

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1934

DIVISION OF REGISTRATION

Mass. DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION; Division of registration



4

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ANNUAL REPORT 1935

To MICHAEL ZACK, *Director of Registration.*

SIR:—The Board of Registration in Pharmacy, respectfully submits its annual report for the year ending November 30, 1934, the same being its forty-ninth report.

EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION AS PHARMACISTS

1934	Examined	Registered	1934	Examined	Registered
Jan. 23 .....	59 .....	19 .....	June 12 .....	64 .....	35 .....
Mar. 6 .....	56 .....	16 .....	June 26 .....	56 .....	30 .....
Apr. 24 .....	53 .....	19 .....	Sept. '25 .....	57 .....	19 .....
May 29 .....	51 .....	8 .....	Nov. 21 .....	58 .....	19 .....
			Total .....	454 .....	Total.....165

EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION AS ASSISTANTS

1934	Examined	Registered	1934	Examined	Registered
Apr. 17 .....	67 .....	20 .....	Oct. 31 .....	51 .....	23 .....
			Total .....	118 .....	Total.....48

REGISTERED PERSONS WHO HAD RECEIVED COLLEGE OF PHARMACY INSTRUCTION

	Pharmacists	Assistants
Total number of persons registered during year	165 .....	48 .....
Number of graduates passing .....	75 .....	4 .....
Number passing who were attending or had attended college of pharmacy (not graduates) .....	19 .....	15 .....
Percentage of college trained persons passing.	57%	39.5%

REGISTERED BY INTERSTATE RECIPROCITY

New Mexico .....	1	Rhode Island .....	5	Connecticut .....	1
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

RECEIPTS

Permits .....	\$15,060.00
Certificates of fitness .....	15,730.00
Examinations .....	2,685.00
Reciprocity .....	275.00
Duplicate certificates .....	65.00
Certified statements .....	9.00
Permit (Chap. 236, Acts of 1934) .....	1.00
<b>Total income .....</b>	<b>\$33,825.00</b>

The above table shows the net amount of income. Fees which were refunded when permits and liquor certificates were refused have been deducted.

EXPENSES

Members' Salaries .....	\$3,965.44
Agent's Salary .....	2,320.00
Travel of the Board and Agent .....	3,395.60
Clerk's Salaries from appropriation of Director .....	4,225.51
Office expenses from appropriation of Director .....	2,059.76
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	\$15,966.31

EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS

Net amount of fees paid into State Treasury .....	\$33,825.00
Expenses of the Board to the State .....	15,966.31
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	\$17,858.69

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REPORT OF THE AGENT

Total investigations and inspections .....	1,191
Unregistered stores (patent medicine stores) .....	633
Registered stores (drug stores) .....	456
Court cases (76) others (26) .....	102
Violations of pharmacy laws by unregistered stores (not including the new sign law) .....	5.0%
Violations of the new sign law by these stores .....	8.4%

SUMMARY

Number of meetings held for examinations .....	10
Number of meetings held for hearings and other business .....	39
Total number of meetings .....	49

*Hearings*

On violations of State laws, following court convictions .....	16
On violations of the Federal narcotic law .....	2
On complaint from police departments, not followed by court convictions .....	3
On complaints resulting from investigations by the Agent .....	4
Relative to revocations and suspensions of Druggists' Licenses and Certificates of Fitness by local licensing boards .....	6
Relative to applications for permits, certificates of fitness and reciprocity .....	91
Total number of hearings .....	122

*Findings*

Drug store permits suspended or revoked .....	5
Personal registration certificates suspended .....	3
Certificates of fitness suspended or revoked .....	12
Persons placed on probation .....	8
Cases placed on file .....	8
Cases dismissed .....	2
Permits refused (not granted upon any later re-application) .....	15
Certificates of fitness refused (not granted upon any later re-application) .....	15

The statute requires a yearly report as to the condition of the drug business. We regret to say there has been very little improvement over the discouraging conditions of the previous year except for a slight change for the better during the past six weeks. We feel that the "Fair Price Code" has failed utterly to meet our need as far as controlled prices are concerned.

The year has seen many changes in the laws affecting pharmacy. The beginning of the fiscal year of this report was followed closely by the repeal of Prohibition. Under new legislation enacted, every druggist who wished to use alcohol in manufacturing or to sell alcoholic liquors, was obliged to take out a "Certificate of Fitness" under this law. If the druggist desired he could in addition obtain from the local licensing board a "Druggists License" for the sale of alcoholic liquors by signature of the purchaser in a book similar to the one used under the "Sixth Class License" in effect before Prohibition.

With reference to this new law, the following rulings were made by the Board and notice sent to each druggist:

May 1, 1934—That pharmacists holding certificates of fitness must restrict the sale of alcohol to one quart to a customer; that no druggist shall be allowed to display signs or advertising to the general public promoting the sale of alcohol.

June 5, 1934—That the display of alcoholic beverages be prohibited.

July 6, 1934—"Display" modified) A druggist may display liquors in a wall case at the rear of the front store in one space only not exceeding 3 ft. by 6 ft. or 18 sq. ft. total.

Local boards also in many cities established rulings and wherever these rulings were made by these local commissions, they had the effect of law.

A law which became effective August 22, 1934 made the statute more specific as to signs which may be used by unregistered stores. It prohibited the much used wording of "Drug Sundries." Many of these signs were furnished by manufacturing companies. These companies were notified by the Board relative to the new law, and they took steps at once to have the signs removed.

Incorporated in this sign law, as passed, was a clause giving the Board of Pharmacy the right to issue a special permit to a general merchant in an isolated district to use the word "Drug" on his sign. In order to secure the passage of the entire bill, it seemed necessary to include this clause. One of these permits has been granted and one application refused.

During the year the Board compiled for distribution a minimum standard of technical equipment for a new drug store, a brief outline of which follows: a sufficient stock of drugs on the premises arranged for easy access, to compound any usual prescription; 1 prescription scale capable of weighing one grain or less (legally sealed); 1 set of Apothecary weights 1 grain to 2 drams and 1 set of Metric weights 50 milligrams to 20 grams (legally sealed); 1 set of glass graduates, four or more in number, measuring 10 minims to 16 fl. ozs. and 1 set of glass graduates 5 C.c. to 500 C.c. (legally sealed); 4 oz. glass mortar; 2 wedgewood mortars 4 oz. and 16 oz.; Bunsen burner; 3 steel spatulas, 1 non-metallic; a variety of funnels, stirring rods, filter papers, empty capsules, test tubes; containers,—bottles, boxes, jars, powder papers; prescription and other labels; U. S. Pharmacopoeia X and National Formulary V; certificates properly displayed. The Board further requires that a new store be in charge of a registered pharmacist at all times.

The Board of Pharmacy has no statutory supervision over the patent medicine store under our present laws, although the agent of the Board has investigated over 600 of these stores during the past year. In 1926 when the Board started investigations along this line, the per cent of violations of the pharmacy law found was 46.3%. During the past year the per cent of violations found was 5%, so that something has been accomplished even without any specific law giving the Board of Pharmacy supervision over such stores.

The Board wishes to go on record as favoring a bill to be presented by the State Pharmaceutical Association requiring that candidates for registration as pharmacists be college of pharmacy graduates. There are but a few other states at the present time which do not have this requirement. The days of apprenticeship under the instruction of the proprietor are no more, and the drug clerk must look elsewhere for his professional training. The best way to learn the fundamental principles of pharmacy is to attend a recognized college of pharmacy.

A further reason for desiring this legislation is that the states which have the prerequisite clause will not accept our licentiates upon the basis of their Massachusetts registration alone. They will accept them provided at the time of their passing our Board they were graduated from a pharmacy college. Of the 165 persons who were registered as pharmacists during the past year 57% were college trained men. It should have been 100%. The college of pharmacy prerequisite is acknowledged throughout the country as a measure in the interests of public health.

Each year there is a slight increase in the number of drug stores. This year the total is 2,020 or ten more than the previous year. The income turned over to the State Treasury was \$33,825. This was much larger than the normal amount and was caused chiefly by druggists applying for the new "Certificate of Fitness" during the same fiscal year in which they took out a Third Class License certificate under Prohibition.

The Board has received splendid cooperation from the druggists throughout the year, both as to compliance with laws and rulings and in assisting the Board in securing compliance with the "Sign law" by unregistered stores.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM HARDIE, *President.*  
JOHN F. WALSH.

CHARLES W. KING.

JOHN R. SAWYER, *Secretary.*  
TIMOTHY S. SHEA.