

Luc De Schepper, M.D., PhD, Lic. Ac.
The president of European Congress of Homeopathy

SPEECH ON CONGRESS CLOSING

Dear friends,

At the closure of this congress, I hope we all have drunk from the source of knowledge, knowledge that has a great impact on many lives if practiced correctly. Anything which does not really have an impact on one's life in the first place, and the lives of others in the second place, is really in my opinion absolutely not worthwhile learning. It is much better than to go fishing, or dancing, or anything else than to learn things which have no impact on one's life, directly or indirectly.

As Carl Jung said, "We know that there is no human foresight or wisdom that can prescribe the direction to our life, except for the small stretches on the way. The school of life is always a detour. How much is there to strive for and that we reach only by detour! Fate confronts us like an intricate labyrinth, all too rich in possibilities, and yet of these many possibilities, only one is our own right way." For us homeopaths the right way is the Organon that guides us into the light when confronted with the darkness of man. I do not think we have the right to accuse anyone as if we were judges. When we understand that nothing that happens to the patient is also happening in ourselves, we will not be judgmental or moralistic or indignant about the patient.

Since homeopathy postulates that any illness which is curable by homeopathy, that the remedy is there if the physician can only find it, it imposes a heavy psychological, intellectual and moral burden on those who practice it correctly. We cannot try to evade this obligation as to not cause discord within our ranks. As Confucius proclaimed: "Study the past if you would define the future!" To all of you who work so hard with incredible and unrelenting discipline despite the impossibility for many of receptivity, miracles as have been shown recently in the Middle East with totally surprising rapidity of change, could happen for homeopathy and medicine as well. All of you are leading the charge to freedom of medical neglect or as Ivan Illich called it, "Disabling Professions."

To be productive as a homeopath we must possess care, responsibility, respect and knowledge. We must think of the whole of mankind as being a single body and of each nation as constituting a part of that body... We must not say, "if there is sickness in a certain place in the world, what does that matter to me? If there is such sickness, we must be just as much concerned with it as though it happened right in our midst.

I hope this congress has cleared up some of the confusion that reigns nowadays in the homeopathic world, and what is worse, some believe this very confusion to be a normal state of mind. But because of such confusion, the homeopath feels isolated, bewildered and often powerless. Each of you as homeopaths should retain his critical capacities and not give up your inner independence by surrendering to the authority of another convincing semi-hypnotist masquerading as a homeopath to think and feel what such hypnotist "makes you" think and feel. Rational thinking is based on productive intellectual and emotional activity and having a rational vision, the latter in itself a result of considerable in depth study, reflective thinking and observation rather than chasing a fantasy. People want "promise" from our profession and Hahnemann called one "ignorant" who lightly promises for the cure of a difficult disease.

May humankind, just as Phoenix rise again from his own ashes through the reintroduction of Empirical medicine. We need a radical and profound shift in many aspects of life, especially medicine, if this culture will survive in the long run. It means getting back to the roots, to the empirical quantum approach in science. Empiricism in its homeopathic foundation is a *science of the individual patient* that recognizes the need for a "specific" remedy to address the fact of heterogeneity. We need people with uncommon vigor and insight, men of pronounced individuality and acute mentality, full of unintimidated courage, with a passionate impulse toward independence of thought and action. May you the homeopath join the ranks and declare at the end of your path: "I have had my day, I have done my duty, I have realized my ideals!" Thank you all!