

We call special attention to Lord Lister's closing remark, "With that due regard to the efficient training of the nurses, and to the efficiency of their supervision," "this necessarily under competent medical men," the matter would commend itself to all medical men. Of this there can be little doubt but the scheme, as at first propounded, had neither of these essential qualifications.—Ed.

QUACKERY

It is a good sign when the lay press begins to discuss the subject of quackery. The attached editorial from the *Pendleton Tribune*, is much in point, and the profession of Eastern Oregon is to be congratulated upon having a periodical published in that section whose editor is sound upon this important subject. The article is as follows :—

Devils, Not Doctors.—There is a growing tendency among a certain class of the sick and decrepit, the lame, the halt and the blind to seek relief from their ills through the agency of a class of parasites styling themselves doctors. One of the reasons for this tendency lies in the fact that most people love to be humbugged. They will spend time and money and go to almost any extremity in order to get themselves humbugged. They seem to feel that they are not fully equipped for the struggle of life or qualified to mingle with their peers until they have been humbugged, and the larger number of degrees they take in humbuggery the more glorified they become, and many never stop their gullish career until they are glorified into eternity.

Another explanation of the fact that ailing people are so easily victimized by these pretenders in the medical profession is that they have been educated, through the distribution of seductive literature that flows out to them through the mails and confronts them almost at every turn. Newspapers all over the land and almost without exception have aided in poisoning the minds of ailing people against the legitimate and deserving votaries of the

medical profession, and are largely responsible for the existence of an army of frauds who thrive upon the weakness of that large class of unfortunates who suffer from physical ills. And the seditious matter that finds its way into every home in the land through the columns of the press not only teaches the theory that the legitimate practitioners of medicine are not to be trusted, but so works upon the credulity of the young and inexperienced that they gradually become confirmed in the belief that they suffer from some disease that in reality does not exist.

So thoroughly have these unhealthy ideas become instilled into the mind of suffering humanity that an army of these professional confidence men are thriving and growing rich at the expense of the poor in mind and body. These unprincipled adventurers have only to announce their arrival to insure a harvest. They plunder the needy of their scanty savings and magnify the disorder of the patient in accordance with the size of his purse. The class of doctors (?) of whom we speak are cold-blooded, pitiless, mercenary villains and frauds who are worse than the meanest of confidence men whose offenses end when the plunder is secured. These imposters not only impoverish the pockets of their confiding victims, but rob them of a competency of health. These depraved beings are men without conscience, devoid of feeling, have no conception of moral responsibility, no sympathy with or for their deluded victims, and would put a deadly blight upon the fairest flower for the sake of gain.

Think of these human hyenas thriving upon a community where there are intelligent and legitimate practitioners. Compare these villains with the home physician of recognized and acknowledged ability and integrity ; with men who live among us ; who look to the future ; who jealously guard reputation ; who are sensible of their heavy responsibilities ; who are proud of their chosen profession, and devote their lives to the advancement of the most important of all sciences.