

*A TRIBUTE TO THE PHARMACIST.*

PHARMACY WEEK PROCLAMATION OF WILLIAM LANGER, GOVERNOR OF  
NORTH DAKOTA.

**A**S spokesman both for myself and for the people of North Dakota, I want to say that I consider it a high privilege to set aside this week in honor of the profession of pharmacy and its practitioners. 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 highest shelves and to 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 a 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 even to give thanks.

I am proud to have the privilege of setting aside this week to honor the pharmacists of our country.

WILLIAM LANGER,  
Governor of North Dakota.