

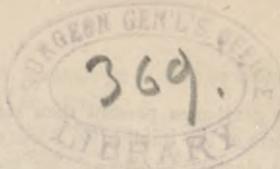
Plan for the organization  
of a Homœop. pub. Soc. x x

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# Plan for the organization of a Homœop. Pub. Soc. . .



## PLAN FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF A HOMŒOPATHIC PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

(Reprinted from *The American Homœopathic Review*, July, 1864.

[At a Meeting of Homœopathic Physicians held at Philadelphia, June 1st, 1864, the following plan for a Homœopathic Publication Society was adopted.]

The undersigned unite in organizing a Society, to be styled the "Homœopathic Publication Society."

1. The object of this Society shall be to facilitate and secure the publication of standard homœopathic works.
2. Homœopathic physicians, members of the American Institute of Homœopathy, of the Western Institute of Homœopathy, or of any State or County Homœopathic Medical Society, may become members of this Society on payment of the sum of One Dollar.
3. The officers of the Society shall be two Secretaries, one for the East and one for the West, a Treasurer and an Executive Council of five members, the chairman of which shall preside at the annual meeting of the society.  
These officers shall be elected every three years, by ballot and by proxy and shall hold office until their successors are elected.
4. The fund resulting from the payment of fees by members shall be held by the treasurer to defray expenses of correspondence, &c., subject to the order of the executive council. The treasurer shall report to the yearly meeting.
5. Works prepared for publication may be submitted by the authors to the Executive Council, which shall report upon the works by circular to the members of the society. Works not accepted by the Executive Council may be presented to the society at its yearly meeting, and be by it referred to a special committee, which shall act, with regard to this work, in the capacity of the Executive Council.
6. When the Executive Council, or a special committee, as above provided, shall have accepted a work presented to them, they shall issue and circulate among the profession by means of the journals, or through the mails, or both, a prospectus of the work thus endorsed and accepted, stating its plan and scope and inviting subscriptions.
7. With this endorsement of the work, and with the subscriptions obtained in response to these invitations, the work shall be returned to the author that arrangements may be made by him for its publication.

The gentlemen present then signed the aforesaid document and became members of the Publication Society.

The election of offices being now in order, it was agreed that, inasmuch as the number of members present was very small in comparison with the number who might be expected to join as soon as the plan should be made public, the election should be for provisional officers, to hold office only until a general meeting should be convened after due public notice.

An election was then held for provisional officers, with the following results:—

*Executive Council*,—Drs. C. Hering, A. Lippe, P. P. Wells, H. N. Guernsey, C. W. Boyce. *Secretaries*,—For the East, Dr. Carroll Dunham; for the West, Dr. E. M. Hale. *Treasurer*,—Dr. Henry M. Smith.

The society then adjourned subject to the call of the provisional executive council. It is understood that the opening of the course of lectures in the Philadelphia Homœopathic College will be celebrated with ceremonies of unusual interest, and that Homœopaths throughout the country will be invited to attend; that this opportunity will be taken by the provisional executive council of the Publication Society to call a meeting of the members for the election of permanent officers and the commencement of business. Meanwhile, in order to bring the matter before the profession, and to invite the participation of homœopathic physicians throughout the country, the Executive Council issue the following

#### CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR,—At a meeting of Homœopathic Physicians held in the city of Philadelphia; June 1, 1864, it was

Resolved, That the want of good and reliable English literature on the subject of Homœopathy is generally felt; and that, to meet this want and to further the progress of our school, it is desirable to establish, at once, a Publication Society.

The physicians present formed a temporary organization, and elected a provisional board of officers, whose duty it is to call upon you, as one of the profession, and invite you to become a member of this Publication Society.

Members of the American Institute of Homœopathy, or of the Western Institute, or of any State or County Medical Society, may become members of the Publication Society by sending their names to the Secretary of the East, Dr. Carroll Dunham, 68 East 12th St., New York, or to the Secretary for the West, Dr. E. M. Hale, Chicago, Ill., and by remitting to the Treasurer, Dr. Henry M. Smith, 484 Broadway, New York, the sum of one dollar.

As soon as a sufficient number of members shall have joined to guarantee the success of permanent organization, each member will be notified by invitation to participate in the permanent organization of the society and in the election of permanent officers. At these elections members vote by ballot. If unable to attend the meeting in person, a member may vote by proxy. The officers will be elected for the term of three years, and will consist of one Treasurer, two Secretaries, one for the East and one for the West, and an Executive Council of five members.

The Executive Council will examine such manuscript as may be offered for publication, and will accept and endorse it, or reject it.

If a work be accepted, it will at once be announced to the members of the society, and this announcement will be accompanied by a request for a subscription for the work at a stated price. When a sufficiently large subscription list shall have been obtained, the manuscript with the endorsement of the executive council and the subscription list will be returned to the author, who can then make his own terms with the publisher.

If the manuscript should be rejected it will be returned to the author. But should the author be a member of the society, he shall have the right to present his manuscript again at the next annual meeting and to have it referred to a special committee.

Among other works which it is contemplated soon to publish is a complete and correctly translated *Materia Medica*.

(Signed,)

CONSTANTINE HERING,	} <i>Prov. Ex. Council.</i>
AD. LIPPE,	
P. P. WELLS,	
C. W. BOYCE,	
H. N. GUERNSEY,	
E. M. HALE, Prov. Sec'y. for West,	
CARROLL DUNHAM, Prov. Sec'y. for East,	
HENRY M. SMITH, Prov. Treasurer.	

Philadelphia, June 25, 1864.

It is most earnestly hoped that this effort may result in the publication of works of solid merit and correct execution—works on which the practitioners may rest in confidence that their statements are correct, and that they comprise all that is known on the subject. To this end it is necessary that physicians throughout the country give their hearty support to the enterprise. The only payment required is the initiation fee of One Dollar to defray the expenses of correspondence, circulars, etc. When a work is ready for publication and accepted, members will be called upon to subscribe for it at a stated price. No such call will be made unless the work is actually ready for the press. Those who are familiar with the studies in *Materia Medica*, which Dr. Hering has been making for thirty years past, who know the extent which he has gathered and collated all that is known of our remedies, adding to what has been already published in books and journals, vast quantities of observations never yet made public—who know, too, that in no other way save through the medium of a publishing society is this treasury of knowledge likely ever to be opened to us—will most gladly take part in the permanent organization of this Publication Society.

It may not be improper to state that the first part of Dr. Hering's work is now prepared for the press, and will be laid before the executive council as soon as permanent officers shall have been elected. How soon this will be must depend on the alacrity with which homœopathic physicians respond to the invitation to become members of the Society.

C. DUNHAM, M.D., *Secretary.*

PROPOSAL TO PUBLISH A STANDARD WORK ON MATERIA MEDICA.—The original observations on which our materia medica is based, the results of provings as well as the results of practice, are scattered about in our literature. Since Hahnemann gave us his "Arzneimittellehre" in six volumes, and its continuation in the four volumes of his "Chronic Diseases," no larger work has appeared; and after Hahnemann's death no new edition of any of his works was published.

In the meantime Homœopathy has had a great number of journals, besides hundreds of smaller and larger works; has spread from Germany to France and Italy, to England and Spain, and has particularly been adopted by thousands in America. Provings have been made, and re-provings (*nachprüfungen*); but all these valuable observations are scattered about in journals and books. The difficulty which homœopathic practitioners experienced in getting "posted up," increased from year to year until it became an impossibility.

Extracts took the place of the original and complete reports of provings; the period of Jahr, Noak and Trinks, Possart and the period of repertories set in.

The intention of all such books was to enable physicians to find, for each case before them, the nearest corresponding medicine, as the one which would most likely cure. They not only collected what was scattered and inaccessible except to the few; they also shortened and condensed. They aimed to make it easier, but in this the same mistake was made that physicians make in ordering the extract of a pound of flesh, supposing that, if swallowed, it would give the same nourishment as the same pound of flesh properly prepared, cut, chewed and gradually digested by the stomach. It never will do such a thing, and never has done it. Besides that, the experience of the last twenty-five years has more than sufficiently proved, not only how incomplete and inefficient all such books are, but also, how injurious to our art. The period may have been a necessary one, an intermediate transition state of our art, but it has decidedly not favored mastership in the materia medica of our school.

All such books were shorter, and of course ought to have saved time; but, on the contrary, it took more time to find in them what we wanted. A large dictionary, well arranged, saves time, while with a condensed smaller one we lose time by fruitless search.

All such books seemed also cheaper, but still our literature became more and more expensive through them; when editors and publishers made arrangements to save a few dollars in the printing of them—for instance by letting the symptoms run on in the same line, or by a horrible number of abbreviations—our eyes and our minds were tortured by using such books, and we not only lost time, but even our willingness to look over the mass, and to compare and become familiar with what is the most important in our art, i. e. with the minutiae.

Whereas our eyes could glide over the large number of symptoms, if singly printed, with the same ease with which a bird, soaring in the air, views the

field and its furrows, we *now* stumble along and totter about, more like turtles ashore or terrapins on ploughed ground; and when once we fall on our back it is hard work to get upon our feet again.

But the worst of all is the dependence in which we are placed. We depend upon the views and notions of the individual who prepared the extract. We are, in this respect, like birds caged in and hung up against the wall, to be fed with whatever our master pleases to let us have.

A Homœopathician will never learn to master the *materia medica*, overlooking and commanding the whole, as a general does the regiments of his army, as long as he is dependent on such extracts.

Thus it is a large work that we need, containing all that has been obtained thus far, and as complete as it can possibly be made, spacioſly printed, arranged for the eyes, facilitating the operation of the mind through them, and enabling everyone to look over it quickly and with ease, and to find particulars when wanted.

Having been engaged for the last twenty-five years, by daily additions and arrangements, in the preparation of such a work, we presume that the main objection—in fact the only one—to publishing it, might be the high price.

Books for everybody are cheap; books for a minority, and therefore for physicians in general, must bring a higher price; books only for a minority among the physicians, consequently, the highest. Thus no publisher could undertake a work of such extent. The only way is to do without a publisher, to have it printed for subscribers, and at their expense, and in order to avoid all risk, the first edition of at least five hundred, if possible one thousand copies, to such only as prepay. This will make it one of the cheapest books of its kind. Thus, under the following

**CONDITIONS.** Every subscriber giving his full name and residence, and paying in advance not less than five dollars, receives a check, and for every additional five dollars a separate check. For such checks every agent of the work is bound to give to bearer, at any time when presented, as many sheets of the work as have been printed after the date of said check, for *cost price*, free by mail, in the form of a journal or newspaper. Said *cost price* consists of one per thousand, or in case of a smaller number of subscribers, one and a half or two per thousand of (the cost of) stereotyping the plates for each sheet, and the price of paper and printing, and the mailing of it by sheets. If binding is ordered, the original cost of the same is added. An account of expenses in full is to be given on the cover.

Every subscriber will receive as many sheets as are paid for in advance, and a notification of the period when his subscription runs out. No credit to be given, not even to the publisher himself, who must pay in advance for every copy he wants besides the proof sheets.

No free copies shall be sent to editors or publishers. The trade price afterwards is to be double the cost price, the plates and copyright becoming the property of the editor. Every subscriber is invited to send by mail, in legible letters, his views, propositions and preferences; every such letter will be duly acknowledged and answered on the cover.

Additions from trustworthy colabourers are welcome, and will be added;

contributors receive a fee after the publication of the work is secured, by checks for the work, not cash.

**THE PLAN OF THE WORK.** The work will be published in monographs, the main medicines and those most proved each in a separate volume, and the clinical experience given separately.

The smaller, less known medicines are to be given in families and the clinical observations united with the symptoms in the same schema. When the smaller provings make it desirable, the symptoms of several families with their more or less known drugs shall be placed together in one volume. The main rule shall be to publish what is ready for the press as soon as the money for printing has been advanced. As nearly as possible the order is to be the following: a chemical drug, a plant and drug of animal origin, alternately, and in each kingdom to follow the natural order.

The whole work will, even in a few years, show, like the map of a newly discovered world, how far our explanations have been extended and what still remains for us to do.

The first number will contain the schema, fully elaborated, in German and English, serving as a key to the whole work and at the same time as a glossary to settle all the difficulties of translation. As the majority of provings thus far were originally written in German, and as now the majority of homœopathic physicians speak the English tongue, it has been thought best to use both languages in opposite columns, facilitating at the same time a familiarity with both languages.

The first volume will contain Sulphur, all the symptoms given by Hahne-  
mann, by the Austrian provers and others, arranged according to the schema-like all other drugs afterwards.

As another series of monographs, which will be separately announced as soon as a sufficient number of colaborers are secured to be able to continue the publication with an equal promptitude to that which can be promised in regard to the first series, a history of each of our proved drugs will be given, in the manner first introduced by Dr. Stapf and afterwards adopted by Dr. Franz, Dr. Seidel, Dr. Noak and particularly by the Austrian provers; a history containing the introduction of the drug into *Materia Medica*, its application according to the different opinions of the older schools and cases of poisoning, if there are such, etc. To this will be annexed all the day-books of the provers as far as they can possibly be obtained.

Such a work would be a real basis to *Materia Medica*, as a science, in the same measure as our first series will be the basis of our art as an art of healing.

*e/* **REPERTORY.** A repertory according to the same schema has also been in preparation for several years, based upon the manuscript of the *Materia Medica*, and shall be printed in parts according to the main divisions; the first part, containing the mental symptoms, will be arranged by Dr. Raue as the most efficient colaborer in this psychological part, and shall be printed as soon as finished. It will be considered as belonging to the *Materia Medica* and will be sent to all the subscribers without further notice. Notwithstand-

ing the high prices at this moment, the work may be delivered to the first thousand prepaying subscribers, in the large dictionary size, like Allibone's Biographical Dictionary, at an approximately (not binding) estimated cost of one sheet for ten or fifteen cents; for five dollars prepaid the subscriber may receive at least thirty, or if the number of subscribers amount to one thousand or if paper becomes cheaper, as many as fifty sheets. Renewing the subscriptions once or twice every year, within a few years every subscriber will be in possession of the completest work on *Materia Medica* which has ever appeared, and of which the trade price may be very nearly one hundred dollars.

A homœopathic practitioner will not be considered as fitted out for his profession without this work.

CONSTANTINE HERING.

*Philadelphia*, July 4th, 1864.

[*American Homœopathic Review*, August, 1864.]





