

important task. Upon its success may be said to rest the future of the ASSOCIATION. I urge them to join hands in this new endeavor.

In conclusion, let me pay my deep personal tribute to Doctor Kelly and Editor Eberle for their untiring efforts in behalf of this ASSOCIATION. Only those permitted to work intimately with them can know their fine loyalty, their inspiring devotion, and the high ideals they bring to their tasks. Pharmacy, in its widest phases, has cause for congratulations because of the earnest work these men are carrying on. May they live long, and enjoy the blessings of good health and happiness!

To the ASSOCIATION and its membership, collectively and individually, I express my sincere thanks for the confidence and trust reposed in me. To head this great ASSOCIATION, even for a brief period, is to enjoy the greatest distinction within the power of pharmacy to bestow. To have been thus honored at your hands will ever remain my most cherished memory.

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#### ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

BY P. H. COSTELLO.

*To the Members of the House of Delegates of the American Pharmaceutical Association:*

A welcome opportunity, it is for us who are interested in the welfare and progress of American pharmacy, to figuratively join hands once again at this annual meeting of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION here in Washington.

Members of a great profession devoted to the service of humanity, we, who are gathered here, hold a keen interest in national developments not only as they affect us as patriotic and loyal American citizens but, and naturally so, as they touch upon the course of our own profession. Representing individual pharmacists in this changing order our ASSOCIATION must do its part. Let us hope, therefore, that this meeting in our Capital City will bring about a better appreciation and understanding of the value of Pharmacy and the great purpose it serves.

We can now point with a great deal of pride to our headquarters building, *The American Institute of Pharmacy*, located in this city. It is a monumental achievement. It is entirely fitting and appropriate that an organization, such as ours, should have as its headquarters a building such as this, and it is also proper that it should be located in the Capital. The past several months should show the wisdom of the new location of our headquarters because events, which affect all of us, have been happening daily here in Washington with lightning-like rapidity. Any other location would have proven a mistake and a handicap to our future welfare and progress.

It is a privilege, possibly it may become a distinction, for those who have availed themselves of this opportunity, to be present at the dedication of our building during this convention. The founders of the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION intended the organization should carry on. Possibly they visualized some of the progress and achievements that were to come, but it is hard to assume

any one of them ever dreamed of an organization such as we now have with a headquarters building of our own in this city. It should be an inspiration to us, but probably more, and let us sincerely hope so, that it may prove to be the beginning of a new era for Pharmacy. This will depend upon ourselves.

It has been said, and the statement remains unchallenged, that the AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has promoted the highest principles of professional pharmacy for more than eighty years. In this regard, it is our good fortune the organization has succeeded in a fair measure to accomplish what it set out to do. To rest on our oars now, satisfied with the accomplishment thus far, would gain us nothing. Nor can we long continue to maintain the prestige of our profession unless we are guided by past experience and make it possible for ourselves to render a greater service in the future.

At present we find many conflicts of thought, ideas and endeavors among pharmacists, evidenced most notably by their public expressions. What is more significant is the extreme differences of their opinions and viewpoints. Ours is a very complex profession when one considers all phases of pharmacy and pharmaceutical activity. Whether we are to strive for the higher professional attainments alone, or whether we shall seek to bring all the conflicting groups together for a more united and stronger pharmacy under one association, the future will decide. Any program that is not all-inclusive, or neglects the welfare of some, will fail.

During the last few years we have been led to believe that a large majority of the more than fifty thousand drug stores in the nation have suffered from one cause or another. It is not strange at this time that a majority of retailers are mostly concerned with their economic welfare, fair trade practices and profit. Codes and commercial problems are their first concern and their plight cannot be ignored by any organized group of pharmacists. Upon their success to emerge from their dilemma depends not only their own welfare, but also that of many more employed pharmacists. The failure to stabilize retail pharmacy will result in its downfall.

Even between the separate national organizations, there must be coöperation. There can be no distinction or classification in Pharmacy. One may be able to render a higher type and a more skilled professional service in an exclusive prescription laboratory than is possible in some remote area in an ordinary drug store. Just as those employed in the first instance are especially qualified and equipped, the owner of a pharmacy in the remote region may not be. Yet each renders a pharmaceutical service, and the service rendered by the latter may be quite as valuable to those depending upon him as in the former case. We may adopt minimum standards for equipment, as we have adopted minimum qualifications for pharmacists and minimum standards for drugs; but such a forward step should not deny any community the type of pharmacy it can support and maintain.



P. H. COSTELLO.

I desire to quote from a tribute paid to pharmacists by the Governor of my state in his last Pharmacy week proclamation:

"This is a profession which quietly, and without what we know in our modern vernacular as 'ballyhoo,' has devoted itself to the preservation of the nation's health; the profession which numbers among its followers some of the real heroes of contemporary history.

"When I say 'heroes' I mean the druggist in the little Arkansas town who was called upon by his fellow-citizens to join them in taking to the hills, while the flooding waters of the Mississippi swirled on the floor of his store. This druggist's answer was to move his medicines to the higher shelves and lay a new floor composed of boards laid from counter to counter. The people needed medicines, and he stood by, preserving them from the greedy river.

"I mean the pharmacists, numberless, who during the great 'flu' scourge, abandoned sleep to stand unseen in the back of their stores to fill the unprecedented rush of prescriptions. There is no doubt but that a great number of them sacrificed not only health, but life, in so doing.

"I mean, also, and perhaps with even warmer gratitude, because I have been closest to him, the small-town druggist who has helped so materially to build up North Dakota; the kindly citizen who stands ready to do anything, from dispensing cough syrup to giving ether while the country doctor performs an emergency operation.

"Millionaire philanthropists are lauded in headlines every time they part with one of their many millions to endow a college or camp. Some day, I hope to see in the biggest, blackest type there exists a list of those pharmacists whose fortunes were slowly, unspectacularly, dissipated in the form of little bottles of cough syrup and croup vaporizers to save the lives of babies whose parents were too poorly paid, and often too harassed to even give thanks."

Among the delegates to this body, and members in attendance at this convention, are most of the leaders of Pharmacy. I am confident they have given, and will continue to give, their best in a fearless and sincere effort to carry out a sensible policy and program that will enable Pharmacy to progress. And may each one of us take home with us from this convention something of value to our state and local associations.

In closing, I want you to know I am not unmindful of, nor ungrateful for the honor and privilege you have bestowed in permitting me to serve as Chairman of the House of Delegates this past year. I deeply appreciate it. Thank you.

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#### ABSTRACT OF PAPER, SCIENTIFIC SECTION, A. PH. A.

"Further Studies on Psyllium (illustrated with lantern)," by H. W. Youngken.

Plants with mature fruiting spikes and seeds were obtained by the author from growers of commercial Psyllium seed in Spain and France, identified by comparison with authentic herbarium sheets and authoritative descriptions in the literature. The seeds were separated from these and compared with commercial lots of Psyllium on the American market, thus permitting certain identification.

The seeds of *Plantago Psyllium*, *Plantago arenaria* and *Plantago Cynops* are compared as to physical characteristics, histological details, relative weight and mucilage swelling capacity.

It was found that most of the samples of commercial Spanish Psyllium examined by the author were yielded by *Plantago Psyllium*, a few by *P. arenaria*, that most of the recent French Psyllium samples were yielded by *Plantago arenaria*, a number of *P. Psyllium*, while occasional lots represented varying mixtures of *P. Psyllium*, *P. arenaria* and *P. Cynops*. It was also ascertained that the seed of *Plantago lanceolata*, described by the author in a previous article is being offered to the American trade both as Spanish Psyllium and German Psyllium as well as torrefied abroad and mixed with untorrefied seed of *Plantago arenaria* and offered in this combination to the French and American trade as French or Black Psyllium Seed.