

imposed upon anyone practising such religious tenets upon or in reference to any person suffering from any disease dealt with as contagious or infectious in the Public Health Act, *unless before such practice is begun notice in writing is given to the local health authorities of the presence of such disease.*" The italics are ours.

But it may be asked why this sort of exception at all? An immense field is left open for the possible exploitation by the Christian Scientist. The groups of nervous affections, diseases of the digestive organs, the many forms of kidney troubles and all the new formations and degenerative conditions, etc., are outside the Public Health Act. Mistakes in the diagnosis of such conditions would involve the healer in no liability.

Let us now turn to page 72 and quote Justice Hodgins' conclusion number 8. Here it is:

"That provision shall be made in such legislation that nothing in it or in the definition of medicine shall prevent the practice of the religious tenets of any church, provided that anyone exercising it for gain for the benefit of the sick or diseased, shall possess a permit from the Provincial Board of Health certifying that the holder is qualified to recognize the diseases required to be reported under the Public Health Act, and further providing that when the practice is apart from a church edifice, or the home of the patient, and is for gain, the onus shall be upon the person so practising to bring himself within the exception. Nothing in the legislation should in any way weaken the position that where infants are concerned necessities should include the services of a registered medical practitioner."

A careful study of the foregoing makes it clear that if the Christian Scientist is going to exercise the power of healing on the sick for gain he must first obtain from the Provincial Board of Health a certificate that he could diagnose contagious diseases. This is very necessary, as the Christian Scientist healer might come into contact with contagious diseases at any time. As a healer in the church he would be sent for by the sick, hence the necessity that he should be able to make his practice conform to the requirements of the Health Act. This will place a severe but very proper restriction upon this cult.

But the recommendation also states that "where infants are concerned necessities should include the services of a registered medical practitioner." We presume the term "infant" is here used in its legal meaning, which is any person under 21 years of age. This, again, would impose a sweeping limitation upon the Christian Scientist healer, and place upon the parents or guardians a heavy responsibility if they called in any such healer to treat one under 21.

It would be difficult indeed to find any book so densely ignorant of the laws of health and the causes and treatment of diseases as