Symptoms referred to the stomach in ileo-stasis of organic origin are determined to a considerable extent by the associated conditions or complications. Some of the latter are diseases of the stomach itself, such as duodenal ulcer and gallstones, which are prone to produce gastric symptoms; and others again are disturbances of the nervous system, such as neurasthenia and hysteria. Any one of these may be characterized by a group of gastric symp-It is obviously very difficult in any case to determine the part played by organic obstruction of the ileum in the genesis of the symptoms. This is the crux of the question of operative treatment of intestinal stasis at the present. I think that surgeons are wont to blame adhesions of the ileum for all the complaints of the patient and there is some reason for their doing so for, frequently after an operation for the removal of adhesions, etc., and the treatment associated with every surgical operation, there is a very marked improvement or a complete cure of the disease. treatment of the patient, however, by the surgeon is not as a rule purely surgical. It might be said to consist of operative treatment plus a "cure" in which the habits of the patient are corrected, the diet improved, and instruction on hygienic lines generally given. For my part I am satisfied that in many cases the "cure" is more curative than the operative treatment, for equally successful results are obtained by medical treatment. Before the complaints of the patient are ascribed to anatomical changes we should make a thorough examination of all the organs of the body. We should remember that an asthenic state is very common, and that when present it frequently gives rise directly to gastric symptoms as well as ileo-stasis; also that suggestion is frequently responsible for the symptoms of the patient.

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## WHAT IS THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE?

By J. S. Sprague, M.D., Belleville, Ont.

Are the mushroom, fly-by-night, delusive cults (misbranded medical), properly better defined as fakerisms, to be allowed recognition and license in this our Province—in this enlightened age—when the regular profession with its glorious traditions and records and its present triumphs is winning many and imperishable honors and services for our flag? Who are the illegitimates and who are the quacks? Who are they, who, by short-cuts, correspondence schools, etc., want to be enrolled with M.D.'s as licentiates to practise and disgrace the title of *Poctor* and the title of *Phy*-