

A SUGGESTION FOR STRENGTHENING THE POSITION OF HOMŒOPATHY

DR. CARL H. ENSTAM, M.D., CALIFORNIA

We of the homœopathic persuasion must keep pace with the times. General science is working ever so hard and long in her attempt to discover facts and truths wherever or however they may be supposedly found. The day of gross or materialistic philosophy is rapidly finding itself on the move from center to periphery, where she will seek her own natural level and be superseded by the age of infinitesimals.

There comes to mind a very intriguing thought which must arouse a "greater enthusiasm for Homœopathy" when we recall that this "atomic age" came into being with the discovery and identification of radium by members of one of the foremost homœopathic families of the new century, the Curies. Paul Francis Curie, grandfather of Pierre Curie, was himself a champion homœopath.

The time has arrived when Homœopathy is being bombarded on every side by new and fantastic discoveries which can with intelligent analysis and but slight re-interpretation be identified clearly and unequivocally with the philosophy laid down in the *Organon*.

The American Institute of Homœopathy has suffered too long under the influence of a "Eucratic" program, one of "neglect and excuses" in this particular. This attitude has for years been complicated by a persistent streak of Kainophobia (fear of something new). Therefore let us dedicate ourselves here and now to a change in policy, not only so to irritate the long deceased Archon Eucrates that he will turn over in his urn, but also to substitute a philosophy of enthusiasm for Homœopathy and all it stands for. Let us get rid of this idea of fearing any idea or program because it is *new*.

Doctor John H. Clarke once wrote that thinking is still the *Summum Malum* of the average medical man and therein

lies the strength of various medical societies ; they do *his* thinking for him.

Homœopaths are sometimes aghast when they contemplate the numbers of the opposition. They forget that in some things numbers do not count ; and when the numbers are opposing a natural law, and the few have the law on their side, the few are the strong, and the many are the weak, no matter how large their majority may be. When there was but one homœopath in existence, Hahnemann himself, even then Homœopathy was stronger than the entire world of medical obscurantism arrayed against it. Why, then, should homœopaths of the present day, with thousands of duly qualified adherents and millions of lay supporters, harbor any doubt as to its ultimate acceptance? I can understand homœopaths being modest about their own powers, though I have no particular admiration for the Uriah Heeps in Homœopathy or in anything else. But I cannot understand any homœopath adopting humble and apologetic views of Homœopathy. As well might astronomers apologize for the meanness of the Universe with its myriads of globes of light ; or the botanist be humble about the wonders of the world of vegetation, as the homœopath be apologetic in regard to Homœopathy. We may not all be Mures or Weirs or Pierre Schmidts, but we must all be touched with a fire of the enthusiasm for Homœopathy if we are worthily to fill the position of trust we accepted in joining its ranks.

It seems entirely reasonable that an objective such as this is not only desirable but timely on the part of the American Institute. Early approaches and preliminary discussions should be entered into to strengthen and support a concerted effort in the United States to carry on a successful program for the acceptance of Homœopathy. The entire world, in one fashion or another, reaches out its hand to us for help and advice, believing still in our assumption of the role of world leadership. International Homœopathy would, I am certain, join with us in carrying out internationally a program leading to the acceptance of Homœopathy.

The first step we must take to launch this program is to recognize its vital importance in opening up an intelligent and

satisfactory future for ourselves as homœopaths through the medium of the American Institute as the national organization.

For the sake of simplicity and direction, all that is required to give dignity to this program and make it a part of the immediate Institute objective can be accomplished by the democratic action of our Body Politic. This saves time and avoids special committee assignments.

Last year I had the opportunity of recommending to you the immediate employment of a dedicated and competent public relations counsellor. I therefore have no hesitation at this time to again urge you to give serious consideration to this. We need and must have the most competent and qualified individual available, one thoroughly indoctrinated in Homœopathy, a person recognized as a Public Relations Counsellor with national standing. Such a man, by virtue of his qualifications and experience, will make whatever exhaustive surveys are needed, separating facts from fiction, seeking out this material from all possible sources. He will then be in a position to outline in detail the things requisite to the program we have in mind.

While contemplating the preparation of this paper a local situation here in Los Angeles received considerable publicity. Southern California as you know has been prominent in the field of aeronautics and as a consequence one would logically suppose its citizens would recognize the need for a modern and up to date airport. The authorities asked for endorsement of bond issues repeatedly and obtained nothing but failure. This spring, however, under the direction of qualified public relations authorities the voters by a very large majority finally endorsed this program.

In order to reach the *homœopathic goal* we envision, we need the help of competent public relations. This I believe!

—*Jourl. of Am. Inst. of Homœopathy, May-June '58.*
