

dies than give them in mixtures. But I afraid, they will never admit the truths.

We, of course, don't mind that, as science is no body's monopoly. Only I would request those learned friends not to abuse a system of which they possess little or no knowledge. We always invite criticism, as that will help reforming us but there is no room for jealousy or hatred in matters relating to science. Everything is splendid in its own place. Allopathy has got its own scope and Homœopathy too. We do neither claim to take an upper hand, nor do we ever claim that our science is the only science of cure. What we demand is mutual understanding and co-existence.

Dr. D. P. Chatterjee

### A SHORT HISTORY OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND STATE FACULTY OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE, WEST BENGAL

The General Council and State Faculty of Homœopathic Medicine, Bengal was established by a Statutory order of the then Government of Bengal in 1943. The Statutes were recommended by an Advisory Board which consisted of many eminent Homœopaths like Drs. J. N. Majumdar, S. C. Ghose, J. N. Ghose, A. N. Mukherjee etc. The first Council was nominated by the Government. A sum of Rs. 6800/- was made over to the Council from the Government which were contributed by some members of the Advisory Board towards the cost of establishment and maintenance of the Council as the Government made it clear that it was not prepared to take any financial responsibility whatsoever. After partition of Bengal, the Statutes were amended by the Government of West Bengal, and the Council was reconstituted and nominated. Since then two elections have been held, the last being in 1953, and elected representatives from the Registered Homœo-

pathic practitioners of West Bengal constitute the majority of the members of the present Council.

Homœopathic teaching and profession were in a chaotic condition before the establishment of this Council. There were many Homœopathic colleges which did not follow any uniform syllabus or curriculum of study. The courses followed in many institutions varied from six months to four years. The Council under the Statutes fixed up a standard for recognition of diplomas secured from these colleges, and invited applications from the authorities of the colleges seeking affiliation to this Council, along with full records of their institutions. Authorities of some of the colleges submitted their records but stated that their colleges could not be continued for financial reasons and ceased to exist; and some of the existing institutions placed their records before the Council. The Council after scrutinising such records recognised the following colleges and decided that diploma-holders of the said colleges issued up to 1943 were entitled to registration :—

1. The Calcutta Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital.
2. The Bengal Allen Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital,
3. Pratap Chandra Memorial Homœopathic Hospital and College,
4. The Dunham Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital,
5. Hering Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital,
6. The Regular Homœopathic Medical College,
7. The Central Homœopathic Medical College,
8. Ashutosh Homœopathic Medical College, Calcutta.
9. Vivekananda Homœopathic Medical School, Bankura.
10. Bengal Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital.

Regulations for registration of Homœopathic practi-

tioners other than the above diploma-holders were also framed with the sanction of the Government.

The Council also framed certain rules for affiliation of a Homœopathic teaching institution which contained amongst others a four years' course, entrance qualification as Matriculate, and an attached hospital with at least 30 indoor beds. The following colleges are at present affiliated to the Council :—

1. Calcutta Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital, 2. D. N. De Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital (Formerly Dunham Homœopathic Medical College), 3. Pratap & Hering Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital, 4. Midnapur Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital.

The total number of registered students in the affiliated colleges up to date are now 2097. In 1944-45 the number of such students was 189. Uptil now 521 students have come out successful at the Final D.M.S. examinations held by the Council. It is also gratifying to note that the minimum qualifications of many of these students are now I.Sc., and there are many B.Sc.'s and M.Sc.'s studying in these affiliated Colleges. The General Council and State Faculty of Homœopathic Medicine has the unique distinction of being the first body of such type in India and as such students from all over India including Nepal come here to read the four years D.M.S. course of the Council.

With regard to the registration of Homœopathic practitioners, the Council has upto date registered the names of 7938 practitioners. The Council felt that there were many practitioners amongst the Registered Homœopaths who did not have the opportunity of having institutional training but who were willing to appear at an examination to satisfy the Council about their medical and Homœopathic knowledge. As such the Council decided to hold D.M.S. examination under the transitory clause for such practitioners and invited all Registered Homœopathic

practitioners to appear at the said examination. The Council has since then held five such examinations and 454 practitioners appeared at the said examinations out of which 287 have passed the examinations.

A set of ethical rules have been framed by the Council to prevent Registered Homœopathic practitioners from using unauthorised degrees and diplomas. The Rules for controlling Homœopathic pharmacies and charitable dispensaries are awaiting the sanction of the Government of West Bengal.

The Government of India at first refused to accept medical certificates granted by Homœopathic practitioners. A deputation consisting of a few members of this Council waited on the Central Health Minister and lodged a strong protest against this discrimination. As a result of prolonged correspondence the Government of India has amended its previous circular with regard to such certificates provided the State Government concerned accepts the medical certificates issued by Registered Homœopathic practitioners belonging to that State.

The Homœopathic Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government of India in 1948 after touring and inspection of the various States of India, submitted a report which was published in 1949 by the Ministry of Health, Government of India. The said Committee recommended to accept the diploma-holders of the colleges recognised by the Council, and accepted the view points of the Council with regard to teaching of Homœopathy and control of practice.

The Council also passed several resolutions condemning the recommendations of the Indian Medical Council to accept Homœopathy as post-graduate system of Medicine, and published a brochure pointing out the absurdities of such recommendations and distributed the brochure amongst the members of the Indian Parliament. The Government of India has not accepted the recommendations of the Medical Council of India.

The planning Commission also allotted a sum of Rs. 37.5 lacs towards Researches in Indigenous and other systems of Medicine including Homœopathy; The Director of Health Services, Govt of India has appointed an Ad Hoc Committee of Homœopaths to find ways and means to implement the recommendations of the Planning Commission; and the Government of India appointed an Advisory Committee of Homœopaths in connection with the Homœopathic Research Schemes. A member of this Council is in both the Committees and the views of the Council with regard to research and standardisation of Homœopathic teaching and the Draft Syllabus for the Homœopathic degree course have been accepted by the said Ad Hoc Committee, and the Government of India.

The research schemes to be carried out in the affiliated Homœopathic colleges have also been forwarded to the Government of India and the Council has also submitted schemes for development of Homœopathy in this State amounting to Rs. 45 lacs to the Government of West Bengal for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan.

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### THE ALL-INDIA HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

*(Summary of the Memorandum presented to the Dave  
Committee at Hyderabad.)*

Our views as to the type of medical aid advisable and practicable in the present and in the near visible future of our country are based on a factual analysis of the socio-economic conditions obtaining in our country at present and the possible trends as far we can visualise within a reasonable period of the future. To make clear to ourselves what our attitude should be to the basic socio-economic problems that our people face and shall have to face, the financial stringency that under-developed coun-