## Journal of Accountancy

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## Students' Department

H. A. Finney

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## Students' Department

Edited by H. A. Finney

The following problems have been submitted to this department by readers of The Journal of Accountancy, with requests for solutions:
$A, B$ and $C$ are incorporated companies, intimately related and engaged in similar business. In the early part of the year 1919 company A purchased in the open market 1,000 shares of the common stock of company $B$, having a par value of $\$ 100$ a share, for which it paid $\$ 150$ a share, and on August 10, 1919, it purchased preferred stock of company B for which it paid $\$ 50,000$, that being the par value of fhe stock then acquired.

On January 2, 1920, company A acquired 1,000 shares of the common stock of company $B$, par value $\$ 100$ a share, for which it gave in exchange 2,000 shares of its own common stock, having a par value of $\$ 100$ a share. The rights to the dividend on the stock so acquired, payable January 10 , 1920, were transferred to company A.

Balance-sheet-Company A-December 31, 1920

| Capital stock, common. |  | \$700,000.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Land ....................................................................... | \$ 40,000.00 |  |
| Buildings | 75,000.00 |  |
| Machinery | 100,000.00 |  |
| Investments-Common stock-B ........ \$350,000.00 |  |  |
| Preferred stock-B........ 50,000.00 |  |  |
|  | 400,000.00 |  |
| Cash | 49,500.00 |  |
| Inventories | 88,000.00 |  |
| Accounts receivable | 85,000.00 |  |
| Accounts payable |  | 51,500.00 |
| Notes receivable, company B............. \$10,000.00 |  |  |
| Notes discounted ................................ 10,000.00 |  |  |
| Accrued wages |  | 8,000.00 |
| Accrued taxes |  | 6,000.00 |
| Deferred charges ..................................................... | 1,500.00 |  |
| Dividends payable ..................................................... |  | 35,000.00 |
| Dividends receivable | 31,750.00 |  |
| Surplus ..................................................................... |  | 70,250.00 |
|  | \$870,750.00 | \$870,750.00 |

The following is an analysis of the surplus account:

| 1920 | B | 10,000.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jan. 2, 1920 | Dividend preferred stock Co. B | 1,750.00 |
| Jan. 10, 1920 | Dividend common stock Co. B. | 20,000.00 |
| July 3, 1920 | Dividend preferred stock Co. B....... | 1,750.00 |
| July 10, 1920 | Dividend common stock Co. B.. | 30,000.00 |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Dividend preferred stock Co. B | 1,750.00 |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Dividend common stock Co. B. | 30,000.00 |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Net profits for year | 45,000.00 |
| June 30, 1920 | Dividend declared, 5\% | 35,000.00 |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Dividend declared, 5\%.. | 35,000.00 |

Dec. 31, 1920 Balance
$\$ 70,250.00$

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Company B owns 900 shares of the common stock of company C, par value $\$ 100$ a share, for which it paid $\$ 125$ a share. This stock was acquired on January 1, 1920, without righr to the dividend declared on December 31, 1919, and payable on January 10, 1920. The capital stock of company C outstanding on January 1, 1920, amounted to $\$ 100,000$.

| Balance-Sheet--Company B-December 31, 1920 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Capital stock, common | \$200,000.00 |
| Capital stock, preferred 7\%. | 100,000.00 |
|  |  |
| Buildings ............................................................. 50,000.00 |  |
| Machinery ................................................................. $75,000.00$ |  |
|  |  |
| Inventories ........................................................... $47,500.00$ |  |
|  |  |
| Investment, 900 shares C stock.................................. 112,500.00 |  |
| Dividends receivable ................................................ $5,400.00$ |  |
|  |  |
| Accounts payable ............................................. | 36,500.00 |
| Notes payable (to company A)...... | 10,000.00 |
| Accrued wages ......................... | 3,000.00 |
| Accrued taxes .................................................... | 2,000.00 |
| Dividends payable | 33,500.00 |
| Surplus ................................................................ | 43,800.00 |
| \$428,800.00 | \$428,800.00 |


| Analysis of surplus account shows the following : |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jan. 1, 1920 | Balance ....-...................................- | \$65,000.00 |  |
| June 30, 1920 | Dividend company C, $6 \%$ | 5,400.00 |  |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Dividend company C, $6 \%$................. | 5,400.00 |  |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Net profits for year...................... | 35,000.00 |  |
| June 30, 1920 | Dividend common, 15\% | \$30,000.00 |  |
| June 30, 1920 | Dividend preferred, $31 / 2 \%$ | 3,500.00 |  |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Dividend preferred, $31 / 2 \%$............. | 3,500.00 |  |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Dividend common, $15 \%$...............- | 30,000.00 | 67,000.00 |
| Dec. 31, 1920 | Balance |  | \$43,800.00 |

Note: Dividends on the preferred stock of company B are payable on January 1 and July 1, and on the common stock, January 10 and July 10.

| Balance-sheet-Company C-December 31, 1920 |  | \$100,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Capital stock |  |  |
| Land | 10,000.00 |  |
| Buildings | 15,000.00 |  |
| Machinery | 20,000.00 |  |
| Cash | 28,000.00 |  |
| Accounts receivable ............................................... | 46,500.00 |  |
|  | 34,000.00 |  |
|  | 500.00 |  |
| Accounts payable ...................................................... |  | 32,500.00 |
|  |  | 6,000.00 |
| Accrued wages ..... |  | 1,500.00 |
| Accrued taxes ......................................................... |  | 1,000.00 |
|  |  | 13,000.00 |
|  | 154,000.00 | 154,000.00 |

Analysis of surplus account shows the following:

Note: Dividends are payable January 10 and July 10.
From the data given you are required to submit a consolidated balancesheet, showing the minority interests.

## Solution

There are two distinct methods for making eliminations from stock investment accounts to determine the goodwill to appear in a consolidated balance-sheet.

If the holding company carries the investment in the subsidiary at cost and takes up dividends received as a credit to surplus, the book value of the subsidiary stock ownings at the date of acquisition of the stock should be eliminated. This elimination is made, of course, from the investment account on the asset side and from the subsidiary's capital stock and surplus accounts on the liability side.

If the holding company has taken up subsidiary profits since acquisition by a debit to the investment account and a credit to surplus and has taken up dividends from the subsidiary by a debit to cash or dividends receivable and a credit to the investment account, then the eliminations should be based on the book value at the date of the consolidated balance-sheet.

The second method is much the easier to use when, as in this case, stock purchases are made at different dates, and particularly when the major holding company (company A in this case) owns stock in a minor holding company (company B) and thus indirectly controls a minor subsidiary (company C).

We are therefore faced by this situation: Companies A and B have carried the investments at cost and have credited dividends to surplus; but the solution of the problem would be simplified if they had charged the investment accounts and credited surplus with their shares of subsidiary earnings and had credited the investment accounts with subsidiary dividends. The situation may be met by setting up a statement for each holding company, showing what the investment account and surplus account balances would have been if subsidiary profits had been credited to surplus and if subsidiary dividends had been credited to the investment accounts. Adjustments can then be made changing the investment and surplus balances to these revised figures, and eliminations can then be made on the basis of present book values.

Statements for company B and company A appear on pages 300,301 , 302 and 303.

Turning to company A , we are faced by two difficulties. First, the exact date of the acquisition of the stock of B "early in 1919" is not known, and company B's surplus at the date of acquisition is also unknown. This is a very serious flaw in a problem which is otherwise excellent, although in my opinion it is unreasonably difficult for a C. P. A. examination. It is not necessary to know the exact date when company A made its, first acquisition of B's stock, but it is absolutely necessary to know B's surplus at that date. Without this information it is simply impossible to solve the problem; as impossible as it would be to prepare a profit-and-loss statement without knowing the final inventory. An assumption is necessary, and I shall assume that the dividend of $\$ 20,000$ received on January 10,1920 , represented the profits of company

Statement Taking up Subsidiary Profits as Credits to Surplus and Dividends as Credits to the Investment Account Investment in Co. $C$
$65,000.00$
$35,000.00$ 88
888
0.8
no
Surplus
$.00 \overline{\$ 109,000.00}$
$42,000.00$
$43,800.00$
1,800.00 Dr.
$1,800.00$ Credit

$\$ 44,000.00$
$\$ 5,400.00$
$5,400.00$

$\$ 121,500.00$
$110,700.00$
$112,500.00$

Dec. 31, 1920

Adjustments (see main working papers).
Exhibit B
Statement Taking up Subsidiary Profits as Credits to Surplus and Dividends as Credits to the Investment Account
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Investment in } B & \text { Investment in } B\end{array}$ \$150,000
190,000



 ${ }^{*}$ This $\$ 1,750.00$ is a dividend for six months. Company A did not own the stock for the full six months period, but it paid nothing for accrued dividends. Hence the entire dividend is treated as income. mation) that the dividend received was equal to the profit earned since "early in 1919."

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Working Papers-Continued


 $\overline{\$ 154,000}$
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B from "early in 1919" to the end of 1919. Of this amount, only $\$ 10,000$ is income to company A, for payment was made for the right to the dividend on 1,000 shares of B stock purchased on January 2, 1920. In other words, when the A company paid $\$ 200,000$ of its own stock for the stock of $B$, it should have recorded the transaction thus:


When the dividend was received on January 10 , dividends receivable should have been credited with $\$ 10,000.00$; surplus should have been credited with $\$ 10,000.00$; and cash should have been debited for the total. It is to be remembered that surplus is credited because we are assuming that the dividend is exactly equal to B's profit since "early in 1919."

The second difficulty arises from the necessity of determining the rights of the preferred stockholders in B's surplus. The law provides that preferred stock is participating when not definitely stated to be nonparticipating, but the fact that $15 \%$ dividends have been paid on common stock and $31 / 2 \%$ dividends have been paid on preferred stock gives ade quate information that the preferred stock is non-participating and that its book value is par.



## Students' Department

Capital:

Problem:
A and B are partners engaged in the business of manufacturing. Desiring additional capital so as to extend their operations, they make overtures to C and submit the following balance-sheet for his consideration:

$$
\text { Balance-sheet-A and B-January } 1,1918
$$


$\$ 171,000.00$
$\$ 171,000.00$
Examination discloses that buildings and machinery had not been depreciated and that the inventory of raw materials was overstated. It was finally agreed that the following deductions be made from the values shown on the balance-sheet:

Machinery ..............-.-.-.-........................................................ 15,000.00
Inventory-raw materials .-.................................................. $4,000.00$
Accounts receivable ................................................................-1,000.00
$\$ 25,000.00$
The deductions for depreciation are to be set up on the books as a reserve for depreciation; the deduction for raw materials is to be charged off and the inventory accordingly corrected; accounts receivable is to be adjusted by charging off $\$ 400.00$ for uncollectible accounts, and $\$ 600.00$ is to be set up as a reserve for bad debts.

These adjustments having been made, C agrees to contribute $\$ 60,000.00$ in cash to the partnership in consideration for a third interest in the business, which offer was accepted by A and B as of January 1, 1919, and C made payment accordingly.

The capital of the partnership after the admission of C is to equal the net assets after making the adjustments agreed on, plus the cash contribution of C .

Prior to the entrance of C into partnership, the profits and losses wert divisible between A and B in the proportions of $60 \%$ and $40 \%$ respectively.

The net profits for the year ended December 31, 1919, were $\$ 25,000$.

From the foregoing data you are required to show (a) the adjustment of the respective capital accounts after settlement with $C$ at the beginning of the year; (b) revised percentages of profits for the year 1919, and (c) division of profits for the year 1919.

## Solution:

The problem does not ask for a revised balance-sheet after the admission of C. Therefore it is not necessary to do more than show the effect upon the capitals of $A$ and $B$ resulting from the stated deductions.

|  | A | B | Together |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| Capitals before adjustments................... | $\$ 70,000.00$ | $\$ 60,000.00$ | $\$ 130,000.00$ |  |
| Deduct adjustments in P. and L. ratio.... | $\frac{15,000.00}{}$ | $\frac{10,000.00}{25,000.00}$ | $\frac{\$ 55,000.00}{}$ | $\$ 50,000.00$ |

The problem states that C is to obtain a one-third interest in the business for a payment of $\$ 60,000.00$, and that the capital of the partnership after the admission of C is to equal the net assets after making the adjustments agreed on, plus the cash contribution of $C$. It is therefore necessary to determine whether C's $\$ 60,000.00$ is exactly one-third of this total or whether a transfer must be made from A's and B's accounts to C's, or vice versa.
Total net assets before C's admission................................................ \$105,000.00
Add C's contribution............................................................................... 60,000.00
Total .......................................................................................................... $\$ 165,000.00$
One-third thereof ................................................................................ $\overline{\$ 55,000.00}$
This shows that while $C$ pays in $\$ 60,000.00$ he is to be credited with only $\$ 55,000.00$. In other words, $\$ 5,000.00$ is to be transferred from his capital account to the capital accounts of $A$ and $B$. This transfer is made in the profit and loss ratio, as follows:

| Capitals before transfer | \$55,000.00 | \$50,000.00 | \$60,000.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Transfer | 3,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Final balance | \$58,000.00 | \$52,000.00 | \$55,000.00 |

The admission of $C$ dissolves the old partnership between $A$ and $B$ and abrogates the contract between them as to the division of profits. Unless a new agreement is specifically stated, the assumption is that the profits in the new partnership will be divided in equal thirds of $\$ 8,333.33$ to each.

If the former $60 \%$ and $40 \%$ ratio is to govern the distribution of the profits remaining for $A$ and $B$ after allowing $C$ one-third of the profits, the problem should say so. Otherwise the $\$ 8,333.33$ division is correct. If the old ratio between $A$ and $B$ does govern the division of their twothirds, the distribution would be made as follows:

| Partner | Ratio | Profits |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | $60 \%$ of $662 / 3 \%$ or $40 \%$ | \$10,000.00 |
| B | $40 \%$ of $662 / 3 \%$ or $262 / 3 \%$ | 6,666.67 |
| C | ..... $331 / 3 \%$ | 8,333.33 |
| Total | 100\% | \$25,000.00 |

## Problem:

On January 1, 1921, the directors of Simpson Company, Inc., decided to cease operations, liquidate the business and dissolve the corporation as soon as possible. The balance-sheet, as at December 31, 1920, was as follows:

Simpson Company, Inc.
Balance-sheet as of December 31, 1920

| Assets |  | Liabilities |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Assets ....-...................... | 10,000.00 | Accounts payable ............. | 96,500.00 |
| Accounts receivable ........ | 45,000.00 | Dividends payable | 3,500.00 |
| Inventories | 60,000.00 | Accrued interest on bonds | 1,750.00 |
| Machinery and equipment | 50,000.00 | First mortgage gold bonds | 100,000.00 |
| Plant | 200,000.00 | Rental paid in advance.... | 350.00 |
| Goodwill | 105,000.00 | Reserve for bad debts...... | 1,900.00 |
| Deferred charges | 2,500.00 | Reserve for department |  |
| Unamortized discount on bonds | 3,333.33 | machinery \& equipment Reserve for department | 10,000.00 |
| Bond sinking-fund cash.... | 82,000.00 | plant | 5,000.00 |
|  |  | Reserve for contingencies | 10,000.00 |
|  |  | Reserve for sinking fund | 82,000.00 |
|  |  | Preferred shares) ...ock (1,000 | 100,000.00 |
|  |  | Common shares) stock (1,050 | 105,000.00 |
|  |  |  | 41,833.33 |
|  | \$557,833.33 |  | \$557,833.33 |

The preferred stock certificates contain a provision that preferred stock is to receive semi-annual dividends at the rate of $7 \%$ per annum, payable January 1st and July 1st, the dividends to be cumulative if not paid. On dissolution, the preferred stock is to be retired at 110 , plus dividends accrued from the date of the last dividend declaration, December 31, 1920, to the date set by the directors in the notice to stockholders to surrender their preferred stock for cancelation. The holders of common stock are to receive, on dissolution, all of the remaining net assets.

On March 3, 1921, the directors, acting as liquidators, reported the following transactions in connection with winding up the company's affairs:

Accounts receivable had realized $80 \%$ of their face value.
All accounts payable and dividends payable had been settled.
All merchandise had been disposed of for $\$ 40,000.00$.
Machinery and equipment had been sold for $\$ 22,000.00$
The sinking-fund trustee had been paid sufficient additional cash to buy in all outstanding bonds at $981 / 2$, plus the interest accrued to December 31, 1920. Any additional accrual is to be disregarded.

The sinking-fund trustee had redeemed all bonds in accordance with the preceding paragraph and had been discharged. Any possible trustee's expenses and commissions are to be disregarded.

The bond liability having been liquidated, the plant was sold for $\$ 180$,000.00 The purchaser of the plant would not assume the property subject to the lease held by a tenant who occupied the top floor, whose prepaid rental was reffected in the balance-sheet as at December 31, 1920. In order to consummate the sale of the plant, it was necessary to effect a cancelation of the lease, which was done by payment to the tenant of $\$ 3,500.00$ and the refund to him of the advance payment mentioned.

Miscellaneous expenses of realization and liquidation were $\$ 4,000.00$.
On April 9, 1921, the directors notified all stockholders to turn their stock certificates in for cancelation as of date April 19, 1921. On the latter date, all certificates having been received from the stockholdesr, the assets on hand were distributed pro-rata to each class of stockholders, and the stock certificates r are canceled.

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From the foregoing facts prepare:
(a) Realization and liquidation statement.
(b) Statement showing realized value per share of stock.

> The Simpson Company, Inc.
> Realization and Liquidation Account
December 31, 1920, to April 19, 1921.
(Left side)
Assets to be realized:
Accounts receivable ........................... $\$ 45,000.00$
Less reserve for bad debts............ $1,900.00$
Inventories
\$ 43,100.00 $60,000.00$
Machinery and equipment
\$ $50,000.00$
Less reserve for depreciation........ $10,000.00$
40,000.00
Plant ........................................... 200,000.00
Less reserve for derpeciation.......- $5,000.00 \quad 195,000.00$
Goodwill ................................................... $105,000.00$
Deferred charges ............................... $\quad 2,500.00$
$\$ 445,600.00$
Liabilities liquidated:
Accounts payable .......................................................... $96,500.00$
Dividends payable.................................................. $3,500.00$
Bond payable- $\$ 100,000.00$ par retired at $981 / 2 \ldots$... $98,500.00$
Accrued interest on bonds....................................... $1,750.00$

- Rental paid in advance. 350.00
200,600.00


## Supplementary Charges:

Premium for cancelation of lease......................... $\$ 3,500.00$
Expenses of realization and liquidation.................. $4,000.00$
7,500.00
$\$ 653,700.00$
The Simpson Company, Inc.
Realization and Liquidation Account
December 31, 1920, to April 19, 1921.
(Right side)
Liabilities to be liquidated:
Accounts payable .......................................................... $96,500.00$
Dividends payable .................................................... $3,500.00$
Accrued interest on bonds..................................... $1,750.00$
First mortgage gold bonds......................................... 100,000.00
Rental paid in advance. 350.00
Assets realized:
Accounts receivable ...................................................- 36,000.00
Inventories ............................................................... 40,000.00
Machinery and equipment........................................ 22,000.00
Plant ....................-....................................................... 180,000.00
Loss on realization.

## Students' Department

| The Simpson Company, Inc. Realization Profit-and-Loss Account December 31, 1920, to April 19, 1921. |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Loss on realization of |  |
| Accounts receivable ............................- $\$ 7,100.00$ |  |
| Inventories ........................................- 20,000.00 |  |
| Machinery and equipment.................. 18,000.00 |  |
| Plant .................................................. 15,000.00 |  |
| Goodwill ............................................ 105,000.00 |  |
| Deferred charges ............................... 2,500.00 |  |
| - $\$ 167,600.00$ |  |
| Expenses of realization and liquidation $\quad 4,000.00$ |  |
| Total .............................................................................................-. $\$ 175,100.00$ |  |
| Deduct discount on redemption of bonds.................................... 1,500.00 |  |
| Net loss on realization................................................................... \$173,600.00 |  |
| The Simpson Company, Inc. <br> Statement of Cash December 31, 1920, to April 19, 1921. |  |
|  |  |
| Cash balance, December Accounts payable ............. \$ 96,500.00 |  |
| 31, 1920 ........................ \$ 10,000.00 Dividends payable ........... | - 3,500.00 |
| Sinking-fund cash, De- Bonds payable.................. 98,500.00 |  |
| cember 31 ..................... 82,000.00 Accrued interest on bonds | - 1,750.00 |
| Accounts receivable ........ 36,000.00 Rental refund .................. 350.00 |  |
| Inventories ....................-- 40,000.00 Cancelation of lease.......... | - 3,500.00 |
| Machinery and equipment $22,000.00$ Expenses ..................................................................000.00 <br> Plant 40000 Balance for stockholders <br> $161,900.00$   |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| \$161,900.00 \$161,900.00 |  |
| The Simpson Company, Inc. Statement of Capttal |  |
| Capital-December 31, 1920: |  |
| Preferred stock ................................................... \$100,000.00 |  |
| Surplus .......................................................................-- $41,833.33$ 105,00.00 |  |
|  |  |
| Less discount on bonds................- 3,333.33 |  |
| 38,500.00 |  |
| Reserve for contingencies.................................... $10,000.00$ |  |
| Reserve for sinking fund.................................... 82,000.00 |  |
| Deduct loss on realization........................................................... 173,600.00 |  |
| Capital-April 19, 1921................................................................. \$161,900.00 |  |

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```
Liquidating dividends:
    To preferred stockholders:
        Par
        $100,000.00
```



```
    Dividend: 109/365 of $7,000.00...................... 2,090.00
                                    112,090.00
To common stockholders
                        $49,810.00
The payment of the dividend for the fractional period is an absolute requirement, based on an agreement between the common stockholders and preferred stockholders. It is not conditional upon the existence of a surplus.
Realized value per share:
Preferred: \(\$ 112,090.00 \div 1,000=\$ 112.09\)
Common: \(\quad 49,810.00 \div 1,050=47.44\)
```


## ADIN S. HUBBARD

Adin S. Hubbard, member of the American Institute of Accountants, certified public accountant of Rhode Island, died August 18, 1922. To everyone in New England acquainted with accountancy Mr. Hubbard was well known. He was a regular attendant at meetings of the American Institute of Accountants. He was a member of the Rhode Island Society of Certified Public Accountants and was also a member of the state board of accountancy.

Allen R. Smart, Edward E. Gore, David A. Houston and William B. Boulter announce the formation of the firm of Smart, Gore \& Co., with offices at 111 West Monroe street, Chicago, Illinois.

Alfred N. Maas and Philip Sohmer announce the formation of a partnership under the name of Maas \& Sohmer, with offices at 1170 Broadway, New York.

## Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants

At the annual meeting of the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants held August 26, 1922, William McAdam, J. P. Robertson and James M. McConahey were elected directors for a term of two years. They, with the holdovers, A. S. Hansen and E. P. Jarvis, will constitute the board of directors for the next year.
A. S. Hansen was re-elected president, J. P. Robertson re-elected vicepresident, James M. McConahey elected secretary-treasurer, and W. O. Atwood, auditor.

The by-laws were amended to provide for local chapters in addition to the state society. A local chapter was immediately formed in Seattle and the officers and directors of the state society were elected to the same positions in the chapter. Chapters are also now being formed in Spokane and Tacoma. The reports of the officers showed the most successful year in the history of the society.

