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OSLER CALLS THEM QUACKS

DEAN OF HOMŒOPATHIC COLLEGE TELLS OF A LETTER

Sent in Answer to an Invitation to Attend
Alumni Dinner—Olive Branches With
Bitter Fruit—Fer-de-Lance Brought
Down to a Commencement Clinic.

Speaking last night before the alumni of the New York Homœopathic Medical College at the annual banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria, Dean William Harvey King declared that members of the homœopathic school must come to some decision as to what was and what was not orthodox and put an end to dissensions among themselves. Now that homœopathy had gained a secure place among medical schools, the old schools were holding out the olive branch and complaining of the narrow sectarianism of the homœopaths. The olive branch, he thought, was for public display only and he cited a recent address given in Baltimore by Dr. Osler in which the doctor declared that it was no longer time for different schools of medicine to war with one another.

"Dr. Osler's utterance was published widely," said Dean King, "and in reply we invited him to be present at our dinner to-night. We thought that he would send a letter to be read here even if he could not come. He sent the letter, but it is not to be read. He wrote to say that we were a bunch of quacks. His lecture was meant for the public and his letter for us."

Dean King told the doctors, who crowded the large ball room of the hotel, that it was high time that some of them did something to advance the knowledge of materia medica and therapeutics of the homœopathic school. He declared that the doctors were trading upon the reputations of their predecessors, and that homœopathy was standing still.

"If homœopathy is to survive," he said, "it must be not only because it was superior to any other school forty years ago, but because it is superior to any other form of therapeutics to-day."

The banquet closed the forty-eighth annual commencement exercises of the medical school, which were held at Mendelssohn Hall in the afternoon. The alumni were entertained at luncheon at the college building at Sixty-third street and Avenue A. The degrees were conferred by Anson R. Flower, president of the board of trustees. There were twenty-three graduates.

The gathering of several hundred doctors, many of whom came from distant parts of the country, was taken advantage of at the college building to illustrate in clinics modern methods of practice. Curator Ditmars of the Bronx Zoo brought down his fer de lance to show the method of obtaining the snake's poison. Dr. Ditmars's assistant failed to show up and the curator declined to experiment with so dangerous a snake without help. He did, however, experiment with another snake of less lively nature than the viper and showed the doctors how to "milk" the poison into a glass.

At the alumni dinner in the evening most of the doctors were careful to take a non-homœopathic remedy for snake bite. Dr. Ralph I. Lloyd presided as toastmaster, and those who spoke after Dean King were Judge C. A. Moore, Creswell McLaughlin, the Rev. George Thomas Dowling, Dr. John E. Wilson and Dr. Ralph Waldo Thompson.