

## ADJUSTOPATHY\*

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Whether in the political arena or in the family parlance, whether in office or in home, of late, a new trend is fast approaching and that is to adjust oneself to things immediately handy and face-saving; no matter, whether we know the things or not, no matter, whether we remain sincere to our principles or we bid good bye to them.

In Homœopathy, such adjustments with the patients are now in vogue. There are many amongst us who do not mind to grind the handy 'codopyrine' with sugar of milk in preference to the task of finding out Gelsemium, Acid Phos or Natrum Mur for the patient. They do not also mind to hint at the patient about the superiority of Penicillin while treating a case resembling Bronco-Pneumonia or a Boil. In fact, they do give such drugs because, having no command on our Materia Medica, they find these drugs to be immediately handy and face-saving. Thanks to the patients, majority of whom are ignorant, they submit themselves to such treatment. By doing such queer amalgam, they proceed on until they deeply hint through their physiognomic feats and innuendoes that there are many acute ailments to which Homœopathy cannot give immediate relief. It is, therefore, no wonder, when we find a general idea prevailing upon a large section of people that in acute cases, Homœopathy takes longer time to remedy the defects.

I happened to meet a Homœopath Dr. C. M., now practising outside West Bengal, who was robust and rotund and a recipient of a large fortune through hereditary channel, and asked him, how he was pulling on with the practice. He aptly said that he is so busy in practice that he has no time to eat. "That's a very nice thing, very encouraging to Homœopaths" I said. "Yes," Dr. C. M. said and continued, "but you know, although I go by

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the name of a Homœopath, yet in fact, I never mind to prescribe and administer any drug I find handy and face-saving. To be more frank, doctor, which is not to be confided to anybody, I am 50:30:20.; I mean, I do fifty per cent Homœopathy, thirty per cent Allopathy and twenty per cent Jari-buti or you can say Kaviraji-like." I was simply enjoying his word which I could not hide from him as he caught me by looking at my face. Dr. C. M. was, however, not hypersensitive. He continued, "If you do not do all these things, I mean, if you stick to your principles and do not follow the path I have taken up, hardly you will be able to be a busy practitioner and be able to earn more. Needless to say, doctor, to earn more is the prime motive. You know, people want relief, so hang with your conception of cure; patient wants immediate relief and therefore, it is not 'pathy' that is to be considered; anything you can employ for the immediate relief, that is good." "Very very good sir" I rejoined, "but how you treat chronic cases?"

"In the same manner as I do always," said Dr. C. M. "Thank you, doctor, now I am to part with," I said. "Why, Why so early? You have come here for a climatic change, have enough of time to spare, let us be friendly and discuss further". By the way, said Dr. C. M. "What about your practice, how do you pull on?" Tacitly I said, "Not so galloping as you said, fairly good practice, of course with sufficient time to eat." Dr. C. M.—"Don't mind, do you also employ handy and face-saving measure overriding the pathy."

"To tell you very frankly" I said, "I am a Homœopath and I always try to find out the medicine needed for the case—of course that sometimes needs too much of study and patience. When I am in a fix I consult my seniors and friends who are always kind to me. As I am not qualified in other pathies, I have no moral right to prescribe or administer other drugs overriding Homœopathy." Dr. C. M. said, "Then, you are an orthodox Homœopath—but I am not; although you can't deny, I am also a Homœopath." "Excuse me, Sir," I said, 'You are an ADJUSTOPATH'—because I find you have only recognised qualifications in Homœopathy and not in Allopathy or in Kaviraji."

"'Adjustopath'? What you mean by that? For the first time

I do hear such word. What does it actually mean? To which pathy you are referring to?" said Dr. C. M.

"I have coined this word, Sir," I said, "because I find no other suitable word for expression. You can't deny, doctor, that yours is neither Homœopathy nor Allopathy nor Kaviraji; something above them—you always adjust as you think best... and therefore, why not say 'Adjustopathy'."

"Good afternoon" comes a sound from behind. I slipped off bidding goodbye to doctor C.M., who in the meanwhile got busy with his friend.

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Homœopathic Society are now having a fairly large number of such Dr. C. M., Adjustopaths in all the provinces of India, who are carrying business (yes, business indeed) with impunity and are creating a wrong notion amongst the people about Homœopathy. In fact, they are the real danger from within and if we do not sufficiently take care of them and if they are allowed to go scotfree they will undoubtedly push back the progress of Homœopathy.

The West Bengal Homœopathic System of Medicine Bill, 1963, has already been passed and a new Homœopathic Council is going to be formed very soon. One of the greatest tasks of the Council will be to check such charlatans from making circuses amongst the ailing public. If any member of the Council is found to be an adjustopath (which is never expected), the Homœopathic profession will have to come forward and unmask his sanctimonious pose he might be holding to hold up the progress of Homœopathy. So, my friends, expose these Adjustopaths and hold high the banner of Homœopathy.