

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PHARMACY

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1925

DIVISION OF REGISTRATION

Mass. DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION : *Division*
of registration



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Boston, Mass., November 30, 1925

To WILLIAM F. CRAIG, *Director of Registration.*

SIR:—In compliance with statute the Board of Registration in Pharmacy herewith submits its Fortieth Annual Report for the year ending November 30, 1925.

Generally speaking, pharmacy as a business has prospered during the year. At the present time there are 1863 stores, 56 having been opened and 23 closed. This is an increase in the number of new stores opened and a decrease in the number closed, or a net increase of 33.

A portion of the public seems to believe that the drug store is a place where liquor may be obtained and that practically every drug store has a license to sell liquor, but as a matter of fact, as shown by the records, only 60% of the druggists in the State have licenses to sell liquor, and many of these dispense less than one prescription for liquor per day.

The Board has been giving much time to the carrying out of its duties as a quasi-judicial body. Many hearings have been held, resulting in ten suspensions of personal registration and sixteen suspensions of store permits. The majority of these hearings were based upon violations of the State liquor laws or Federal prohibition regulations.

While co-operating with Federal and police authorities, it has been the practice of this Board to weigh the evidence carefully, and in no instance to penalize a druggist unless, in its judgment, the case warranted such action. The exercise of the power to revoke a druggist's permit to conduct a drug store has proved most effective in preventing violations of the statutes. Druggists are beginning to realize that it is unwise to risk their right to do business by other than strict compliance with the liquor laws and Federal regulations. As druggists dealing with druggists, this Board considers that it is able to differentiate between the innocent and the guilty in a way not possible to a commission composed of persons not actually engaged in the drug business. Its decisions are made independently of those of the Federal authorities and the courts.

Any reported violation of the laws which relate to pharmacy is investigated, a formal complaint is filed and a hearing held. Fifty-five cases were heard on complaints based upon violations of the State liquor law and forty-three on Federal regulations. The State liquor law hearings followed convictions in court of illegal sale, keeping and exposing for sale or aiding and abetting such violations. The Federal cases followed revocations by the Prohibition Administrator of the Federal liquor permits on the basis principally of illegal possession of liquor and illegal sale. There have been several unusual complaints this year, for example, twenty-two druggists were heard on the charge of selling denatured alcohol without making the proper inquiry of the purchaser as to its intended use. These druggists had been convicted in court and their cases filed. These cases were also placed on file by this Board after being heard. Another complaint was based upon an unusual shortage of morphine tablets as discovered by the Board's agent in his routine inspection. Another case pertained to improper methods of selling poisons. The Board has also been instrumental in bringing before the courts unregistered persons who displayed drug store signs or sold drugs which could be sold lawfully only in registered drug stores. There were several convictions of such violations.

The Board has made an effort to keep druggists posted on the laws. Circulars have been sent to them calling attention to the statute as amended in 1924 relative to hypodermic needles and syringes, together with information relative to the sale of denatured alcohol. Letters of instruction have also been sent to persons operating unregistered stores directing them to eliminate from their stock paregoric and tincture of iodine, and giving them a list of the household remedies which are lawful for such stores to sell. Circulars are now on the press informing the druggists of a recent change in Federal regulations to the effect that after April 1, 1926, both the U. S. P. and "double strength" tinctures of ginger are to be classed as intoxicating liquors, and advising the druggists now to report their stock on hand.

The Board has been active in its examination work. 396 candidates having been examined for registration as Pharmacists and 174 as assistant pharmacists. This is an increase in the number applying for the Pharmacist's examination and a decrease in the number applying for the Assistant Examination. The Tenth Revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia has recently been completed, but owing to its late publication the Board will not commence to use it as the basis of examination until May 1, 1926 when it is believed that candidates will have had sufficient opportunity to become familiar with the changes in standards made therein.

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1925

Progress in pharmacy as a profession seems to demand college of pharmacy graduation for the registration of pharmacists. Drug store apprenticeship may or not prepare a candidate to practice pharmacy. If an apprentice works in a store where the registered proprietor has his interests at heart and he is given careful training along professional lines, such experience may be all that is desired, but if, however, as in too many cases, his experience is confined to the soda fountain and patent medicine counter, such training is incomplete, even if the apprentice crams into his mind enough superficially acquired, soon forgotten, isolated facts to succeed in "getting by" the examination. The Board holds that legislation making graduation from a recognized college of pharmacy a requirement for Pharmacist registration would more effectually safeguard the public and raise the standard of pharmacy in this State.

Respectfully submitted,

FREDERICK A. BRANDES.
President.

CHARLES W. KING.
Secretary.

JOHN M. KELLEHER.
WILLIAM R. ACHESON.
FREDERICK W. ARCHER.

With the passing of another year, the Board must part with a member for whom they cherish the highest regard. For five years John M. Kelleher, of New Bedford, has been a co-worker whose friendship has been greatly enjoyed by the other members. His loyalty to the principles of the Board has in no way lessened his popularity among the druggists of his district. His good judgment has been appreciated. He is loved and respected by all and will be greatly missed by the remaining members.

FREDERICK A. BRANDES.
CHARLES W. KING.
WILLIAM R. ACHESON.
FREDERICK W. ARCHER.

Meetings for examinations have been held on dates and with results as follows:—

EXAMINATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS PHARMACISTS.

	Number examined.	Number passed.
January 20	42	21
March 24	62	28
April 21	58	16
May 21	55	22
June 18	60	18
September 29	61	8
November 5	58	15
	396	128

EXAMINATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS ASSISTANT.

February 17	56	31
May 22	64	35
September 22	54	12
	174	78

Of the 128 candidates who passed the examination for registration as Pharmacists,—

27 passed in 1st examination	7 passed on 6th examination
37 passed on 2nd	5 passed on 7th
23 passed on 3rd	1 passed on 8th
12 passed on 4th	1 passed on 9th
11 passed on 5th	4 passed on 10th

Of the 78 candidates who passed the examinations for registration as Assistants,—

12 passed on 1st examination
25 passed on 2nd
6 passed on 3rd
3 passed on 4th
1 passed on 5th
1 passed on 7th

Of the 128 candidates who passed the examination for registration as pharmacists, 88 had attended some recognized college of pharmacy, and 66 of this number were graduates thereof.

Of the 78 candidates who passed the examinations for registration as Assistants, 43 had attended some recognized college of pharmacy and 18 of this number were graduates thereof.

Certificates of registration have been granted by reciprocity as follows:—

- 3 registered from Maine.
- 6 registered from New Hampshire.
- 2 registered from Vermont.
- 1 registered from Kentucky.
- 1 registered from Illinois.

(Net Receipts)

FEES TRANSMITTED TO TREASURER OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

2497 permits at \$5	\$12,485.00
870 liquor certificates at \$5	4,350.00
196 examinations (first examination) at \$5	980.00
443 examinations (re-examination) at \$3	1,329.00
17 registration by reciprocity at \$10	170.00
5 duplicate certificates of registration at \$5	25.00
41 certified statements at \$1	41.00

Total fees

\$19,380.00

Bank interest

14.60

Total payments to Treasurer

\$19,394.60

EXPENDITURES

Salaries of the Board	\$3,771.78
Salary of the Agent	2,160.00
Traveling and office expenses	5,532.02

\$11,463.80

APPROPRIATIONS

Salaries of the Board	\$3,800.00
Salary of the Agent	2,160.00
Traveling and office expenses:—	

Appropriation, fiscal year \$5,200.00
 Additional credit 364.13

5,564.13

\$11,524.13

SUMMARY

Meetings:—	
For examination	10
For hearings	41
Total number of meetings	51

Hearings:—	
Relative to cases based upon court convictions	55
Relative to cases based on Federal permit revocations	43
Relative to violations reported by the agent upon investigation of stores	0
Relative to malpractice (complaints by citizens)	3
Relative to applications for reciprocity, permits, etc.	69
Total number of hearings	179

Findings:—	
Drug store permits revoked	2
Drug store permits suspended	14
Personal registration certificates revoked	1
Personal registration certificates suspended	9
Liquor certificates revoked	7
Number of permits refused—not granted at any later date	16
Number of liquor certificates refused—not granted at any later date ..	40
Number of respondents placed on probation after hearing	24

Respectfully,
 CHARLES W. KING,
Secretary.