

L. E. SAYRE.

I have been obliged to depend upon the United States Government and upon the gentlemen who have interested themselves in raising medicinal plants, in order to get authentic material for experimental work, and I want to say one of the best things which the United States Government has done with regard to that has been to stimulate an interest in this subject and to give us, who are in the educational institutions, material which we can operate with.

Do not be discouraged if ninety-nine percent are failures. I heard a paper read by one of the best business men in the country the other day in which he said that from seventy-five to ninety percent of the business men were failures, and he proved that by statistics. Nevertheless, do not be discouraged. I advised a young man to raise golden seal some five years ago, and to-day on a half-acre farm he is making two thousand dollars a year.

W. W. STOCKBERGER.

I wish to say one more word, I think we must protect from the results of their ignorance the impecunious man or woman who can not afford to invest even five dollars in a small quantity of seed and then get nothing from it. On the other hand, it is the duty of the educational institutions to carry out experimental work in their drug gardens since the facts secured will ultimately have great value for the people in the locality where the garden is located, and thus a double purpose will have been accomplished. I should like to see a great big drug garden in connection with every School of Pharmacy, and to act on Dr. Lloyd's suggestion and begin to work out individual problems. Nobody will try to rob you, Dr. Lyman, of any part of the field of work which you are so splendidly developing and I must say that no word that I have heard for a long time sounds so good to me as Dr. Lyman's statement that the drug garden is the problem of the School of Pharmacy.

---

#### WAR EMERGENCY FORMULAS.

Under above caption F. A. Upsher Smith presents, in the *Northwestern Druggist* for February, the timely subject of displacing glycerin and sugar in many of the preparations of the U. S. P. and N. F., and suggests work of investigation relating thereto. The statement made, "that allowing 50 pounds of glycerin and 500 pounds of sugar for each of the 40,000 drug stores per year, we arrive at an estimated yearly consumption of two million pounds of glycerin and twenty million pounds of sugar," is sufficient for emphasizing the possibility of conservation. In the January issue of the *JOURNAL OF THE A. PH. A.* will be found a related article by Prof. Curt P. Wimmer.

Mr. Smith has brought the matter to the attention of the U. S. P. Revision Committee and the N. F. Committee. A War Emergency Addendum to the *British Pharmaceutical Codex* has been published, containing formulas for the preparations in which glycerin and sugar have wholly or in part been displaced. There are many preparations of the U. S. P. and N. F. in which sugar and glycerin are employed because under normal conditions, no base, solvent or adjuvant is better or more economical; war-time conditions have changed this phase, and the proposition is now presented from the view point of conservation, provided the medicinal value of the active constituents is maintained.

Unfortunately, no one can foretell the duration of the war. France and Italy, before the war, were nearly self-supporting relative to sugar; the United States, Canada and England were importing countries. It has been determined that during this year the United States must cut down its consumption by 15 percent. Relative to glycerin, the situation is perhaps more serious. We lacked in preparedness for the war; we now know that if the war continues the shortage of the two important products mentioned will become more pronounced and presents the timely question of preparation for the emergency. There are question that will be involved in the proposition, namely, official recognition of the *succedanea*, and standards for the same.

The subject should be discussed in Branch meetings, by local associations, and in joint meetings of physicians and pharmacists. Care should be used in selecting substitutes so that no shortage will be created of these products, as this would only be a shift instead of relief.