

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.

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.