Charles Ernest Hayden

April 9, 1881 — January 25, 1948

Dr. Charles E. Hayden died at the Tompkins County Memorial Hospital in Ithaca on January 25, 1948. He was born in Syracuse, Ohio, on April 9, 1881. Dr. Hayden's illness was brief. He suffered a heart attack following the shoveling of snow from the sidewalk at his home and died a few hours later. All fall he appeared to be in his usual good health and was at his regular work the day before his death.

Dr. Hayden attended the public schools in Nelsonville, Ohio, and received the A.B. degree from Ohio University in 1909. He came to Cornell in 1909, entered the Veterinary College as a student in 1910, and received the D.V.M. degree in 1914. During his first year at Cornell he was assistant in veterinary physiology. From 1910 to 1914 he was instructor in that subject and from 1914 to 1929, assistant professor. He was promoted to the full professorship in 1929. On two occasions during his long career in the Veterinary College he was acting head of the Department of Physiology.

Dr. Hayden was a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, the New York State Veterinary Medical Society, and the Southern Tier Veterinary Medical Association. He was secretary-treasurer of the New York State Veterinary Medical Society for 14 years and treasurer for an additional 7 years. He was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine. Dr. Hayden held membership in the honorary societies of Phi Zeta, Sigma Xi, and Phi Kappa Phi. He was business manager of the Cornell Veterinarian.

Dr. Hayden's research work on the normal constituents of the blood and urine of animals and on the metabolic disorders of animals made him an internationally recognized authority in these fields. He was one of the first veterinarians in this country to apply the modern methods of blood analysis to the blood of animals in health and disease. He published many scientific papers as an outgrowth of this work.

As a teacher Dr. Hayden was held in the highest esteem by his pupils. His long experience in and wide knowledge of his subject, his phenomenal memory, his kindliness and fair-mindedness, made lasting impressions on his students. In spite of his impairment of hearing, he was a master of the art of classroom recitation at the college level. The eagerness with which alumni visiting the College sought him out for personal greetings and to obtain his advice on difficult cases involving particularly the metabolic disorders, attests to the high regard in which he was held.
For many years Dr. Hayden applied with great skill and insight the technics of clinical chemistry to the diagnosis of animal diseases. Not only did the clinicians of the Veterinary College frequently call on him for this important service but many practitioners of this and other States are indebted to him for help in this special area. In this work Dr. Hayden was unequaled in experience, knowledge, and ability in the veterinary colleges of this country.

In January, 1948, the Alumni Association of the New York State Veterinary College authorized the painting of a portrait of Dr. Hayden to be placed in the College library. At the time of Dr. Hayden's death plans were being made to [begin] the portrait.

Dr. Hayden will be remembered by his co-workers not only for the solid scientific achievements just mentioned but also for his quiet friendliness, his unfailing courtesy, his high ideals, his loyalty to his institution, his colleagues and his work, his deep integrity of character, and his constant willingness to be of service to others. When he undertook a task or obligation of any sort, large or small, it was known without question that he would give it careful, efficient attention to the last detail. Such was the character of Charles Hayden.

D. W. Baker, H. H. Dukes, J. N. Frost