

## THE RENASCENCE OF HOMŒOPATHY WITH SURGERY

BERNARD J. FICARRA, M.D., SC.D., LL.D., PH.D., New York

After twenty years' experience in his professional work, one is entitled to express an opinion based upon one's own observations. With your kind indulgence, therefore, I should like to reminisce on certain conclusions I have reached after twenty years in surgery.

With due respect for the great contributions made in the field of antibiotics, and the spectacular reports by the cardiovascular surgeons, our daily concern for the care of the sick leaves us with the same problems as those which confronted the surgeon in the last century. Penicillin and similar antibiotics notwithstanding, patients still die from perforated appendicitis, peritonitis and overwhelming infections, i.e., staphylococcus and streptococcus bacteremia. In spite of dicumarol and other anticoagulants, the postoperative complication of acute pulmonary artery thrombosis and embolism are still with us.

In part the failure of patient salvation in major infections and embolization may be due in a great many instances to the abusive use of the antibiotics and anticoagulants. The man of medicine prescribes both of these therapeutic measures indiscriminately on frequent occasions. They, when a real need arises for these drugs, the patient's bodily systems will no longer respond to the medication according to its anticipated and known pharmacodynamic physiology. The end result is prolonged postoperative morbidity and mortality.

From the surgeon's observation booth, one class of physicians stand above the rest in the non-abuse of his daily surgical procedures. Surgery, therefore, has found a reawakened interest in Homœopathy and seeks a mutual rebirth of affection between the two. One of the strongest ties that link surgery and Homœopathy is witnessed in the American Board of Homeotherapeutics which consists of two divisions, one medical, the other surgical. The mutual association of men of medicine and surgery under one Specialty Board is found in no other certifying body in the United States. The founding fathers and members of the American Board of Homeotherapeutics are to be congratulated upon their wisdom, perspicuity and lofty purpose in establishing this board. The future holds great promise for the rekindling of a vital interest in Homœopathy on the part of the surgeons. By mutual exchange of information and assistance, this union of talents will be of inestimable value in the care, treatment and cure of the sick.

After all is said and done, our primary purpose as doctors is to fight and conquer disease wherever and whenever we can. With God's help, we shall do our utmost to reach this noble goal.

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