

discover as nearly as possible the proportion of active daily working druggists who knew anything about the subject of sterilization, and about how much care they exercised in an attempt to get results, if any.

The program was arranged thus: A prominent locality, noted for the beauty of its stores and the apparent care given the matter of merchandise displays, was selected for examination. Ten stores were visited, and to each the following questions and orders were given:

- 1st. An ounce of sterile distilled water, U. S. P.
- 2nd. (Question). When was this water sterilized?
- 3rd. An ounce of sterile normal salt solution.
- 4th. (Question). How was this sterilized?

It is shameful to be compelled to admit that not one of these ten stores passed the test submitted to them. Imagine the feelings of this writer, when, after entering store after store, accompanied by a medical friend, the same ignorance of the subject of sterilization was encountered.

In stores Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10 the Pharmacopoeial material sterile distilled water was manifestly unknown, and in each of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 the article was not on hand or at least had not been reboiled within six to ten days, and no one of them had used any precaution whatever to prevent contamination. Mind you, this in spite of the fact that the U. S. P. gives specific directions for both the preparation and storing of sterile distilled water.

In a visit to another store in a section of the city much given to offices for doctors, an order was submitted for a half ounce of 1 percent sterile solution mercuric cyanide, and a request was made for permission to see the work room of this drug store and to witness the making of the solution. The clerk to whom the order was given put some distilled water into a flask and heated the water over an open flame to an estimated temperature of 150°, and then made a solution of the salt in a graduated measuring glass which looked as though it had been in regular prescription department use. A few questions, rather clumsily put to the worker, placed him on his guard, but also developed the fact that he did not know how to prepare sterile distilled water, and he also did not know that the Pharmacopoeia embodied an article and all necessary information referring to it. He (the worker) has had eleven years' experience in retail drug stores, and had been employed the better part of a year in the place in which this occurred.

It is a singular fact that there has been no improvement whatever in the equipment of the ordinary drug store, with a view to placing that equipment abreast of the times. A more or less indifferent array of mortars and pestles, graduates and stirring rods, and there the matter ends. How much could be said for modern equipment, and what ugly, disagreeable comparisons could be made? Why be like a farmer who deprives himself and family of the use and comfort of a bathtub for the sole reason that his father before him did not have one?

Insist on improvement in this matter, and do it so everlastingly as to compel an improvement. The subject should be taught in our colleges and schools by practical every-day-in-the-harness retail druggists, and not by the professor in charge of that branch of science only. There is a reason for this.

F. W. E. STEDEM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY—1920.*

To the President and Members of the American Pharmaceutical Association:

The past year has witnessed a marked growth of membership in the Association. At the present time we are carrying on our list approximately 3,300 active members and 2,000 soldier and sailor members. Over 500 new members have been elected since the last convention, although a period of only eight months has intervened and several months were spent in organizing the membership committee and getting the work started. It is hoped that this steady growth in the membership of the Association will be maintained. It would appear that a large proportion of our S & S members should be converted to active members at the end of the present calendar year and, with the accession of new members which may be counted upon during the remainder of the calendar year, our active membership should soon reach the five-thousand mark.

* Presented at City of Washington meeting, A. Ph. A., 1920.

The income from the National Formulary shows a decided increase over a year ago, due in part, no doubt, to the large enrollment in the schools of pharmacy and the increased demand for the book as a textbook; 3595 copies of the Formulary were sold during the year 1919 and an income of \$7,050.13 realized. The total sales of the fourth edition of the National Formulary have now reached 30,047 copies and the total income \$52,090.24. Details are given in the subjoined report.

As a result of publicity given through the JOURNAL, a considerable number of proceedings and year books have been sold during the year—larger in fact than any preceding year. The total sales have amounted to \$290.80. The new Year Book is almost ready for distribution.¹ It is hoped that we may be able to start at once with the publication of the 1919 volume and if this volume can be issued during the present calendar year, our Year Book will be fully up to date. The detailed financial accounts of the Secretary's office follow:

A. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES ON ACCOUNT OF NATIONAL FORMULARY IV.

JANUARY 1, 1919, TO DECEMBER 31, 1919, INCLUSIVE.

I. Expenditures.

J. B. Lippincott Co.—publication.....	\$2,442.38	
Louis C. Hesse—labels.....	18.18	
W. L. Scoville—incidentals.....	3.53	
		\$2,464.09
Transferred to A. Ph. A. Research Fund (Net income 1918).....		1,976.49
Total.....		\$4,440.58

II. Receipts.

Sales, quarter ending December 1, 1918 (balance).....	\$ 964.51	
Sales, quarter ending March 1, 1919.....	1,040.91	
Sales, quarter ending June 1, 1919.....	1,159.35	
Sales, quarter ending September 1, 1919.....	969.34	
Sales, quarter ending December 1, 1919.....	2,916.02	
Total remitted to Treasurer.....		\$7,050.13

B. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES ON ACCOUNT OF NATIONAL FORMULARY IV.

JANUARY 1, 1920, TO MAY 1, 1920.

I. Expenditures.

J. B. Lippincott Co.—publication.....	\$ 228.75	
Transferred to A. Ph. A. Research Fund (net income 1919).....	2,226.77	
Total.....		\$2,455.52

II. Receipts.

Sales, quarter ending March 1, 1920.....	\$1,549.39	
Total remitted to Treasurer.....		\$1,549.39

C. NATIONAL FORMULARY IV.—SUMMARY OF SALES.

March 1, 1919:			
Bindings.	Copies Sold.	Price.	Amount.
Muslin.....	475	\$1.605	\$762.375
Buckram.....	138	1.935	267.03
Interleaved.....	4	2.875	11.50
Total.....	617		\$1,040.91
Remitted to Treasurer.....			\$1,040.91

¹ Has been mailed.

June 1, 1919:

Bindings.	Copies Sold.	Price.	Amount.
Muslin.....	525	\$1.605	\$ 842.625
Buckram.....	179	1.935	346.365
Interleaved.....	1	2.875	2.875
Total.....	705		\$1,191.865
Less allowance for freight.....			32.52

Remitted to Treasurer..... \$1,159.35

September 1, 1919:

Bindings.	Copies Sold.	Price.	Amount.
Muslin.....	428	\$1.605	\$ 686.94
Buckram.....	133	1.935	257.355
Interleaved.....	12	2.875	34.50
Total.....	573		\$ 978.795
Less allowance for freight.....			9.46

Remitted to Treasurer..... \$ 969.34

December 1, 1919:

Bindings.	Copies Sold.	Price.	Amount.
Muslin.....	1030	\$1.605	\$1,653.15
Buckram.....	666	1.935	1,288.71
Interleaved.....	4	2.875	11.50
Total.....	1700		\$2,953.36
Less allowance for freight.....			37.34

Remitted to Treasurer..... \$2,916.02

March, 1, 1920:

Bindings.	Copies Sold.	Price.	Amount.
Muslin.....	640	\$1.605	\$1,027.20
Buckram.....	273	1.935	528.255
Interleaved.....	6	2.875	17.25
Total.....	919		\$1,572.705
Less allowance for freight.....			23.32

Remitted to Treasurer..... \$1,549.39

D. COMPLETE SUMMARY OF COPIES OF N. F. IV. PRINTED AND BOUND

By J. B. LIPPINCOTT CO. TO APRIL 1, 1920.

	Muslin.	Buckram.	Interleaved.	Unbound.	Total.
Series A.....	4,500	5,000	500		10,000
Series B.....	5,700	4,100	200		10,000
Series C.....	4,000	1,000			5,000
Series D.....	2,700	300			3,000
Series E.....	2,350	650			3,000
Series F.....	500	1,000		1,500	3,000
Totals.....	19,750	12,050	700	1,500	34,000

E. COMPLETE SUMMARY OF COPIES OF N. F. IV. RECEIVED AND SOLD BY THE
MIDLAND PUBLISHING CO., TO MARCH 1, 1920.

Year.	Muslin.	Buckram.	Interleaved.	Total.
1916.....	7,993	7,279	487	15,759
1917.....	4,472	1,975	76	6,523
1918.....	2,750	493	8	3,251
1919.....	2,458	1,116	21	3,595
1920 (3 mo.).....	640	273	6	919
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total sold.....	18,313	11,136	598	30,047
Stock at Midland Publishing Co., Mar. 1, 1920*.....	943	875	135	1,953
Total received.....	19,256	12,011	733	32,000
In transit.....	500			500
Total shipped.....	19,756	12,011	733	32,500
Unbound sheets.....				1,500
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Total printed.....				34,000

F. TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM N. F. IV.
July 1, 1916, to March 1, 1920, Inclusive.

Year.	Amount.	
1916.....	\$28,108.69	
1917.....	10,973.06	
1918.....	4,408.97	
1919.....	7,050.13	
1920 (3 mos.).....	1,549.39	
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Total.....		\$52,090.24

G. ACCOUNT OF N. F. V.

Receipts: None.

Expenditures:

During 1919—Binders.....	\$21.75	\$ 21.75
During 1920—(1st 3 mos.):		
Stationery.....	68.75	
Postage.....	26.53	
Duplicator.....	25.00	
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Total.....		\$ 120.28
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Grand total.....		\$ 142.03

H. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS AND YEAR BOOKS.

Receipts—January 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919:

Old editions of N. F.....	\$ 2.55	
Bulletin.....	12.00	
Proceedings and Year Book.....	276.25	
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Total.....		\$ 290.80
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Expenditures:		
Eschenbach Ptg. Co.—publication.....	\$3,575.98	
H. V. Army—journals.....	39.33	
W. B. Day—postage and express.....	9.58	
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Total.....		\$3,624.89

* Includes 48 complimentary copies.

I. ACCOUNT OF BADGES AND BARS.

January 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919, Inclusive.

Receipts from sale of badges and bars.....	\$34.70
Expenditures—A. M. Fetting Co., 25 N. Y. Bars.....	39.38

Stock on hand April 1, 1920:

Gold badges.....	9
Gold bars.....	92

J. SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS.

January 1, 1919, to December 31, 1919.

Date of Remittance. 1919	Badges and Bars.	Proceedings and Year Books.	N. F. IV.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
January 15.....		\$ 2.50	964.51		\$ 967.01
February 28.....		3.00		\$ 1.20	4.20
March 8.....		4.00	1,040.91	12.00	1,056.91
April 30.....		17.35		7.50	24.85
May 31.....		7.60			7.60
June 6.....			1,159.35		1,159.35
July 2.....		43.60			43.60
July 31.....		6.00			6.00
September 8.....	\$34.70	45.00	969.34		1,049.04
October 9.....		71.20			71.20
November 1.....		25.77			25.77
December 4.....		2.00	2,916.02		2,918.02
December 31.....		50.00		1.35	51.35
Total.....	\$34.70	\$278.02	\$7,050.13	22.05	\$7,384.90

K. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF RECEIPTS.

January 1 to April 1, 1920.

Date of Remittance. 1920	Proceedings and Year Books.	N. F. IV.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
January 30.....	\$19.00			\$ 19.00
March 3.....	46.20		\$2.00	48.20
March 10.....		\$1,549.39		1,549.39
March 31.....	10.00		1.50	11.50
Total.....	\$75.20	\$1,549.39	\$3.50	\$1,628.09

Respectfully submitted,

WM. B. DAY, *General Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE—1920.*

The Membership Committee, during the period which has elapsed since the last convention, has experienced the disadvantage of the short year between meetings, especially as it takes some time to get the new appointments made, the supplies distributed and the work started.

However, the response to the appeals of the chairman has been generously given and much credit is due to the district and state chairmen who have initiated membership campaigns in their respective territories. The result as a whole has been fairly satisfactory.

We have to report more than 500 new members so far elected during the *eight* months as compared with a total of 582 during *twelve* months last year. It is felt that with a long year coming, and the increased interest in the work shown by the committee-members and the better response of pharmacists generally, we shall be able to surpass all previous records during the next year and we hope to add one thousand new members to the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. B. DAY, *Chairman Membership Committee.*

* Presented at City of Washington meeting, A. Ph. A., 1920.