

HOUSE . . . . . No. 8.

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THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### REPORT.

BOSTON, Oct. 1, 1888.

*To His Excellency OLIVER AMES, Governor of the Commonwealth.*

SIR: — In this, the Third Annual Report of the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, it was the desire and intention of the Board to present a detailed and specific report of the “Condition of Pharmacy” in the State, and to accomplish this the accompanying circular was sent to every town and city in the Commonwealth.

Relying, as we were obliged to, upon voluntary aid, we have not received as many responses to our request as we desired, nor have many of those received been as definite and specific in their answers as was expected; we are therefore forced to abandon the detailed statement.

Enough information, however, from the various parts of the State has been gathered to establish beyond question the following facts: —

1. The Pharmacy Law of 1885 was a necessity, and with the repeal of the third section in 1887 has proved a bar to some who would otherwise have proclaimed themselves pharmacists for other than legitimate pharmacy.

2. The qualification required by the Board, before granting a certificate of registration, has raised the standard of education and preparation for the duties of compounding and dispensing drugs to a point that compels the coming pharmacists of this State to have some knowledge, experience and familiarity with the medicinal remedies of the day, and this fact, as reported to us, has stimulated study, and an intelligent appreciation of the necessity of qualifying, formerly neglected by many.

3. Disregard, non-compliance, or violation of the law,

still continues in some localities ; this fact has been stated in a general way in our previous reports, but from the partial investigations made, we now have evidence of some violations that should be corrected at once, and we are satisfied a careful canvass of the State would reveal many more.

4. More good work has been accomplished by the Board during its three years of labor, without friction, than could reasonably have been expected.

In our first report, October, 1886, we gave some of the questions and answers of applicants for registration, showing the necessity of the pharmacy law. The same conditions exist to-day, as the written examinations on file will clearly prove.

In the judgment of the Board, ample time has now been given for a full compliance with the law, and the people are very strong in its support, and are pressing us for an enforcement of its provisions. To do this properly and without prejudice, requires careful, judicious and accurate personal examination and investigation, and, as stated in our first report, this cannot be done, except in very few cases, without an expenditure of money and time beyond our control.

It is a well-known fact that the reputable pharmacist's relations to the people are confidential and advisory, similar to those of the family physician, and no more responsible or important position or trust is held by any class or profession ; and were it not for this fact, and the earnest desire and pride in protecting this relation from abuse, not one member of the Board as now constituted would continue in his position.

That there are among the pharmacists some unscrupulous persons, as there are in every calling, who bring discredit and evil repute upon others in the same calling, we admit ; but we protest against the general charge sometimes made that apothecaries as a rule are violators of law.

Representing the people as well as the pharmacist, we emphatically assert that the percentage of pharmacists who sell liquor by the glass, or in any way contrary to the law, is very small, and the efforts of the Board have been specially directed to prevent any increase of that kind of pharmacists. More than this, the Board would gladly eliminate from the roll of registered pharmacists of the State any and all who do not rigidly and strictly comply with the spirit of all tem-

perance legislation. It is the few calling themselves pharmacists, registered as required by section three, violators of the liquor law as well as violators in some cases of the pharmacy act, that the Board desire to have prosecuted. We recognize the difficulty of correcting this evil, but we are decidedly of the opinion that very much could be accomplished by such an examination and investigation as has been suggested.

The law requires the Board to hold three regular meetings during the year. The first year of its organization six sessions for examinations of applicants were held, the second year ten, and the third year seventeen. The number examined for the three years has been as follows: 1886, 101; 1887, 167; 1888, 213. Certificates granted were: for 1886, 22; 1887, 70; 1888, 89. Thus, it will be seen the work continues to increase, and its importance and value as a conservator for the public good is conceded by all reasonable and thinking men. The increased amount of correspondence, clerical work, investigations and prosecutions that should be made demands, in the opinion of the Board, some consideration by the Legislature.

For the year ending Oct. 1, 1888, seventeen sessions of the Board have been held at 13 Beacon Street, as follows:—

Oct. 4 and 5, 1887. Four members present; organized by the election of H. M. Whitney as President and F. H. Butler as Secretary; 31 examined, 11 passed, 13 conditioned and 7 rejected.

Nov. 22, 1887. Four members present; 11 examined, 2 passed, 2 conditioned and 7 rejected.

Jan. 3 and 4, 1888. Four members present; 27 examined, 10 passed, 7 conditioned and 10 rejected.

Feb. 7, 1888. Four members present; 14 examined, 6 passed, 5 conditioned and 3 rejected.

March 13 and 14. Three members present; 21 examined, 10 passed, 7 conditioned and 4 rejected.

May 1 and 2. Five members present; 26 examined, 8 passed, 6 conditioned and 12 rejected. At this meeting one certificate obtained by fraud was surrendered.

May 8 and 9. Five members present on the 8th and four on the 9th; 30 examined, 12 passed, 7 conditioned and 11 rejected.

May 15 and 16. Three members present on the 15th and four on the 16th; 20 examined, 12 passed, 3 conditioned and 5 rejected.

May 29. Four members present; 15 examined, 9 passed, 3 conditioned and 3 rejected.

June 26. Three members present; 18 examined, 6 passed, 3 conditioned and 9 rejected.

Aug. 3. Special meeting; three members present. This meeting was called to consider and take action upon the many general complaints received, as to violations of the law. It was voted to issue the circular accompanying this report, and to employ one or more persons to canvass the city of Boston.

The financial transactions for the year have been as follows:—

Balance in hands of State Treasurer, Oct. 1, 1887, . . . . .	\$8 43
Received for 138 examinations at \$5, . . . . .	\$690 00
“ “ 75 re-examinations at \$3, . . . . .	225 00
“ “ 5 duplicate certificates at 50 cts., . . . . .	2 50

Making total receipts for the year, . . . . . \$917 50

and paid into the treasury of the Commonwealth as follows:—

October 7, 1887, . . . . .	\$130 00
November 25, 1887, . . . . .	49 50
January 6, 1888, . . . . .	111 50
February 8, 1888, . . . . .	64 00
March 15, 1888, . . . . .	91 00
May 4, 1888, . . . . .	112 50
“ 11, 1888, . . . . .	130 00
“ 18, 1888, . . . . .	86 00
“ 30, 1888, . . . . .	65 00
June 29, 1888, . . . . .	78 00
	<u>\$917 50</u>

Total amount in hands of State Treasurer, . . . . . \$925 93

*Drafts on State Treasurer.*

G. C. Cannon, engrossing certificates, . . . . .	\$5 38
Vox Populi Press, printing and stamps, . . . . .	20 50
S. A. D. Sheppard, stamps and ex., . . . . .	3 93
Winkley, Dresser & Co., stationery, . . . . .	3 35
Wright & Potter Printing Co., printing and stamps, . . . . .	43 78
Louis A. Curtis, canvassing city of Boston, . . . . .	25 91
F. H. Butler, express and postage, . . . . .	2 15
	<u>\$105 00</u>

H. M. Whitney, expenses,	§53 34	services,	\$120 00	
F. H. Butler,	92 20	"	242 50	
J. H. Manning,	63 50	"	55 00	
H. A. Estabrook,	29 65	"	40 00	
John Larrabee,	23 79	"	100 00	
Totals,	\$262 48		\$557 50	\$819 98
Total disbursements for the year,				\$924 98
Cash in hands of State Treasurer,				95
				<u>\$925 93</u>

## SUMMARY OF THREE YEARS' WORK.

*Receipts and Expenses.*

Total number of certificates issued to those in business on their own account, or who had three years of experience,	2,526
Total number examined,	478
"    "    rejected,	300
"    "    certificates granted after examination,	178
Total number of certificates issued,	2,704
Total amount cash received,	\$3,357 00
Disbursed as follows:—	
General expenses,	\$1,007 03
Travelling and hotel expenses of the Board,	677 27
Services of the Board, including clerical work of the Secretary,	1,671 75
In hands of State Treasurer,	95
	<u>\$3,357 00</u>

Vouchers for all above in full particulars may be found in the Auditor's office, at the State House.

Deducting from the \$1,671.75 received by the Board an estimated amount for the extra work of the Secretary of the Board, the annual average salary of each member would be about \$75. All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. M. WHITNEY, *President.*  
 HENRY A. ESTABROOK.  
 JOHN LARRABEE.  
 JOHN H. MANNING.  
 F. H. BUTLER, *Secretary.*

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY.

*Sections 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Chapter 313, Acts of 1885.*

SECTION 6. The Board shall keep a record of the names of all persons registered hereunder, and a record of all moneys received and disbursed by said Board, a duplicate whereof shall always be open to inspection in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. *Said Board shall annually report to the Governor, on or before the first day of January in each year, the condition of pharmacy in the State, which report shall contain a full and complete record of all its official acts during the year, and shall also contain a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Board.*

SECT. 7. It shall be the duty of the Board to investigate all complaints of disregard, non-compliance or violation of the provisions of this act, and to bring all such cases to the notice of the proper prosecuting officers.

SECT. 8. Every person who has received a certificate of registration from the Board shall *conspicuously display the same* in his place of business.

SECT. 9. Whoever not being registered as aforesaid shall, by himself or his agent or servant, unless such agent or servant is so registered, retail, compound for sale or dispense for medicinal purposes, drugs, medicines, chemicals or poisons, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars. But nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the employment of apprentices or assistants under the personal supervision of a registered pharmacist.

SECT. 10. This act shall not apply to physicians putting up their own prescriptions or dispensing medicines to their patients; nor to the sale of drugs, medicines, chemicals or poisons at wholesale only; nor to the manufacture and sale of patent and proprietary medicines; nor to the sale of non-poisonous domestic remedies usually sold by grocers or others; nor shall any member of a copartnership be liable to the penalties hereof if any other member of such copartnership is a registered pharmacist; *provided*, that

such non-registered member shall not retail, compound for sale or dispense for medicinal purposes, drugs, medicines, chemicals or poisons, except under the personal supervision of a registered pharmacist.

LAWRENCE, Aug. 8, 1888.

Mr.

DEAR SIR:—Your attention is called to above sections of the Pharmacy Act, and as the Board are required to make annual reports to the Governor of “the condition of Pharmacy in the State,” and that the report for 1888 may present as accurate information as possible, I am directed, by vote of the Board, to request you to answer the following questions, and to add such other information or suggestions bearing upon the subject as you may feel inclined to give the Board.

Your early attention and reply, not later than October 1st, is specially desired.

Respectfully,

H. M. WHITNEY,

*President of the Board of Registration in Pharmacy.*

City or Town of

188 .

(Sign here.)

1. It is reported that Certificates of Registration were obtained, under section 3, by many persons who had NOT HAD THREE CONSECUTIVE years of practical experience prior to Oct. 1, 1885. Several Certificates so obtained have been returned, and prosecution avoided. If you know or learn of any such cases of fraud, please consider it your special duty to report the facts at once.

2. How many drug stores in your city or town?

3. Total number of Certificates of Registration, including proprietors.

4. How many stores where the proprietor alone is registered?

5. If section 8 or 9 is violated in any way, please state name of firm, location and full particulars.

6. What is your opinion of the “Condition of Pharmacy” in your city or town, the effect of the law, and what changes are desirable, if any?