

"2. *Selection of Students.*—It is the duty of every educational institution to afford an opportunity for higher education to any one earnestly desiring it and fundamentally qualified. But this does not necessarily mean that every applicant for admission to a school of pharmacy, having a high school diploma, or its equivalent, must be accepted. I believe that those in charge of admission should carefully determine the fitness of the candidate, first by his record in high school, and secondly, by a personal interview to fathom, if possible, the candidate's mental reaction and capacity, and the reasons for his choosing that particular profession. We have done this for a number of years at the Fordham University College of Pharmacy and are greatly pleased with the results. The careful selection of the students admitted will be reflected in the greater number of successful students in the college and State Board.

"3. *College Curriculum and Method of Teaching.*—The curriculum as outlined in the Syllabus is an excellent one. However, heads of departments are often prone to overestimate the value of their subject and if sufficiently backed by political ability and strong lungs, their insistence may be crowned with success to them and dire calamity to the student. The methods of teaching are, of course, of the greatest importance. If we teach our students how to study, if we emphasize that the work done is in preparation for the more important and responsible duties in the pharmacy and not merely for the purpose of passing examinations, we will have laid the foundation for success, both in examinations and in life.

"4. *Methods of Examination.*—While at school the student is given a number of examinations, oral and written, and his success or failure does not depend on a single trial by a strange person who holds the candidate's professional life in his hand. Furthermore, the student becomes familiar with his teacher's method of framing questions. This is not the case with the Board members. The candidate has to stand or fall on this single trial; he or she is frequently uncertain of what the examiner means by a given question. It, therefore, becomes incumbent upon the examiner to frame his questions clearly and definitely, leaving nothing to guess or imagination.

"5. *Rating Questions.*—Many examiners have a preconceived answer to their questions, either in their minds or in the form of a 'key.' This, of course, is most reprehensible, as I found from practical experience. Quite frequently the candidate's answer is by far better than the answer the examiner had in mind.

"Concluding, I wish to emphasize that greater care in the selection of students, more attention to fundamentals, frequent examinations, both oral and written, in the college, intelligently framed questions and careful scrutiny of the answers will lead to marked improvement in the result of Board Examinations."

DR. CHARTERS' COMMONWEALTH SURVEY REPORT.

BY H. C. CHRISTENSEN, SECRETARY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

A classic has been written. That seems a trite statement and at first flush may appear to savor of exaggeration but it is true—so true that this writer offers as his only argument in proof of the assertion, an invitation to the skeptical—if there are any such—to glance through the book.

This book "Basic Material for a Pharmaceutical Curriculum"¹ is a report of the Commonwealth Fund Study and Survey of Pharmacy over a period of nearly three years by Dr. W. W. Charters, Director, and his collaborators. It is so far-reaching in its possibilities for pharmacy that every Board member, every teacher of pharmacy, every member of the Syllabus Committee, every retail pharmacist, and every student of pharmacy—particularly every senior student—should read and study it.

Hundreds of pharmacies or drug stores in all parts of the United States, representing all classes and sections, were investigated and the duties of the pharmacist tabulated. Thousands of prescriptions were checked for ingredients, frequency of ingredients, etc., etc.

¹ McGraw-Hill Book Co., 370 Seventh Ave., New York City. Price \$4.00.

From the duties which it was found the pharmacist must perform in pursuit of his vocation, it is possible to state: (a) the kind of qualifications he must have to perform these duties successfully; (b) the kind of training he should have in the college of pharmacy to give him these qualifications; (c) the kind of examinations which the Boards must give the applicant to test both his training and his qualifications. There is no guess-work about this report—no theorizing—just plain solid statements of supported facts. It says simply this is what the pharmacist must do—this is his job—and the obvious question is, how shall he be trained for this work—what must his qualifications be?

That colleges of pharmacy and the Syllabus Committee will make use of this report as a foundation on which to build the college curriculum goes without saying. The report comes at an opportune time because of the general adoption of the three-year course and the advent of the U. S. P. X and N. F. V.

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy wishes at this time to direct the attention of Board members to this report. Every member of a Board should own a copy—should study it—should use it as a guide in formulating his examination questions.

Every examiner about to prepare a set of State Board examination questions is confronted with the problem: What shall I ask about—what shall the questions cover? Forthwith he must decide upon what *topics* or divisions of his subject or subjects his questions will be based. Then he must determine what the individual question will be. Common sense dictates that questions should be based upon phases of pharmacy that are the most important in the average retail pharmacy or drug store. So far as practicable, questions should be in direct ratio to the importance of the drugs, processes, etc.

Let me cite just one example: On page 212 of the report, there is tabulated a list of poisons and the frequency with which they have been used as such. This table is based upon reports of 19 coroners, 55 hospitals, 934 pharmacists, 20 physicians and 8 departments of health.

It will be noted that alcohol heads the list, next mercury, then morphine, then phenol, etc.

Under alcohol is given—ethyl, methyl, amyl, etc., etc. Under mercury—ammoniated bichloride, red oxide, etc. The individual poison claiming the largest number of victims is bichloride of mercury with 830.

From the standpoint of frequency, it is apparent that in so far as the pharmacist is called upon to render emergency treatment in cases of poisoning he would need to be prepared to cope with bichloride of mercury poisoning first. Next comes ethyl alcohol. This hardly calls for emergency treatment by the pharmacist. Then comes morphine, then phenol, then iodine, etc. So, in the order of need for skill and knowledge, we have bichloride of mercury (ethyl alcohol), morphine, phenol, iodine. Should not our examination questions be based on these in the order of their importance?

The drug ending the list of poisons is wild parsnip, with a frequency of 1 as against say, iodine 351. Surely the toxicology of iodine is the more important. I do not, of course, suggest that every examination need be headed in its *Materia Medica* or *Toxicology* by a question on bichloride of mercury, but it being established that certain poisons are more frequent and others occur seldom, our examinations

should determine the fitness of the candidate to cope with cases most frequently met.

Illustrations might be multiplied without number, but the examiner who will read the book will quickly grasp the importance of the contents of the report.

It is obvious, of course, that it would be absurd to take this report which covers the present and base our curricula and examinations thereon and then follow these indefinitely. This would be traveling the well-known circle and getting nowhere. In fact, I fear very much that that is what we have been doing. But, the value of such a survey or study being as obvious as it is for our profession, there is good reason why a similar survey should be made periodically and each new report be made the basis of new curricula and new syllabus directions. We revise our U. S. P. and N. F. every decade and our courses in pharmacy are flexed to meet the requirements of each succeeding new revision of these books. Why not have a survey made every ten years and a report of such study and survey made available at or about the time the new U. S. P. and N. F. become official?

We now need a survey to show the requirements of the commercial and administrative side of pharmacy. Well, we have opened up a big field.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

NEW JERSEY JOINS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF PHARMACY.

The Board of Pharmacy of the State of New Jersey recently made application for membership in the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, which has been accepted by a mail vote of the Executive Committee. The New Jersey Board is therefore now a full active member of the N. A. B. P., which membership carries with it the privilege of reciprocity to and from the other active member States, in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws and rules and regulations of the Association.

The full membership of the New Jersey Board as well as its Secretary, Dr. Robert P. Fischelis, attended the recent meeting of District No. 2 at Philadelphia, and while there presented the application to Secretary Christensen and Lucius L. Walton, of the N. A. B. P. Executive Committee. The N. A. B. P. is to be congratulated on the addition of New Jersey to its membership roll, and in turn, heartily welcomes that State into the organization.

W. P. Porterfield, Chairman of the N. A. B. P. Executive Committee, spent Saturday afternoon, March 19th, in the Secretary's office going over various Association matters. Monday and Tuesday, May 2nd and 3rd, have been decided on as the dates for holding the N. A. B. P. Executive Committee meeting at the Chicago office of the Association.

Mr. Porterfield spent the winter in the South, as has been his custom for many years, making his headquarters at Ocean Springs, Miss. Because of pressing business interests, he returned to Fargo, N. Dak., his home, about a month earlier than usual this year.

George Judisch, of the Iowa Board, recently gave a series of lectures on *Materia Medica* and *Toxicology* before the nurses of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Fort Dodge. W. W. Haire of the same Board gave a course of lectures to the same class on *Practical Pharmacy*.

J. W. Gayle, Treasurer of the N. A. B. P. and Secretary of the Kentucky Board of Pharmacy, and Mrs. Gayle spent two weeks in Miami, Florida, during March.

J. G. Halbeisen, a member of the North Dakota Board, has moved his stock and fixtures from his pharmacy at Golden Valley and is opening a fine new drug store in Fargo, to be known as the Service Drug Store. His many friends wish him success.

Charles R. Maybury, Director of Washington Department of Licenses, who acts as the head of the consolidation department for that State, was married on February 10th, the bride being Miss Edna P. Crangle of Seattle. Mr. Maybury served as Chief Clerk of the House for several Republican legislatures, while Miss Crangle served as Secretary of the King County Democratic Club.

It is with pleasure that we read the good news that Herbert M. Lerou, Vice-President and Chairman of N. A. B. P., District No. 1, has been reappointed a commissioner on the Connecticut Commission of Pharmacy by Governor Trumbull for a term of five years commencing June 1, 1927.

Mr. Lerou was first appointed to the commission by Governor Holcomb in 1917, then reappointed by Governor Lake in 1922, this latest appointment making his third term. For nine years of the period, he has also served as Secretary of the commission.

During this term, Mr. Lerou has also been Mayor of Norwich, Conn., his home town, and President of the Chamber of Commerce, all the while operating a retail pharmacy. None of his interests has been neglected in spite of their multiplicity, as he likes being busy.

Donald S. Whitehead, a member of the Idaho Board of Pharmacy, in addition to operating a drug store in Boise, is serving a second term in the Idaho House of Representatives. He is Chairman of the Committee on Medicine, Surgery and Pharmacy. He is also serving as a member of a number of other committees—Banks and Banking; Roads, Bridges and Ferries; and State Affairs. The N. A. B. P. is proud to own such a member and by the way, he is serving as a member of the N. A. B. P. Committee on Relations of Boards with Colleges, which proves that it is the busy people who have time to do things.

It is reported in the press that H. E. Crockett, Utah Secretary of State, has resigned as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Association of Secretaries of State. Mr. Crockett is reported as declaring that he was forced to tender his resignation from the position mentioned, because of the action of the State legislature in eliminating all appropriations for interstate travel from the biennial budget. Mr. Crockett is said to have expressed regret at being obliged to resign, as he felt that the convention of Secretaries of State had been the means of a considerable saving to the states represented therein, and that such an organization should, for the sake of public welfare, be supported by the State to the extent of paying the expense of attending.

Many of the Boards of Pharmacy have a similar proposition to contend with, inasmuch as Board members are specifically charged under the State pharmacy laws with the protection of the public welfare. It is very essential, in order to do this properly, that the pharmacy Boards keep in touch with progress and developments in other States and this can best be done by attendance at the annual convention of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. When prevented from so doing because of no provision for the payment of expenses of delegates, the public is the loser of the benefit to be derived from attendance at these annual assemblies.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

District of Columbia.—Another name has been added to the honor roll of prerequisite States—that of the District of Columbia. The prerequisite law was passed by both the Senate and the House and signed by President Coolidge on March 4th. As it is to take effect one year from date, it will become in force on and after March 4, 1928. A provision for re-registration every three years is also included in the law.

To celebrate the victory, the Board was entertained at dinner on Friday evening, March 18th, followed by a theater party as guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Quigley.

Indiana.—A new permit law has been enacted by Indiana requiring that a permit to conduct a drug store, pharmacy or apothecary must be obtained before such store can be legally operated. This law goes into effect July 1, 1927, and any store operating without a permit after that date will be in violation of the law and liable to a fine.

Another bill repealed the provision requiring druggists to file a monthly narcotic report with the Board of Pharmacy.

Iowa.—A pharmacy or drug store ownership bill, the provisions of which are a combination of the Illinois and New York laws, has been introduced in the Iowa Legislature. Secretary Eaton reports satisfactory progress and that it is expected the bill will be enacted shortly.

Kansas.—Senate Bill 221, providing that certain Boards are to turn all moneys received from licenses and renewal fees into the State treasury monthly was introduced by the Ways and Means Committee and passed the Senate. The House amended the bill to exclude the Pharmacy Board, but the Senate has refused to accept the House amendment and a conference committee is to be appointed at the request of the Senate.

Representative McCaughan has led in the fight for the exclusion of the Pharmacy Board from this provision, his contention being that the fee was imposed upon the druggists by their own action to protect and promote the profession. He has suggested a provision—that 10 per cent of the proceeds of the Pharmacy Board be paid to the State Treasury each year to cover the expense to the State of auditing the books of the Board.

Kentucky.—An appeal is being made to Kentucky pharmacists to prepare for the next session of the Kentucky Legislature in January 1928 by pledging future representatives and senators *before election* to vote for and support a bill to Limit the Ownership of Pharmacies or Drug Stores to Registered Pharmacists, according to the *Journal of the Kentucky Pharmaceutical Association*. This kind of foresightedness is commendable and should result in success.

Maine.—Edgar F. Carswell, Secretary of the Maine State Commission of Pharmacy, reports that the educational standard of that State will be raised from two years to four years of high school at the present term of the Maine Legislature, and that it is hoped to make other advances in the Maine Pharmacy Law. The present amendment includes very comprehensive definitions of the various pharmacy terms.

Missouri.—An unsuccessful attempt was made to pass a permit or drug-store registration law. The original bill was amended to such an extent that its best features were practically nullified, therefore its proponents recommended to the legislature that it be killed. A new bill embodying all the desirable features of the former bill is now pending in the House of Representatives and it is hoped that it will meet with better success.

A bill providing for the consolidation of all the examining Boards of the State under one central head, as in Illinois and Nebraska, was passed by the Senate but met with defeat in the House.

Montana.—The legislature has met and adjourned, but no legislation affecting pharmacy was proposed, for which the pharmacists of the State are thankful. Although it is felt that the present law is not perfect, in its present form it is serving the best interests of all concerned.

Nebraska.—A bill introduced in the legislature, known as H. R. 551, fostered by the Department of Public Welfare, regulates the conditions under which all the professions practice in the State. Uniformity of fees and other minor details are provided for.

A prerequisite of one year of college work for admission to the pharmacy examinations is included. While this is a disappointment to those who have been working for college graduation as a prerequisite, and it makes another variation from the uniform standard for which the N. A. B. P. is laboring, it does mean an advancing educational standard and that is the beginning of work in the right direction.

North Dakota.—North Dakota reports success in passing the amendments to its pharmacy law as reported in the last issue of our Department.

Ohio.—A bill to amend the pharmacy law is pending in the legislature which includes the following:

A provision requiring the physical presence of a registered pharmacist at all times in a drug store or pharmacy;

A provision for permit and annual re-registration of stores;

Definition of pharmacy;

The granting of a dealer's permit for the sale at retail of proprietary and patent medicines and certain specified household remedies when put up in packages;

Authority is given the Board to make rules and regulations for the violation of which a permit may be suspended or revoked, and provides penalties for violations of all provisions.

Oklahoma.—House Bill No. 1234 which provides for payment of all moneys received by the Board of Pharmacy into the State Treasury and an appropriation by the legislature of all moneys necessary to cover the expenses of the Board is pending before the legislature.

An attempt was also made to require a \$10 license fee from all dealers, other than druggists, selling patent or proprietary medicines, but was finally abandoned.

STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY NEWS ITEMS.

Alabama.—W. E. Bingham, Secretary of the Board of Pharmacy, is making a tour of the State inspecting drug stores. He covered 64 stores in North Alabama the week of March 7th, and will continue the work just as fast as his duties at the office will permit.

Connecticut.—Only two candidates out of a class of forty examined at the January meeting of the Board were successful in passing.

District of Columbia.—Dr. L. F. Bradley, a member of the D. C. Board of Pharmacy, has been appointed Dean of the School of Pharmacy of George Washington University to fill the vacancy caused by the demise of Dr. Kalusowski. The members of the Board as well as the faculty of the school are coöperating with Dean Bradley in formulating a program for a three-year pharmacy course. It is hoped that the outline will be ready in time to be included in the prospectus for 1927-1928, which soon goes to press.

Idaho.—An analysis of the list of pharmacists in Idaho discloses that of 439 licenses issued when the State law became effective in 1905, 175 are still in force. There are now 670 pharmacists registered in the State, of whom 424 are residents. Three of this number are assistant pharmacists.

Iowa.—The Board has changed its examination dates to the following—the third Wednesday and Thursday of March and November, and two June examinations, one at Des Moines and the other at Iowa City.

Kansas.—Eleven candidates out of twenty-six taking examination for registration as pharmacist on February 2nd and nine out of fifteen taking examination for registration as assistant pharmacist were successful in passing.

The next examination of the Board will be held in Lawrence on May 4th and 5th.

Massachusetts.—Twenty-three of the fifty candidates taking the January Board examination were successful in passing and have been granted certificates of registration.

Mississippi.—Within a short time, the meeting of the faculty of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Mississippi and the members of the State Board of Pharmacy will undoubtedly take place. It should prove to be of incalculable value by revealing the weak points in each side that can be strengthened, thus leading to a better understanding of common problems.

The members of the Board as well as the pharmacists of the State generally are rejoicing in the report that Dr. F. F. Kelly, Secretary of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION, is to be a noted speaker at the Mississippi Pharmaceutical Association meeting to be held at Meridian, Miss., in June. In addition to his prominence in pharmaceutical affairs, Dr. Kelly is a man quite capable of putting over any message that he may select.

New Jersey.—Governor Moore has appointed Dean B. Crawford of Atlantic City, N. J., to succeed Daniel H. Hills, of Spring Lake, N. J., when the latter's term expires on May 31, 1927. Mr. Hills has served two five-year terms and is President of the Board at this time.

New Mexico.—An active campaign is being carried on for enforcement of the Pharmacy Law. A number of prosecutions are expected to be filed and should result in better conditions in the profession throughout the State. All registered pharmacists are urged to report violations known to them in their respective sections of the State to aid in this campaign.

The next meeting of the Board is called for May 23rd and 24th at Albuquerque.

Ohio.—Two appointments to the Ohio Board of Pharmacy were recently made by Governor Donahey—A. L. Flandermeyer of Cleveland and Ralph C. Knisely of Ravenna.

Ralph C. Knisely is a new appointee and is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Department of Pharmacy, class of 1908, and has owned and conducted a retail pharmacy in Ravenna, Ohio, since 1917.

By the appointment of Mr. Flandermeyer, we welcome back an old friend, as he was originally appointed a member of the Ohio Board by Governor Harmon in 1911, and reappointed by Governors Willis and Cox, serving until 1921. His present term expires March 1932. Mr. Flandermeyer is a graduate of Purdue, class of 1900, and has served as a trustee of the Cleveland School of Pharmacy, and is a prominent member of various pharmaceutical organizations. He is a member of the firm of Flandermeyer and Gerlach, conducting a retail pharmacy at 3390 W. 25th St., Cleveland.

South Carolina.—Seven out of ten applicants taking examination for registration as pharmacist were successful in passing.

The Board will meet again June 6th and 7th at Myrtle Beach, and the State association will hold its annual meeting on the two days following.

South Dakota.—The right of persons, other than pharmacists, to sell patent or proprietary medicines are being tested in the South Dakota courts. Although the law of the State provides

that no one other than a registered pharmacist may sell and dispense drugs and medicines, a lower court recently sustained a demurrer filed by an attorney for a dealer who had been arrested for a violation.

As a result, not only proprietary medicines, but all package drugs are being sold by dealers other than retail pharmacies or drug stores. If a ruling is obtained from the Supreme Court upholding the pharmacy law, it will result in a rigid enforcement.

Utah.—J. L. Franken of Salt Lake City, a member of the Utah Board of Pharmacy for 28 years and for 20 years its President, has resigned and expects to spend several months in Honolulu.

Governor George Dern has appointed former Congressman Milton H. Welling of Fielding, to the position of Director of the Department of Registration, succeeding James T. Hammond. The director is the executive head of the consolidation department in charge of all the examining boards in the State. Inasmuch as all terms of office of Board members automatically cease on the appointment of the new director, it is expected that there will be at least several changes in the membership of the Board.

Francis J. Hedquist, a member of the Utah Board of Pharmacy and prominent in pharmaceutical affairs of that State, met a sudden death while at work in his store in Provo, Utah, on March 4th. He fell from a stool to the floor in a faint, suffered bad bruises and possibly concussion of the brain, and died a short time later.

Vermont.—The annual meeting of the Board was held at the State House in Montpelier on Feb. 2nd. The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: *President*, Fred W. Churchill; *Secretary*, Fred D. Pierce; *Treasurer*, Harris W. Alexander.

Eleven out of twenty-one candidates taking examination for registration as pharmacist at the February meeting were successful in passing.

It was voted to hold examinations on the first Wednesday of June and October.

William G. Saunders, of Lyndonville, has been appointed to succeed Floyd G. Russell of Barre, whose term expired recently.

THE WASHINGTON CHERRY TREES.

Because of the interest of the late Dr. Jokichi Takamine (member of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION for a number of years, until his demise), the Potomac basin of Washington is beautified by the Japanese cherry trees, which attract visitors from all sections of the country.

BI-CENTENARY OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON'S DEATH.

On page 595 of the July number of the JOURNAL, A. PH. A., for 1926, copy of Sir Isaac Newton's autograph will be found. While attending the village school at Grantham he lived in the home of the village apothecary, Mr. Clark, and assisted him in the every-day duties of the shop and received instruction in the art of pill-making. He himself said that working with mortar and pestle, cutting the pills in exact cubes, and then rolling one in each hand between thumb and finger, did him a lot of good whether the patients were benefited or not. Mr. Clark explained to the embryo scientist that "pills were for those who made and sold them, and if

they did no harm to those who swallowed them, the whole transaction was then one of benefit." In his host's library Newton found scientific treatises, which "inspired him with that love for higher mathematics which became the ruling passion of his life." During these earlier years he also constructed a horseless carriage which was propelled by a crank and pumping device.

It was during an extended absence from Trinity, on account of an epidemic, that Newton—at his birthplace (his mother's home) Woolsthorpe—was led to his studies on gravitation by the observation of a falling apple and here also, during the same period, he discovered the prismatic colors of light.

Newton contended that transmutation of metals was a possibility. Like every one who has accomplished great things, he did not escape calumny; such terms as upstart, pretender, falsifier, etc., were applied to him, but his preëminence as a scientist was generally acknowledged during his life-time; in fact, from youth up his superior mind made him an outstanding character in student and national life.