

should serve up for breakfast a synopsis on Addison's disease, acute cardiac dilatation, leukæmia, pernicious anæmia, exophthalmic goitre, angina pectoris or hepatic inadequacy? In the morning papers I have also sometimes seen a physician receive such an advertisement as the following: *Yesterday afternoon Dr. E. F. of Toronto, assisted by local physicians, operated upon Mr. C. D. for appendicitis. The patient is progressing favorably but is not lacking in the element of danger.* This interesting item of news was inserted as a local from a correspondent in an outlying town. Imagine the local correspondent making use of the carefully couched language of the shrewd prognosticator. I will not even make an insinuation as to who was directly or indirectly responsible for the information. It cannot be denied that many readers are interested in the welfare of friends who chance to be ill but it must be conceded that it is reprehensible for the consultant or operator to allow his name to appear conspicuously in such articles.

Also it is reprehensible for a physician to ignore Clause 4 of Article II. in the Code which reads as follows:—"Equally derogatory to professional character is it for a physician to hold a patent for a surgical instrument or medicine; or to dispense a secret nostrum, whether it be the composition or exclusive property of himself or of others. For if such nostrum be of real efficacy, any concealment regarding it is inconsistent with beneficence and professional liberality; and if mystery alone give it value and importance, such craft implies either disgraceful ignorance or fraudulent avarice. It is also reprehensible for physicians to give certificates attesting the efficacy of patent or secret proprietary medicines."

I am led to refer to this clause because of the appearance in the press of your city of an announcement to the effect that an establishment for the treatment of tuberculosis by a process known as the Ramage system is to be opened in the near future under the auspices of two physicians. Of this system I know nothing, but do know that it is a secret process. It may be patented or it may not. It matters little whether it is or not. The fact that it is not given to the profession for the public good stamps it at least as a commercial enterprise. I will not criticize the conduct of the physicians who *lend* their names to the project. Words fail me. Further, it might be uncharitable for me to do so. It is possible that the public, rich and poor alike, may be able to secure this marvellous cure. There may be well advertised bargain days during which those without means may be able to present themselves for treatment. Be that as it may. If the system is of value why withhold knowledge of it from the profession? Where would science be to-day if the commercial spirit had actuated those to whose efforts we are indebted for