

## COMMUNICATION

### HALF EDUCATED DOCTORS?

In his presidential address to the All India Medical Conference, held in Jaipur, on the 26th December, 1955, Dr. A. C. Ukil recommended to control the practice of homœopathy, in order to allow the allopathic practitioners earn their bread peacefully and without any contest from the "quacks" of the opposite school. He has called the homœopaths quacks or half qualified people. It is no bolt from the blue to the homœopaths, as we are quite accustomed to such remarks from the allopathic school. The last year, too, in the All India Medical Conference, we heard something akin to it.

The birth of homœopathy took place amidst opposition and criticism and yet it has successfully marched forward through over a century.

I should ask the learned physician, from what point does he consider the homœopathic physician half educated? Is it because he doesn't consider the homœopath versed enough in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Surgery, Gynæcology and various other sister subjects. Then we too, may call them (allopaths) half educated from the point of view that they know little or nothing about the nature of chronic and psychical diseases, not to speak of their treatment. The only method they possess is the killing of microbes, if only they can properly diagnose the case, which, really, is not a very light job. Who have not witnessed many cases of Tuberculosis and Typhoid treated with quinine, on the supposition that they are of malarial origin? Any disease with a slow-ascending temperature is treated now-a-days with the wonder drug, chloromycetin, and a good many failures are the only result. Such cases ultimately come to a homœopath for final cure. Not long ago, we have seen in the news-papers that some lady doctor (allopath) accused her fellow practitioners for

making treatment a "Made Easy" by blindly prescribing patent medicines on recommendations from some influential firms. It is very clear to all thinking people that now-a-days physicians lack in clinical insight. They depend wholly on pathological findings and laboratory diagnosis, without paying any importance, what-so-ever, to clinical diagnosis. But we, homœopaths, regard much more the clinical findings, to come to a diagnosis, and it is no wonder that we diagnose much more earlier than any ordinary allopath. Even if a homœopath fails to diagnose a case properly (which is surely not very frequent), he has got the privilege of diagnosing the proper remedy which will radically cure the case, be it Typhoid or Malaria.

Dr. Ukil fears competition from a homœopath. But why? If the homœopaths were nothing but quacks or only half qualified doctors, could homœopathy compete with the well-equipped (in most up-to-date machinery) boldly advertised and highly patronized allopathy? Is it poverty that brings people to a homœopath? Perhaps not, as a man, whatever his financial condition may be, seldom goes to a homœopath, unless he become disgusted with the modern school which has failed to relieve his sufferings. We should thank Nature for providing us with such a weapon as Homœopathy, which still is the only ray of hope to an unfortunate patient declared 'hopeless' on 'chronic' by the allopathic school.

Homœopathy is based on natural laws and no amount of opposition or antipropaganda can ever be able to wipe it out for good. The Allopathic school is gradually appreciating that there is a Law and Principle behind Homœopathy, but it is not bold enough to acknowledge it for fear of monetary loss and loss of prestige. The application of autogenous vaccines is in vogue now-a-days amongst the modern practitioners, in each and every case they think to be of chronic nature. Is not the application of sulpha drugs copied from Homœopathy. The old and experienced practitioners of that school would rather prescribe single reme-

dies than give them in mixtures. But I afraid, they will never admit the truths.

We, of course, don't mind that, as science is no body's monopoly. Only I would request those learned friends not to abuse a system of which they possess little or no knowledge. We always invite criticism, as that will help reforming us but there is no room for jealousy or hatred in matters relating to science. Everything is splendid in its own place. Allopathy has got its own scope and Homœopathy too. We do neither claim to take an upper hand, nor do we ever claim that our science is the only science of cure. What we demand is mutual understanding and co-existence.

Dr. D. P. Chatterjee

### A SHORT HISTORY OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND STATE FACULTY OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE, WEST BENGAL

The General Council and State Faculty of Homœopathic Medicine, Bengal was established by a Statutory order of the then Government of Bengal in 1943. The Statutes were recommended by an Advisory Board which consisted of many eminent Homœopaths like Drs. J. N. Majumdar, S. C. Ghose, J. N. Ghose, A. N. Mukherjee etc. The first Council was nominated by the Government. A sum of Rs. 6800/- was made over to the Council from the Government which were contributed by some members of the Advisory Board towards the cost of establishment and maintenance of the Council as the Government made it clear that it was not prepared to take any financial responsibility whatsoever. After partition of Bengal, the Statutes were amended by the Government of West Bengal, and the Council was reconstituted and nominated. Since then two elections have been held, the last being in 1953, and elected representatives from the Registered Homœo-