

The medical profession cannot be too guarded in its attitude towards all this sort of quackery. These persons and institutions are not working for the good of the medical profession, but solely for their own gain. They are only too willing, however, to make use of the profession to further their own ends, if they can do so. The medical profession should not countenance any person, or institution, not working in direct harmony with it.

Many of these persons, having acquired a smattering of knowledge in some subject, desire to make gain out of this knowledge, and start some place for the cure of disease, by the employment of some means that, though possessed of some merit in its proper limits, is worse than useless when pushed beyond these limits. On many of these so-called methods of treatment, the medical profession has been too silent, and has thereby lent a sort of countenance to them.

Massage, hot air, baths, sunlight, electricity, exercise, x-rays, drink cures, and such like are all very well in themselves, and are capable of much good in the proper hands; but when their application to the treatment of disease falls into the hands of the purely commercial methods of the persons and institutions, now referred to, nothing but evil, in the end, can come from them to proper employment of these agencies. Mysticism is the main feature of these systems of treatment. The patient is rubbed, and, at the same time, informed that a special influence is brought to bear on his case, through some power in the person treating him. Some utterly worthless concoction is given a victim to drink, or drugs, and he is assured it will create within him a new power of resistance. Whatever there is in the treatment is merely one of suggestion.

The medical profession must take a firm and a united stand on these matters. If institutions are to exist for the treatment of disease, they must be under the supervision of the medical profession. No proprietary medicine, or plan of treatment, should be allowed, the nature of which is not made known in the fullest manner. Light is most valuable in the destruction of infection; and, so here, light will prove valuable in relegating these quack methods to their proper place—oblivion.

DR. H. T. BULSTRODE ON THE CAUSES OF PHTHISIS.

In his third milroy lecture, *London Lancet*, August 15, the following pregnant sentences occur: "If I were told to select three, and three only, of the agencies with which I have in some degree dealt in these lectures as those upon which, assuming always a sufficiency of food, I would place