

Shrink not then from the call of duty. Remember the medical profession is not one for poltroons or cowards.

But in addition to this courage there must also be work, and that very strenuous and persistent. Your days of study by no means cease with the acquisition of your diplomas; indeed your real study is only beginning. You simply have laid the foundation on which you are to build.

It is a truism that nothing can be attained without labour or effort, and most especially does this apply to our own profession. It is one continued effort and striving in study and practice from the day you take it up until you finally lay it down.

The illimitability of our profession is to me one of its great charms. The feeling that there are always greater heights yet to be scaled, that there are constant advances to be made.

Unless we are going to fall behind, it is absolutely necessary that we study and work unceasingly. We can only afford a respite in order to brace ourselves for still greater efforts. Truly the life work of men like Lister, Pasteur, Haffkin and others is noble and inspiring, much more so indeed than of the greatest conquerors.

If one but considers the thousands of lives saved, the pain and suffering ameliorated as the result of their labours, surely these men are the greatest benefactors of the world.

In the absolute and self-abnegation and fearlessness of Haffkin and men like him during the course of their researches in plague-stricken districts, and in their devotion to and love of their work, we find noble examples worthy of emulation.

There are such grand possibilities in our life work. We may not be great men like Lister and the others, or make some vital discovery which will set the scientific world afire, yet we can and should avail ourselves of our possibilities to the utmost.

We can try to add some stones in the grand scientific structure now being erected by our profession, or failing this we may be able to help with some morsel of mortar to bind together the stones already in place.

To this end, *study* your work and *do* your work carefully and thoroughly, not haphazard. Keep full case reports, collate your facts and study them out. If in time you happily build up a large practice, endeavour to keep it within such bounds that you have time for thought, otherwise you must perforce scamp your work, and thus fail to do justice to your patients or yourself.

The first few years of your professional life are bound to be slow, and you will likely have plenty of spare time. These