

## LET'S BE HONEST

DR. RUSSELL K. MATTERN, M.D.

A homœopath is a physician who has added to his knowledge of general medicine a special knowledge of homœopathic therapy. Let's be honest—the plus makes a difference.

There are 1,700 alumnus of Hahnemann in the state of Pennsylvania. A small number of these are active members of the Pennsylvania State Homœopathic Society. A smaller number are practising homœopathy.

Let's be honest about it—the terrific advances made in scientific medicine have limited the need for homœopathic treatment. These spectacular advances have accomplished much. Yet, they leave much to be desired in the cure of diseases. There are still many conditions where homœopathy has proven to be the most effective therapy.

Let's be honest about it. These advances have been made by the regular school of medicine. They have done—and are doing much for the medical profession. And we should be members of our local county societies, the Pennsylvania State Society, and the A.M.A.—but, we ought to be active, contributing members. At this point I wish to add that my own personal relationship with the regular societies has been most gratifying, professionally and socially.

The various reports of the resurgencies of homœopathy are indeed interesting. Let's be honest about what they mean.

Germany reports that on practically every hospital staff there is a homœopathic physician.

France can boast about approximately four hundred in attendance at their homœopathic society meetings.

Russia is able to report that practically every medical physician has some knowledge of homœopathy—and uses it.

From South America, Argentina reports 153 graduates in the post graduate school each year, and Brazil has wide spread use of homœopathy.

Let's be honest—the trouble is not with homœopathy, but with the individual homœopath, himself.

Homœopathy as a separate type of therapy appears to be dying out, but let's be honest—it isn't dead. And, its future depends upon us.

Admittedly, the general school of medicine makes an invaluable contribution to the overall practice of medicine, but since homœopathy does possess a special kind of knowledge which makes for more effective treatment in case after case—I think we may be justified in saying—in all honesty—homœopathy need not die if more of us *practice* homœopathy.

—*The Hahnemannian, July-Sept. '59.*

**Editorial Note:**—We reprint this article from the President's page of the Hahnemannian (the Journal of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.; Vol. 94/3), only to caution the homœopaths of India or rather of the world.

We sincerely appreciate the worry of the President, Dr. Mattern. But, if we are to be honest, we must express our honest opinion as to the root of the cause of his worry—which lies in the very definition of a Homœopath in the U. S. A. If that definition is not radically changed it is idle to expect survival of Homœopathy in the U. S. A., or anywhere else.

A Homœopath must be something more than a physician having knowledge of general medicine (here understood to be Orthodox medicine) plus knowledge of Homœopathic Therapy. To be a Homœopath one must thoroughly get rid of the mechanical crude ideas of the Traditional Medicine with respect to the meanings of the terms Disease and Cure, he must get rid of the traditional attraction towards material doses, and thoroughly learn, appreciate and accept the qualitative aspects of disease, cure, medicine and dose. In other words, one intending to be a homœopath must not waste his time and energy to enhance his traditional superstitions, beliefs and ideas regarding Medicine by going through a curriculum of the Orthodox school, but from the very beginning learn the medical science from a