

## ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

SUBMITTED BY DR. S. C. GHOSE, M.D., M.R.S.L. (LONDON),  
(*Editor-in-Chief, 'The Hahnemannian Gleanings'*)

### ANSWERS.

1. As there is no state law prohibiting quack practice of any sort—any body can practice any system of medicine he chooses to take up as a profession. But it is not desirable to have such uncontrolled state of affairs in matters medical.

We claim Homœopathy to be a scientific system of medicine. Any body professing Homœopathic practice must have to undergo a systematic course of training, both theoretical and practical during the pre-clinical and clinical period of medical study in any well equipped institutions and Hospitals attached thereto, which are recognised as affiliated institutions to the Government.

2. The existing facilities for the teaching of Homœopathy in the province of West Bengal:—

Three Institutions with attached hospitals, affiliated to the General Council and State Faculty of Homœopathic Medicine, West Bengal:—

- (i) The Dunham Homœopathic Medical College & Hospital, 63, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.
- (ii) The Calcutta Homœopathic Medical College & Hospital, 265, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.
- (iii) Pratap Chandra & Hering Memorial Homœopathic College & Hospital, 14|1, Narikeldanga North Road, Calcutta.

These institutions abide by the curriculum of study, rules of admissions of students as framed by the Bengal Homœopathic State Faculty.

3. This can be answered by the General Council and State Faculty of Homœopathic Medicine, West Bengal.

4. (a) It is not possible to estimate the total number of Homœopathic practitioners in the province of West Bengal but their number is a legion.

(b) (i) State Faculty can answer this question.

(ii) This information may be supplied by the Registrar of the said Faculty.

(iii) At least ten times the number of registered Homœopathic practitioners existing in our province.

5. (a) The present method of training in Government recognised institutions (and not to speak of non-recognised institutions) is not satisfactory. The defects in the existing courses of training in Government recognised Institutions are:—

(i) Though the theoretical training in Homœopathic subjects are fairly satisfactory, the practical and clinical aspect of it are not satisfactory due to want of well-equipped hospitals.

(ii) Both the theoretical and practical part of training in allied and auxiliary subjects e.g., in Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology etc., are defective due to want of proper equipments in the college departments.

(iii) The present four-year course of training is too short for the purpose. A Homœopathic student has got to learn his Homœopathic materia medica, Homœopathic Philosophy, etc., (which are themselves very vast and comprehensive) in addition to all the subjects that are taught in the institutions of modern medicine. He feels very much cramped to receive so much training (both theoretical and practical) in such a short period.

(iv) For financial difficulties the authorities of Homœopathic Colleges of our country can not arrange for sufficient facilities for training both

in Colleges and Hospitals. Every institutions (though publicly organised) receive no grants-in-aid from the Government. The institutions receive a very negligible sum of money as grants from the Calcutta Corporation.

To run a medical institution on proper lines requires a large sum of money as capital grants and recurring grants, and the financial position of all these institutions is anything but satisfactory.

Suggestions for improving and regulating training in Homœopathic institutions:—

(1) The Government should immediately recognise the Homœopathic system of medicine, provide adequate facilities for training by establishing model college and hospitals and should confer rights and privileges to the Homœopathic practitioners, similar to those enjoyed by the practitioners of modern medicines.

If our Government do so richmen of our country will come forward to loosen their purse-strings and students of better merits will also come forward to join our institutions.

(2) The course of study in the Homœopathic institutions should be extended to six years or at least five years.

(3) Hospitals for treating all kinds of diseases should be established along with the Homœopathic Colleges.

(4) Every Homœopathic Hospital should make sufficient arrangements to treat patients suffering from Chronic diseases.

(5) The minimum standard of general education for admission in the Homœopathic training institutions should be raised from Matriculation to I.Sc. Standard.

(c) (i) Yes.

(ii) The I.Sc. Standard of the Calcutta University.

(d) Yes.

(e) Besides Hygiene and Public Health and Medical Jurisprudence, the following subjects are to be included in the curriculum:

Homœopathic Materia Medica, Homœopathic Philosophy, Homœopathic Pharmacopœia and Pharmacy.

6. These may be settled by the committee.

10. We do not consider that the provision for post-graduate training in Homœopathy for graduates in modern medicine will promote the cause of Homœopathy or raise the Standard of the Homœopathic Profession at large.

There may be a post-graduate course in Homœopathy for more intensive and deeper study of the Philosophy and Art of Homœopathy.

In short my individual opinion is that a Homœopathic physician should and must be a well trained and full fledged medical man first and then a Homœopath.

In conclusion I beg to draw your attention to the fact that the American Institute of Homœopathy of the United States of America is the first and foremost Homœopathic organisation of the world. At one time the members of this Society published a definition of a Homœopathic physician. Which is as follows:—

*"A Homœopathic physician is one who adds to his general knowledge of medicine and other allied subjects a special knowledge of Homœopathic Therapeutics and its basic principles and all that pertains to the great field of Medical learning is his by tradition, inheritance and right."*

### ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

SUBMITTED BY DR. B. K. SARKAR, M.B.

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