmacy.

The latest survey of hospitals by the American Medical Association lists a total of 7178 hospitals of which 6580 are in the United States proper, 203 are in the dependencies and 395 in Canada and Newfoundland. This does not include homes for the aged, homes and schools for the blind and deaf, and other institutions for custodial care, which are sometimes mistakenly enumerated with hospitals.

The unit for counting the capacity of hospitals is the bed, and there are in the United States approximately 750,000 beds. Hospitals vary greatly as to size, ranging anywhere from a few beds grouped around a doctor's office and operating room, up to 5000 or 6000 beds. About 3000 hospitals have 25 beds or more.

* Read before Chicago Branch, A. Ph. A. April 6, 1923.

¹ Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association.