

AS WE are celebrating "Pharmacy Week," our minds spontaneously think of Drugstores and the people in the Drugstores, the Pharmacists. We may even wonder whether their profession is a worthwhile one, and whether they fill the place in society which they are expected to fill. We may even ask what this place ought to be.

By
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ment that man combines in himself the rest of the world: the minerals, the plants, the animal. Man is not a mineral, neither a plant, nor an animal, but the component factors

reason why, after all, health is so all-important for the general well-being of man, his soul included. This also shows how mysteriously interwoven are the forces of nature in man and how delicate, even sacred, a task it is to stimulate, to help, to direct or re-direct these forces in the attempts to cure or to prevent diseases! This is, indeed, actual cooperation with the Creator Himself. From this follows the obligation to act and work according to His will, a pharmacist must always help, never counter-act never abuse nature. This is why poisons, narcotics, and other potentially harmful

Why PHARMACY?

We take it for granted — and suppose, everybody does — that man on earth is always in search for happiness. We know by experience and observation that sickness is one of the greatest obstacles to happiness — as health is one of its most important prerequisites. Medicine, therefore, or concretely speaking, the Doctor is one of the greatest friends and benefactors of man. Pharmacy and Medicine originally were one profession. But when in the course of time Medicine developed intensively and extensively, Pharmacy, in due time, branched off and became a profession by itself. Still, the two are very closely related. This appears clearly in Pharmacy's most characteristic subject: Pharmacognosy. While Pharmacology, still a medical subject, inquires into the possibility of using the natural agencies hidden in both the inorganic and organic world around us, Pharmacognosy studies how these same agencies actually can be freed from their natural ligations and made subservient to the complex organism of man. It is clear that Pharmacy is only a handmaid of Medicine, but it is also clear that it shares the distinction and privilege of being a friend and benefactor of mankind. Being handmaids, they must serve. But to serve is an honor, and this honor is theirs.

This we put before our minds, and we inculcate it into our students: they must serve, they must be exact, meticulous, conscientious, responsible!

Pharmacy is, ideologically speaking, based on a sound philosophy, on the knowledge and acknowledg-

- In stimulating, directing, and redirecting the mysterious forces of nature in man, the Pharmacist handles a delicate, a sacred task. He actually cooperates with the Creator Himself.

of all these are basically found in him, not however any longer as such, but transformed, raised up to a higher level of being, permeated by the substantial "force" which we call soul. The body of man and the soul of man are not two distinct elements, they are mutually com-penetrating each other to such a perfection that they are but one being. This explains the intrinsic dependency of the soul on the body, and this reveals the deepest

drugs (e.g. anti-conceptives) must be handled always with the greatest possible care and always in conformity with the law. Frivolity and carelessness are alien to her profession.

These thoughts show how great a pharmacist's professions is: they also show why a College of Pharmacy belongs in a Catholic University, such as the University of San Carlos.



The College of Pharmacy gets a big boost from the conscientious, studious and pretty people it enrolls.