

trained men and women, or allowed to become the plaything of every man who believes he has a speedy, easy and pleasant method of restoring people to what they consider to be normal health in themselves?

The trouble with new methods of healing is that they are always too comprehensive. In that way they immediately antagonize minds which are never impulsive. The conservative and safe mind demands ample proof before it will take on with the new method. This is seen, not only in the profession of medicine proper, but as well amongst all classes, professions and callings in the community. Others, however, are easily persuaded and run swiftly after strange gods.

The profession of medicine has long recognized that there cannot be too much education in preparing a man to practise the healing art. Indeed, from the day he first enters upon practice, each medical practitioner is a constant student. He recognizes that he must ever have a voracious appetite, and endeavors to assimilate and digest whatever new thing comes into his capacious maw. It is similar in every walk of life, for the ambition to succeed stirs almost every man to constant work and action.

The healing art is for the people, not for the practitioner of it, for it has to be practised upon him as upon others. No matter what is said to the contrary, the practitioner of medicine is first and always for the benefit of the people. That is the essential, altruistic principle.

As it is essentially for the people, it is quite natural, therefore, for a man who feels he has departed from what he regards as his normal state of health, to seek the easiest and pleasantest path by which to return. Whenever any of these easy paths are discovered by a member of the medical profession it is immediately given to the world. It is not kept for private gain. That is one of the finest principles in the profession of medicine. That points the difference between the profession and the people. Whenever a layman thinks he has a therapeutic discovery, it is exploited for his own personal gain. When laymen become seized of the same altruistic principle, in this regard, that all therapeutic discoveries will be for the benefit of mankind, quackery and nostrum-exploiting will cease, and there will be no further argument as to the body designated to put them into use. All men must either hand their discoveries in therapeutics over to the members of the healing art, or properly qualify themselves to put them into effect.