

to ward off disease in the individual and to protect the public, as in the case of infectious disease.

A study of the signs, symptoms and course of different diseases is necessary in order to be able to recognize them and to diagnose or differentiate one disease from another. Hence, proper clinical training is a pre-requisite of *any intelligent plan of treatment*, as it is obviously impossible to apply treatment properly or with safety until one knows what the disease or condition is that he seeks to remedy. These principles of necessity apply with equal force to whatever the mode or system of treatment, which may be deemed most useful or advisable for the relief of the disease, when once it has been recognized.

It follows, therefore, that the same scientific and clinical training is a pre-requisite for *all forms of treatment*. The arbitrary belief in any special dogma, system or plan of treatment can in no way relieve one of the necessity for this training in the fundamentals of intelligent practice: The irregular systems of practice do not claim a special form of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, physics or bacteriology. Once the would-be practitioner is properly trained and legally qualified, no restriction is, or should be placed on his freedom to obtain further knowledge in any form of treatment or of the right to practise it within legal and ethical limitations. This is recognized under the medical laws now in force in the Province. Only by the acceptance of these underlying principles are equal rights and privileges granted to all, the safety of the public protected and medical science promoted.

In the countries of Europe these principles are recognized as underlying every legalized form of practice. For the state to recognize the right of any to practise medicine without the knowledge to be acquired only by training in the before-mentioned subjects, is to expose not only the individual but the public to grave dangers. The inability to diagnose may allow a patient with a diseased spinal column to be manipulated, producing dislocation, crushing of the spinal cord, paralysis and death; a tuberculous joint may be manipulated and the disease disseminated; an aneurism may be ruptured; apoplexy produced in a patient with high blood pressure or death result from manipulation of a goitre. Massage, manipulation, mechanotherapy, hydrotherapy and other drugless forms of treatment, are recognized and practised as a part of general medicine and require for their safe application the same ability to diagnose and select the proper cases as with medicinal treatment.