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HENRY MILTON WHELPLEY, M.D., PH.M.

Henry Milton Whelpley was born at Harmonia, Mich., May 24, 1861, and is the eldest of six children, four boys and two girls, all of whom are still living.

His father, paternal grandfather and several collateral relatives were physicians. One of his brothers also entered the medical profession.

His early education was received at the Cobden, Ill., grammar school, where he was noted for special proficiency in mental arithmetic, and at the Otsego, Mich., high school, from which he graduated in 1880 with first honors in mathematics. During his high school course he made his home with his maternal uncle, Dr. Milton Chase, of Otsego, and read Gray's "Anatomy" and Dalton's "Physiology," also accompanying his uncle on his visits to patients and to witness surgical operations.

Even in those early days the major activities of his life work were foreshadowed by the nature of his collateral employments. During his high school course he was successively treasurer and president of the Otsego High School Lyceum, a reporter for the *Otsego Union*, editor of the *Otsego High School News*, and in his senior year taught algebra to the sophomore class.

He was also an enthusiastic member of the high school theatrical troupe, which gave performances in nearby villages and country schools, and it is related that at these exhibitions he played the rôle of ruffian and heavy villain with great success.

Notwithstanding his busy round of student duties he still found time to indulge his predilection for outdoor life, helped to catch sturgeon in log traps, and had at least one experience in the trapping of the now extinct wild pigeon, which then was still abundant.

His first practical experience in pharmacy was in the drug store of Dr. Charles Gaylord of Otsego, where he spent his vacations from high school. He began his studies by the organoleptic testing of the drug stock, and still has a lively recollection of the sensory impressions resulting when he sampled the contents of the shelf bottle bearing the label Aq. Ammon. He also had the other usual adventures of the pharmaceutical apprentice, such as filling the Aromatic Sulphuric Acid bottle from the stock bottle of Sulphuric Acid, placing powdered extract of glycyrrhiza in the receptacle intended for the powdered root, etc.

In the intervals between sweeping floors, washing bottles, and powdering crude drugs in an iron mortar he studied Proctor's "Lectures on Pharmacy" and Parrish's "Treatise on Pharmacy," and read the *Druggists' Circular* and the *American Journal of Pharmacy*.

After graduation from high school he returned to Cobden, Ill., to take charge of the Egyptian Pharmacy, where he remained until he resigned to enter the St. Louis College of Pharmacy at the beginning of the session of 1881.

Here he was selected by Prof. Charles O. Curtman to act as student assistant in chemistry, and, in addition to the required studies of the junior year, carried all the optional work and took private instruction in microscopy, and at the end of the year led his class with a general average grade of 99%. He repeated his success during the senior year, leading the class with a general average grade of 98%, and was awarded the gold medal for senior scholarship.

Following his graduation in pharmacy in 1883 he took charge of a drug store at Mine LaMotte, Missouri, but returned to St. Louis in 1884 to become the pharmaceutical editor of the *St. Louis Druggist*, and, when that publication became *The National Druggist*, was made editor in chief, which position he retained until January 1888, when he became manager and editor of *Meyer Brothers' Druggist*.

Contemporaneous with his return to St. Louis to do editorial work he accepted a teaching position in the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, and has been officially connected with the college ever since.

In addition to his editorial and teaching duties he matriculated in the Missouri Medical College, from which he graduated in 1890 with first honors in a class of 115 members.

A partial roster of Dr. Whelpley's teaching and professional activities in pharmacy and medicine is as follows:

In the course of his 37 years' connection with the St. Louis College of Pharmacy he has been successively quiz master in materia medica and chemistry, assistant in the microscopical laboratory, professor of microscopy, professor of pharmacognosy and director of the microscopical laboratory, and dean of the faculty since 1904.

Following his graduation in medicine a portion of his time has been devoted to the teaching of medical students. In the Missouri Medical College he was successively lecturer on materia medica and pharmacy, professor of physiology and histology, director of the biological laboratory, secretary of the faculty and member of the executive committee, and when the Missouri Medical College was merged into the Medical Department of Washington University, became professor of materia medica and pharmacy. He has also served as professor of physiology and secretary of the faculty of the St. Louis Post Graduate School of Medicine, and as professor of materia medica and pharmacy in the Missouri Dental College.

At various times he has made editorial or other contributions to the *Medical Fortnightly*, *Medical Standard*, *Pacific Pharmacist*, *Pharmaceutical Era*, *Western Druggist*, *Bulletin of Pharmacy*, *Pharmaceutical Record*, *American Druggist*, *California Druggist*, and to numerous lay publications. He is the author of "Curtman's Chemical Lecture Notes" (4 editions), "Therapeutic Terms" (2 editions), and was one of the editors of "One Hundred Years of Medicine and Surgery" in St. Louis.

Among miscellaneous activities, he served as a member of the Auxiliary Committee of the World's Columbian Congress of Pharmacists in 1893, and as a member of the International Jury of Award of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904, for which last service he was awarded a medal and diploma by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. The Philippine Insular Government also conferred upon him a medal and diploma for service in behalf of the Philippine Exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

His society and association memberships are numerous. He has been elected to honorary membership in a dozen or more of State pharmaceutical associations. He is a life member of the Alumni Associations, respectively, of the Medical Department of Washington University and of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy and

also holds life membership in the Missouri Pharmaceutical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Institute of Archaeology, and the American Pharmaceutical Association. Among other professional and scientific associations of which he is a member are the St. Louis Academy of Science, of Missouri Press Association, St. Louis Biological Society, St. Louis Medical Society, Engleman Botanical Club, St. Louis Microscopical Society, St. Louis Naturalists' Club, St. Louis Natural History and Museum Association, St. Louis Society of Pedagogy, St. Louis Public Museum, State Microscopical Society of Illinois, Washington University Association, American Medical Association, American Medical Editors' Association, American Microscopical Association, American Chemical Society, etc. He is an associate member of the Chicago Veteran Druggists' Association, has been a member of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties since its organization and served as its president in 1905-06, and has filled numerous official positions in the other societies named.

Dr. Whelpley's chief diversion has been the study of American Archaeology and Anthropology, which naturally has led him to membership in numerous societies related to these subjects, among which are the Alabama Anthropological Society, Cahokia Mound Association, the Historical Societies of Illinois and Missouri, International Society of Archaeologists, Missouri Folk Lore Society, Wisconsin Archaeological Society, Missouri Archaeological Survey, and the Mississippi Valley Historical Society. He has made a special study of the culture of the American Indian, and has a cabinet of approximately one thousand lantern slides relating to the Indians and American archaeology, and the largest private collection ever made of Indian flint, stone and hematite implements. His collection of hematites is altogether unique as to number, variety and finish of the implements it embraces.

Dr. Whelpley's ability as a writer and speaker has caused him to be in wide demand as a speaker at public functions. He has visited and delivered addresses before many State pharmaceutical meetings and at numerous college commencements, and has also delivered addresses on the American Indian before many scientific, historical and educational organizations.

He was Secretary of the United States Pharmacopoeial Convention for the decade 1900 to 1910, has been a member of the Board of Trustees since 1903, and Secretary of the Board of Trustees since 1910.

He is a member of Alpha Kappa Phi Chapter of Nu Sigma Nu Fraternity, of Tuscan Lodge F. & A. M., St. Louis Chapter R. A. M., of Tuscan Chapter D. E. S., and of St. Louis Lodge I. O. O. F. No. 5.

He is a member of the City Club, Contemporary Club, and University Club, all of St. Louis; is a Unitarian in religion, and is frequently a Republican in politics.

He was married in 1892 to Miss Laura Eugenia Spannagle of St. Louis. Mrs. Whelpley has taken a sympathetic interest in her husband's many activities, has been his assistant in his numerous secretarial duties, and to her artistic abilities is due the exquisite coloring of the doctor's many lantern slides of American Indians, archaeology, and of A. Ph. A. celebrities. She has been active in dramatic and social organizations of St. Louis, and always accompanies the doctor to the meetings of the A. Ph. A. They have no children.

After several visits to the meetings of the A. Ph. A. as reporter to the pharmaceutical press Dr. Whelpley joined the Association in 1887, and has been in attendance at every meeting since, from opening session until adjournment, a record probably unequalled by any other member.

He was elected to the Council in 1890 and has been a member of that body either by reelection or *ex-officio* ever since; served as Secretary of the Council from 1902 until 1908, when he was elected to the treasurership to which latter position he declined reelection at the New Orleans meeting in 1921. His contri-

butions to the annual proceedings have been numerous and varied, and he has rendered almost constant service upon association committees or as an officer of the Sections. He was Local Secretary for the St. Louis meeting, 1901, and President of the Association during the Golden Jubilee Year, 1901-1902.

During his term as Treasurer the active and invested funds of the Association have been increased from less than \$50,000 to more than \$100,000.

In reviewing Dr. Whelpley's professional and other activities one is amazed at the prodigious amount of work he has been able to accomplish, an amount of work that ordinarily would occupy the activities of half a dozen men who would consider themselves reasonably diligent.

To a natural aptitude for secretarial and executive functions he has joined the faculty of systematic application of effort, a serious and rigid sense of duty, and the habit of keeping everlastingly at it.

His work has been that of an organizer and builder. Instead of futile and barren criticism of men and methods he has contributed constructively to the scientific and professional institutions of his State and city and of the nation, to their lasting betterment.

The full measure of his varied services to the American Pharmaceutical Association can only be realized by those who have been privileged to work with him in past years. Only these can know his conscientious devotion to duty, his patience under difficulties, his tirelessness in good works, his broad-minded tolerance for those who hold opinions and policies opposed to his own, and his entire lack of envy of the successes of others.

His multifarious offices and honors have come to him not as the result of log-rolling and political deals, but have been the spontaneous tribute of his associates to his efficient and conscientious discharge of every obligation he has undertaken.

For his work as Councilor, for his prudent conservation of its financial resources, and for the faithful discharge of many other association duties the A. Ph. A. will always be his debtor, and it is with the most sincere regret that the members see him relinquish the office of Treasurer.

The entire membership of the A. Ph. A. unite in extending to Dr. and Mrs. Whelpley their best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and trust that they may have the privilege of extending them the same wishes during many years to come.

J. H. B.