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EDITORIAL

A STANDARDIZED HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN

We live in the world of science. Our outlook towards life is changing. The way we think, feel and act is influenced by the spirit of science. What we eat, breathe or wear is an object of scientific analysis to determine how it influences our life and living. Take any magazine or a periodical and scan through the pages. Somebody writes on what one should be eating so that he adds no extra calories in diet or how such and such food article is responsible for or makes one prone to be afflicted by such and such disease; on the question of air pollutions, how industrialization has affected the atmosphere vitiating the air we breathe making us susceptible to diseases; how synthetic fibre has been the cause for the multiple forms of skin problems and so on. All these writings in essence lay emphasis on one thing, and that is of the growing awareness in us of the scientific values of the objects to which we are exposed in our day to day living.

Science demands precision. Precision is an expression of balance. Any system is said to be in balance when all its functions are in alignment. A functionally competent system receives, reacts and responds to a pre-determined stimulus in a consistent manner. Consistency in the action-reaction pattern is a necessary precondition of all forms of scientific activity. Standardization is the process that imparts uniformity to the action-reaction patterns.

Why should the actions be standardized? The answer is simple: to obtain pre-determined results. When actions tend to be erratic they result in chaos. An imbalanced expression is a diseased expression and rapidly disintegrates both the system manifesting it as well as the other systems dependent on it. It has the potentiality also to injure those systems that get exposed to its deleterious influences.

It is in this light that the actions of a homoeopathic physician need to be reviewed. Homoeopathy is a science based on well defined principles. It has a therapeutic law governing the practice. It has a philosophy verified through the results in practice to guide actions. A homoeopathic physician is naturally,

he, who is conversant with the philosophy and has the competence to translate it into actions so that the results that accrue could be termed scientific. Further, he should be capable of demonstrating a reasonable level of consistency in his actions so that he could be depended upon for delivering consistent results. This is true not only of a homoeopathic physician, but equally so with man in general following any avocation in life. This fact can be illustrated for better clarity by shifting our attention from Homocopathy to a different situation, say that of a motor mechanic. When there is a breakdown of an automobile we seek the services of a motor mechanic to put the vehicle back on the road. How do we go about the job? We conduct a survey of the market and try to find out a person who carries the reputation of knowing his job thoroughly and who conducts it in such a manner that he delivers results which are dependable. All of us are aware of the dangers of exposing the automobile in the hands of a mechanic who cannot locate the fault in its electric system and searches for it somewhere down the fuel line! By his faulty actions he not only disturbs the fine alignment of the different parts of the system, but also causes its ultimate destruction. Standardized actions based on sound scientific footing thus become imperative in every walk of life.

Going back to the field of Homocopathy, do we have physicians who deliver standardized service to their patients? That raises an important question: when do we admit that the actions are standardized? It is only when he is able to demonstrate the operation of the law of similars between the images of the drug and the disease in every case under his treatment. It is when he can advance reason for every act that he performs that it is based on sound logic. And these are the issues that are most difficult to demonstrate in homoeopathic practice today. Reason? The sub-standard professional competence of the physicians exposed to a faulty education system.

The erratic results obtained in the field have cast serious doubts about the claims made of the scientificity of the system. The onus lies heavily upon the advocates of the system to restore to it the lost glory. It can only be achieved through standardization of the physicians by bringing uniformity in their methods of practice. How do we standardize physicians? It would need a well organized planning of the education systems prevalent today in our institutions strictly conforming them to the prescription made by Hahnemann in the third aphorism of the *Organon of Medicine*. The disjointed structure that has been erected by fracturing the philosophy from practice needs urgent rectification. The standards of teaching as well as conformity to the course need to be raised. The teaching in the institutions needs to be practice oriented. The aim of education should change from giving merely factual material to the students to one that helps them to live better. It should make an effort to establish communication with that which is central to the transformation of human mind and expose it to the value standards that makes it accept the living as a *mission* in the service of the sick humanity.

Only a mind which is disciplined in that manner is capable of aligning all its resources of thinking, feeling and action and deliver the results consistently.

The totality of change needed can be assessed by relating the present situation with the past and establishing in its course, the causal relationship to the effects, tracing if possible, the precise mode of onset of the malady to its most fundamental causation and following its evolution in time and space, keeping track of the various concomitant factors accompanying it through the different phases. It is a totality thus erected that will portray the image in its true form and enable the choice of an appropriate remedy which, administered in the strength and repetition as judged by the susceptibility, will ensure *a rapid, gentle, permanent cure based on the easily comprehensible principles of Hahnemannian Homoeopathy.*

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