

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

*to the Sixteenth Students Re-Union of the Calcutta  
Homœopathic Medical College.*

I am grateful for the great honour you have done me in asking me to preside over the 16th Re-union. Being one of the founders and early organisers of the Students Union and Reunion I have always deemed it a great privilege of mine to be associated with your activities and progress. I have already presided over the 4th Reunion celebrations about 12 years ago and I am amongst you all for the second time. These 12 years have brought about renaissance in the History of Homœopathy in India. I have always been thinking of my Alma-mater and its allied institutions that were instrumental in giving rise to a great awakening and attraction in me for the cause of Homœopathy. Through the kind blessings of my venerable teachers I had the good luck to be initiated into the highly spiritual missions of Master Hahnemann, whose divine and rational precepts, have converted me into a great agitator for this noble science. To struggle and work for Homœopathy became an article of faith with me; and the foundation of this Union was one of the early manifestations of that spirit. I therefore, feel obliged to you not only because you have given me this honour to preside over your function but also for giving me an opportunity to place before you facts and figures whereby it may be possible to form a clear idea of the problems facing us and the magnitude of service and sacrifice essential for the advancement of Homœopathy in India.

From the beginning of my studies of Indian and foreign Homœopathy I have held the view that there is no future for this science till it obtains full Recognition from the State and proper facilities are provided for its training and control. And the more I have been striving to that end, the more convinced I am of the necessity for State Recog-

dition. It was fortunate for me to be established in Delhi, without which I would not have succeeded in my mission to move the Central Government every now and then in connection with the different stages of agitation for Homœopathy.

Just after my graduation, in 1936 I got the first Homœopathic Resolution passed by the Central Assembly. We had to approach every member of the Central Assembly and had to do a lot of spade work before any tangible result could be obtained. This Resolution gave a further impetus to the movement of Homœopathy in Bengal which ultimately resulted in the establishment of State Faculty in 1943. Other province also followed suite and Homœopathic Bills were tabled in U.P., Bihar, C.P., Bombay and the Punjab. But the advent of World War II brought a great set back in our march onward. Popular Ministries were suspended and Government was not in a mood to listen to our request one way or the other.

Immediately after the war we again tried to approach the Government but I soon realised the weakness inherent in individual efforts and felt the urgent necessity for a strong organisation of qualified Homœopaths only. I felt that Homœopathy was being hopelessly ridiculed in Government circles, as a device for the exploitation of ignorant masses mostly by quacks having no medical training whatsoever. It was with this end in view that the All India Institute of Homœopathy was started on Hahnemann's Birthday in 1945, after protracted correspondence and consultations with the qualified homœopaths of India. This organization was gladly patronised by most of the best brains of our profession. It is composed entirely of qualified practitioners. Its membership has been steadily increasing and its branches are functioning in many of the major States. On behalf of this Institute several deputations met the Government and discussed with them the case for Homœopathy. In 1948 another Homœopathic Resolution was moved in the Parliament by Mr. Samanta. At that time also we had to per-

suade the leading members of the Parliament to support the cause of Homœopathy. The Health Minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur was also kind enough to grant several interviews and gave a sympathetic consideration; and the amendment moved by Shri Mohan Lal Saxena, then Secretary of the Congress Parliamentary Party, was accepted by the Government.

Later on, the Government took another step forward and appointed the Homœopathic Enquiry Committee for which we had been pressing since our first interview with the Interim Health Minister. The report of the Homœopathic Enquiry Committee is already published and I hope that every one interested in the progress of Homœopathy must have gone through its recommendations. There are however certain misunderstandings regarding the personnel of the H. E. Committee. I can assure you that all the Homœopathic members are genuine homœopaths and did their very best in safeguarding the interests of Homœopathy in this country. The chairman of the Committee who is a scientist rather than a medical man was intentionally selected to guide the deliberations of the Committee impartially. It is my humble opinion that we should not expect a better report under the circumstances. You are also aware that we organised the First All India Homœopathic Congress in April 1950 which was inaugurated by the Rehabilitation Minister Shri Mohan Lal Saxena and was graced by the Health Minister, Hon'ble Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. We presented an address of welcome to the Health Minister on behalf of the A. I. Institute. The Congress was attended by delegates from all States of India and was a grand success. All the recommendations put forward by H.E.C. Report were endorsed by the Congress with certain modifications. The Institute informed the Government about the necessary measures for implementing the recommendations in the form of a memorandum.

The importance of the Institute in the meantime went on increasing. Our opinions began to weigh in the coun-

sels of the Government who clearly noticed the great difference between our organisation and that of other practitioners of Homœopathy. I may inform you that our proposals on the H.E.C. Report are under the active consideration of the Government and future line of action to be followed by them may be more or less in consonance with the attitude already adopted by us. The last Health Ministers' Conference in New Delhi also approved the H.E.C. Report and formulated some definite proposals for the training and control of Homœopathic practice. I would therefore request you each and all to fully realise the gravity of the situation to take active interest in the current politics of Homœopathy which is rapidly changing from one phase to another.

I may here draw your kind attention to the fact that my appointment as Honorary Homœopathic Physician to the President of the Indian Republic is an extraordinary event in the annals of Homœopathy in this country. I consider that the President has given great distinction to the Homœopathic profession as a whole rather than to an individual. We should all express our heartfelt gratefulness to the President of India for his statesmanlike and bold act in giving his recognition to Homœopathy and thereby placing Indian Homœopathy on the map of the world. Let us hope this act be a precursor of the recognition of our system from our Government. I wish and pray that I may prove worthy of this high honour and serve the President and people of India with the best of my ability. The greatest day in our History would be when Homœopathy is duly recognised in this country and homœopaths walk shoulder to shoulder with the practitioners of the dominant school of Medicine. I presume the ambitions of all true homœopaths will be fulfilled on that day alone. I have no doubt that by the grace of Providence we are approaching that goal and I can assure you we shall all get that status of equality and recognition very soon.

To the students and the staff of the college it is my earnest appeal that side by side with the educational acti-

vities they should not overlook the organisational aspect of Homœopathy. If you are really serious about the future of your profession and betterment you must rise up to the call of the times. Do not forget for a moment that you are face to face with very adverse circumstances. The so-called modern and scientific medicine is out to destroy Homœopathy root and branch. Homœopathy has fortunately stood the.....test of time and wonderfully proved its merit. The more it has been attacked by the Old School the greater it has emerged out of its trials. We have never been afraid of Allopathy nor we are going to be intimidated by the unworthy onslaughts in future. But we have to be very careful of the danger in our own ranks. There are the practitioners of the untrained type. They are unnecessarily suspicious about our activities and think that our stand for proper training and scientific practice will ruin the cause of Homœopathy. They have organised bitter opposition against us. But on behalf of the Institute I assure them, this day, that we do not wish to undermine the yeoman services rendered by some of the best brains amongst them. Nor we have a mind to spoil their career. We only want to establish the profession of Homœopathy on proper standards so that the scientific world as well as the Government and public may not look down upon us, and dare not refuse our services to the helpless millions.

Then friends, we have to be cautious about our own shortcomings if you really want Homœopathy to flourish. We must sincerely follow Master Hahnemann, who gave us the true light and whose teachings still stand unsurpassed inspite of the tremendous advances made by science and medicine. We must look within ourselves and see if our institutions and practices are not becoming corrupt. Our training must be on Hahnemannian line and care must be taken that all sorts of clinical demonstration in our hospitals must conform to the teachings of Organon. Surgical, gynecological and obstetrical and other sections must, as far as possible, be maintained on Homœopathic basis. This

college of ours is a premier institution of Homœopathy in this country. It must set an example to the rest of the country. Its whole prestige depends not on the allopathic paraphernalias alone, but on the staunch Homœopathic outlook maintained by us.

It has grieved me much to find graduates from our colleges practising on allopathic lines and being enamoured of modern drugs like Penicillin, Streptomycin, Sulpha preparations and other synthetic as well as concentrated products with which the human system is being over-stuffed mercilessly at the cost of natural and vital resources for the combating morbidic inroads. It is a pity that a duly trained practitioner of Homœopathy instead of diving deep into the valuable treasures of his own armamentarium, takes refuge under petty devices foreign to our dictates and thereby subject the whole profession to ridicule and disgrace. This state of affairs is a bad reflection on the potentialities of our institutions. What is the importance of and necessity for maintaining separate Homœopathic institutions if we fail to prepare ideal practitioners having firm conviction in the efficacy of Homœopathy as a science and as an art. You may like it or not but it is my frank view that this attraction of our graduates towards Allopathy is a bad augury and our days are numbered if we do not wake up early. You have to think over this matter with all the seriousness that you can command and you have to find out ways and means to root out this evil from our ranks. I have found our graduates having inferiority complex about themselves which they should not have. They must study the *Materia Medica* well and follow the teachings of Hahnemann and I can assure them, they will never fail. They must have complete confidence in the efficacy of their medicine and I can vouchsafe that no modern medicine can compete our medicine selected on the Law of Similars. You will be surprised to learn that during my 14 years practice, I have never used a single Allopathic medicine internally or externally.

The aims and objects of the All India Institute are solely meant to turn out staunch homœopaths. Our success depends upon your whole-hearted co-operation. It is the duty of students, teachers and practitioners of Homœopathy to support this noble cause with full faith and vigour. Always remember the great motto, "United we stand and divided we fall".

One word more and I have done. You are the pillars of Homœopathy in India and you have to prove your claim for superiority and capability over other forms of treatment. Please see that the honour and prestige of this ill-fated science which falls in your hands is maintained aright and that you prove the true followers of the great Hahnemann who bequeathed this treasure. You being the torch-bearers of Homœopathy, must keep this candle burning. Jai Hind.

K. G. SAXENA, B.M.B.S.,  
*Honorary Homœopathic Physician  
to the President of India.*

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## REVIEW

LA DOCTRINE DE L'HOMŒOPATHIE FRANCAISE by

Dr. Léon Vannier, 2nd. Ed., published by G. Doin & Cie.,  
8, Place de l'Odéon, Paris, 1942.

The title of the book "The doctrine of French Homœopathy" seems somewhat ambiguous. The adjective French is very often placed before a noun to express something humorous at least in our country, as for example: The French leave, The French Bath, The French cut etc.... The present application of the word "French" is new to us.

Is the word "French" applied before "Homœopathy" to indicate the nationality of the subject such as Indian