

## SAVE HOMŒOPATHY

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Ever since I took to Homœopathy (and it is over 20 years now) I have been observing with great disappointment the attitude of both the profession and the public (including the Government which, ostensibly, represent the public) towards this noble therapy; and day by day I am gaining the belief that if we, homœopaths, cannot or do not correct ourselves *right now*, Homœopathy in India is doomed to the same fate as it has in the U.S.A., Germany, etc.

I am glad to find from an editorial in the Hahnemannian Gleanings that it is now admitted by intellectual Homœopaths like the Editor that Homœopathy is "showing signs of infection," and I am also satisfied with the diagnosis of the learned Editor that "the main source of danger to homœopathy in the present age rests upon homœopathic Education." To the tasks enjoined upon the homœopathic society by the Editor to combat this danger, I should, however, like to add one more item, viz., that every loose and distorted explanation of homœopathic principles by *anybody* (whatever his other qualifications may be) should be denounced and exposed; and for this, when any such person is invited as the main speaker in any meeting, he or she should be asked to deliver his or her speech first, so that any distortion made by him or her may be suitably replied to. It is more desirable, however, to see that ordinary meetings are not allowed to be used as teaching classes, and symposiums are organised by associations for the purpose instead.

To illustrate my contention I shall narrate my experience at some recent meetings.

At the meeting under the auspices of the W.B.S.H. Federation to celebrate the 212th birth-anniversary of Samuel Hahnemann, a certain physician disapproved the use of repertory in homœopathic practice. To this physician (as he has written in an article published in *The Homœopathic Chikitsa*—a Bengali magazine) repertory is merely a dictionary! I am sure, if this gentleman were told that repertory is, contrary to his knowledge, a "place for finding something; a store of information" and a homœopathic repertory is a place where the *same* information as are found in the *Materia Medica* are arranged in such a way that all the remedies indicated for a certain symptom are given in one place only to help the busy physician who, unless he is a crazy, can never memorise the vast number of them, he would not venture to minimise the importance of the treatise and to preach the same from a public platform.

Again, at a meeting held at Kanchrapara in 24 Parganas on the 15th May 1966 a physician, who is held in high esteem by a section of the pro-

fession more for his foreign qualifications in the orthodox school of medicine, misquoted the organon of medicine to preach that Hahnemann did *not* denounce either polypharmacy or massive doses. Regarding polypharmacy he quoted the following lines from the introduction to the organon:

"Even in real cures by means of mixtures of medicines it will be found that the remedy whose action predominated was always of a homœopathic character."

And from that he wanted the audience to deduce that even when several medicines are given to a patient in a mixture, it will cure him if only one of the medicines bore a homœopathic relationship to the case!

I do not know why this gentleman omitted to quote the words "which were *excessively rare*", (italics mine) in the same sentence and also seemed to take *no notice whatsoever* of the footnote to aphorism 272 where Hahnemann *earnestly deprecates* polypharmacy.

I could quote several illustrations like the above, but for space. My only object in writing this article is to warn the profession that unless such loose and distorted versions (particularly those coming from persons who have somehow managed to come to be held in esteem by a section of the profession and the public alike) are challenged from every platform, interested quarters (of which there is no dearth) will take advantage of them to vitiate true homœopathic practice to the great mischief of the suffering humanity. I strongly feel that it is high time to cry a halt to any more distortions and to preach organon to the majority of the profession itself in a logical and scientific manner, so that they may keep the banner of true homœopathy ever flying without falling victim to the various enticements mentioned by the learned Editor of the The H. Gleanings in his article already referred to.

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### MANAGEMENT OF OSTEOMYELITIS

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In later cases important aim is to restore the power of the muscles, release of contractures, gait training.

The whirlpool bath, if available, is useful in these late cases. Chlorine or iodine ionization is also sometimes given.

In the last let me repeat that for perfect management of such cases a perfect understanding and mutual cooperation of a surgeon, physician and physiotherapist is very essential.

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