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EDITORIAL

PROBLEMS IN HOMOEOPATHIC TEACHING

In our country almost all students aspiring to join the professional courses wait hopefully for securing admissions to various streams in the months of June and July. Today every parent feels that his ward should pursue a lucrative profession and the two which stand out amongst many are medicine and engineering. However, a very limited number of seats are available to a vast number of aspirants. Institutions, therefore devise very ingenious methods to eliminate the superfluous number. In the past only those who were keen to pursue a specific career applied for study of that course. But today the situation is different. One does not want to take any chances. So one applies for admission to different courses of study even if they are completely different in nature from each other. We know of many who had applied for study of medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, Homoeopathy and finally home science, in order of preference. This shows that one cannot choose one's own career, but others decide for them and ultimately whether one like it or not, one has to accept it. We know of many who left the courses and joined business or other occupation at a later stage. This may not be the situation all over the country, but is true in most of the cities of the country.

In the past Homoeopathy was not on the map of admission to the professional courses, and therefore, only those who wanted to pursue the profession took admission to this course. They did this for their conviction in the subtle philosophy of Homoeopathy, or because their parents were practising Homoeopathy, or they had experienced a homoeopathic cure of a so-called incurable disorder.

The homoeopathic institutions too had a total homoeopathic atmosphere and devoted teachers who were keen practitioners and ardent lovers of the science. The facilities might have been poor or inadequate but the spirit of Homoeopathy was great and admirable. With change of time, these institutions gradually fell into backdrop and more and more commercial atmosphere started entering into them. Many mushroom institutions started coming up without any background, with very poor facilities and poorer

teaching staff. Unscrupulous people started taking advantage of the situation to make a lucrative business out of this situation. With the growing competition among aspirants for medical training, a section of modern medical profession wanted their wards to join the homoeopathic colleges. This was not because of sudden popularity or any plus point in favour but for the ulterior motive to get their wards a certificate of practice, so that they could absorb them in their business. This is a very dangerous situation. The homoeopathic colleges are not for backdoor entry to the allopathic professions.

It is time that homoeopathic institutions open their eyes and look around them. If they want to really serve the cause of Homoeopathy they should be careful in selecting the students. Merit should be considered, but then the motive behind the admission should also be considered. Chances of a student practising modern medicine if he is of a homoeopathic stock are much less than if he comes of allopathic stock. There should be a radical change in the teaching pattern (this has been spelt out on many occasions) so that the students are attracted to Homoeopathy. Dependence on modern medicine hospitals should be minimised and homoeopathic atmosphere be generated in the campus. If we start now we may be successful some years later; but if not, then the doomsday is not far off.

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