

exploiting in the profession products of a pseudo-science. Let me specify, three items in which I think the manufacturing pharmacists have gone beyond their limit and are trading on the credulity of the profession to the great detriment of the public. The length to which organotherapy has extended, not so much on this side of the water as on the continent, beyond the legitimate use of certain preparation is a notorious illustration of the ease with which theoretical views place us in a false position. Because thyroid extract cures myxædema and adrenalin has powerful action, it has been taken almost for granted that the extract of every organ is specific against the disease that affect it. This forcing of a scientific position is most hurtful, and I have known an investigator hesitate to publish results lest they should be misapplied in practice. The literature on the subject issued by reputable houses indicates, on the one hand, the pseudo-science upon which a business may be built up, and, on the other, the weak-minded state of the profession on whose credulity these firms trade. Another most reprehensible feature is the laudatory character of literature describing the preparations which they manufacture. Foisted upon an innocent practitioner by a travelling Autolyceus, the preparation is used successfully, say in six cases of amenorrhæa; very soon a report appears in a medical journal, and a few weeks later this report is sent broadcast with the auriferous leaflets of the firm. A day or two before I left England a pamphlet came from X & Co., characterized by brazen therapeutic impudence, and indicating a supreme indifference to anything that could be called intelligence on the part of the recipients. That these firms have the audacity to issue such trash indicates the state of thralldom in which they regard us. And I would protest against the usurpation on the part of these men of our functions as teachers. Why, for example, should Y. & Co. write as if they were directors of large genito-urinary clinics instead of manufacturing pharmacists? It is none of their business what is the best treatment for gonorrhæa—by what possibility could they ever know it, and why should their literature pretend to the combined wisdom of Neisser and Guyon? What right have Z. & Co. to send on a card directions for the treatment of anemia and dyspepsia, about which subjects they know as much as an unborn babe, and, if they stick to their legitimate business, about the same opportunity of getting information! For years the profession has been exploited in this way until the evil has become unearable and we need as active a crusade against pseudo-science in the profession as has been waged of late against the use of quack medicines by the public. We have been altogether too submissive, and have gradually allowed those who should be our willing helpers to dictate terms and to play the role of masters. Far too large a section of the treatment of disease is to-day controlled by the big manufacturing pharmacists, who have