

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION (INDIA) TRANSFER OF FUNDS BILL, 1956

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer of a portion of the funds of the St. John Ambulance Association (India) to the St. John Ambulance Association (Pakistan), as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

I will not say more than two or three words. As a result of the decision again to partition the corpus and the allied funds of the Indian Red Cross Society with the Pakistan Red Cross Society and the transfer of the share due to the latter in accordance with the terms mutually agreed upon by the two Societies, it has become necessary to authorise the St. John Ambulance Association (India) which is a separate unregistered body—in practice it acts as the Ambulance department of the Red Cross Society—to

partition its funds and to transfer the share due to the St. John Ambulance Association (Pakistan) in accordance with the decisions arrived at after the meetings held on the 22nd April 1948 and again on the 11th April, 1953.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer of a portion of the funds of the St. John Ambulance Association (India) to the St. John Ambulance Association (Pakistan), as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed"

The motion was adopted.

THE ALL-INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES BILL, 1956

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

I have very great pleasure in bringing forward this Bill before the House. The creation of an all-India institute of this nature was first mooted by what

is known as the Bhole Committee in **their Report**. That Committee toured all over India, went into the question of the health services in India, the means that provided those health services, ways of combating the lack of those services and also how best we could maintain high standards of medical education and thereby promote the scientific knowledge of modern medicine in our own land with all the experience and all the clinical material available to us in our own country, in the background of our own country, including the villages, rather than send a few of our students abroad to go in for further post-graduate study. Now, this Institute is going to lay primary emphasis on post-graduate studies. As I have just said, it is sad that today, up till now—in fact right up to this time—we have had to depend on scholarships, whether Governmental or from abroad such as the Rockefeller Foundation is good enough to give us, to send a few chosen representatives of the medical profession to outside countries to get their post-graduate studies in the various limbs of the medical profession. I have always felt that it would be even so much better for us if we could give the same knowledge as these young men and women acquire by going abroad in our own country. Further if we have an Institute of this nature, we shall thereby be able to control the standard of education; we shall be even able to make changes in the curriculum of our medical education and thereby give not only to this country but perhaps through our country even to the world, something different, something that we from our rare experiences will be able to find as we go along this exploratory path of progress. As I have often said, it has been one of my cherished dreams that an institute of this nature should come into being and that through it we may be able to serve our own people better, especially the people who live in our villages. Our educational institutions have up till now been always located in the cities this is also going to be located in Delhi, you may say a city, but we

are going to have village hospitals attached where our students will be able to go and work. They will not only get part of their education there but will be given wide chances for research in the villages.

When I refer to medical education, I refer to modern medical education. At the very outset, I would like to say that perhaps there might be a little confusion in the minds of some Members of this House, as there certainly was in the minds of the Members of the Lok Sabha, that because this Institute is called the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, it should also include sciences other than modern medicine. I have to say that if I had not been given a very large sum of money, a million and a quarter pounds, by the New Zealand Government under the Colombo Plan, to start an Institute of modern medicine, I should probably never have been able to get our Government to give me that amount of money to start with. This is not a new scheme. It has been before both Houses because money for it has been budgeted over the last four years. There have been some delays in starting it but there was no question ever of this Institute being anything except one for developing sciences which are allied to modern medicine. Now, modern medicine includes ever so many sciences which with the dynamic progress which this science makes, are increasing in number every day. For instances, there are various limbs of surgery; not only general surgery but there is also orthopaedic surgery, neuro-surgery, chest surgery and so on. Even in the matter of clinical medicine, there are cardiologists and paediatricians, there are tuberculosis experts and specialists for various kinds of diseases. Then there is dentistry which is allied; there is the nursing profession which is allied and there is also radiology which is allied. There are the non-clinical sciences also, biochemistry, bio-physics etc., which are all allied. So, it would not have been right to call it just an Institute of Medical Science. It has

[Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.] ,
 been right to call it the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, that is, all that modern medicine embraces within its very, very wide orbit. I go further and say that what modern medicine constitutes today, what modern medical science constitutes today, is the sum total of all the knowledge gleaned through all the long years lived on this earth as far 3 P.M. as we can know, and just as

I have no doubt that in the old days the Arab world called their science Unani, that is to say, they took it from Greece and probably ancient Greece and ancient India had contacts too—I have no doubt either that modern medicine in the initial stages took a great deal from Ayurveda or the science of life as propounded by our ancients. But there is no doubt also that Ayurveda remained static. We should do all in our power now to revive Ayurveda and through Ayurveda give what it has to give to enrich the broad stream of modern medicine, which we have accepted as the basic means of giving relief to our people in this country. We cannot in this one vital science go backwards or remain static or say that we will not progress with the rest of the world. Even when we were discussing the Red Cross Bill one Member said that it was too modern, it was too western—I do not understand what western and modern mean—for surely in the world in which we live we must take everything that is good from every part of the world. We certainly cannot live to ourselves. We are taking the aeroplane, we are taking the motor-car, we are taking atomic energy for peaceful purposes in which of course modern medical science is also included, and likewise from Ayurveda we must take what we can. I would have the House remember that with the continued progress that has been taking place in the fields of the physical and biological sciences which make such a vital contribution to medical science, modern medicine has made and is making enormous strides and it is increasing its efficiency in regard

not only to diagnosis and treatment but also in regard to the prevention of diseases which is extremely important and promoting what is now a common term and that is positive health. Therefore the task of medical education becomes a very important one and not one which we can minimise in any way because on the training of the future doctor depends really the type of helps that we are going to be able to give to our people. So medical education above all things has got to take account of the needs of the country. Not only in our own country but in all Asian countries, various forms of preventable causes of disease and suffering continue and we have therefore to put greater emphasis on preventive medicine. Even in the western world, when I visited America two years ago in order to see the new trends in medical education, I was able to sense there also a desire to change over from many things and to integrate the preventive with the curative side very much more than has been done up to this time even there. The same aspect is coming into the United Kingdom, which is a conservative country and moves perhaps much more slowly than others. Only yesterday I had the privilege of talking with one of their outstanding surgeons who happens to be in India to-day. He has come out to see which hospitals in India are good enough for them to send out examiners for our students to take the F.R.C.S. He too was telling me that in all their teaching institutions they must specialise because an enormous amount of specialisation is taking part in modern medicine today and that is why they are called the sciences, but he said that in their countryside they do not want all that specialisation and they still want the general practitioner. I said that is exactly my problem and that is exactly what I have also embarked upon and therefore it is that more and more I feel that the future doctor has to come into line with modern medical practices and India cannot possibly afford to stay away from the steady progress and development that

is taking place in other parts of the world. The main idea at the back of the establishment of this All-India Institute is to fulfil the purposes which I have mentioned.

Now I do not want to go into details as to how the institution is going to function. I am sure the Members of this House have heard, and I hope they have heard with pleasure, as I have had the pleasure in making the appointment, of the appointment of Dr. Dikshit as the first Director of this institute. He is a man who has wide knowledge, outstanding knowledge in his own speciality which is physiology. He has had teaching experience. He was principal of a college. He has had research experience by having worked in the Haffkine Institute and latterly he has had wide administrative experience too as Surgeon-General of Bombay and so I hope that at the very beginning of this institute itself, as I hope this Bill will be passed to-day, this new Director will have the blessings of both the Houses of Parliament so that we can go ahead with confidence that we shall be performing a duty which we could not so far performed by our young doctors, both men and women, simply because we have lacked the facilities. And one of the main things that this institute will do is to provide the teaching personnel, Sir, for our medical colleges. Now practically every State has sent in their health plans to the Planning Commission and of course they always ask me to help them to get money for their health plans and I invariably do so, and practically all these States have asked for another medical college. U.P. wants to have three more colleges and I think they are right that they should have, according to their population, three more. But where are they going to get the teaching personnel? These just do not exist. What is happening in many of the medical colleges that are being started to-day. We have to fall back on retired personnel, which is not a good thing. How long can we fall back on retired personnel? And therefore I am hoping and I think I

have reason to hope with confidence, that after six years or seven years we shall be able to give to new colleges first class medical personnel that will have been trained in this institute in their post-graduate studies.

The other point that I would like to mention about this Bill is that in this All-India Medical Institute we are not going to allow—I know I have a great deal of opposition or, shall, I say, at any rate differences of opinion to face in this matter—we are not going to allow our professors in this institute to have private practice. I myself feel, have felt for a long time, even though I am not against private practice *qua* private practice for I am all in favour of the axiom that the labourer is worthy of his hire, that because of the lack of personnel, because of the enormous numbers of persons that come to hospital—and the enormous numbers naturally are the poor amongst us—that private practice with poor salaries which we have given to our doctors up to date has had a deleterious effect in-as-much as if a man has to supplement his income by private practice he naturally gives more attention to those who pay than to those who don't. It is human nature. I don't call the doctor bad names as some people do who say, "He won't go out to the villages." What do you give him? You give him a mere pittance, not even a house to live in, not even a hospital where he can practise his skill, and then you say he is unpatriotic. We have always to look at the two sides of a picture.

So these doctors are going to be paid enough and I have a feeling from the good response that we have had to the advertisements that have already gone out that those who will come here will be quite contented and will be glad to devote their whole time to the promotion not only of teaching, not only of serving the patients who come to the hospitals but also, what is extremely important and vital to the progress of modern medicine, of research. Today our doctors because of private practice have no time whatsoever to give to research. A very

[Kajkumari Amrit Kaur.]
distinguished physician Lord Moran—I may give his name—when I was talking to him four or five years ago about the Health Services in the United Kingdom said that there had been a great deal of opposition to them too and though private practice had not gone, it had decreased. He said that if there was one good thing that had happened it was that their doctors who were really proficient in all the limbs of the medical profession were able to devote ever so much more time to research than they did before.

Another thing which I think is a good step, a step in the right direction, is that all the staff and the students are going to be housed in the camps of the Institute. I feel that by thus housing them we shall be doing something as I said in the other House to revive or maintain the old and ancient Indian philosophy of the Guru-Sishya ideal which I think is extremely useful. The student should be able to go to any member of the staff if he has any difficulty and the staff should be in close touch with those with whom they are dealing. Hon. Members may—perhaps now it is too hot but during the next session when it is a little cooler—if they like come with me or they themselves can go to Safdarjung and ask Dr. Dikshit to show them round the campus and see the plan of the Institute. I am sure it will delight their hearts to feel that an Institute of such significance, of such magnitude—I do not mean now the magnitude of the buildings but the magnitude of the conception of the Institute—is going to be set up in the country. I am proud that India has really taken the lead in medical science in this part of the world. We are today training workers from abroad for Malaria; we are today training workers from abroad for maternity and child welfare; we are training them as public health nurses; we are training people for village work, as sanitary inspectors and public health personnel and I do hope that here in this Institute also we shall be able to give that help to those

countries who are not perhaps as far advanced as we are.

Then I hope after we have taken up our teaching programmes and after we have drawn up the curriculum, the course may perhaps even be shortened and the students who work in this Institute may have more chances of undertaking responsibilities as I was able to see in the University of Denver in the U.S.A. One of the things that struck me there was the opportunity I had of listening to a fourth year student giving his dissertation on the patient who had been put in his entire charge.

Now, this Institute—and this is very important—is going to be given the powers and functions of a university because it will, I am sure, make revolutionary changes in many things, not only in curriculum but also in modes of teaching. Therefore this university status which this Bill will give, will enable the Institute to give diplomas and this will be on the same pattern as exists in England today in institutions such as the Royal College of Surgeons, the Royal College of physicians etc. They give diplomas of their own which most of our students when they go abroad are only too anxious to get because they maintain an extremely high standard. Of course, these will be recognised qualifications and they will have to be put down in the Indian Medical Council Act, an amendment to which I hope very shortly to introduce in this House.

Subject to such minimum control as the Government of India may exercise through its rule making power, the Institute will enjoy a very large measure of autonomy in other that it may fulfil the objective which I have tried to set forth before you in this very brief speech.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY (Madhya Pradesh): May I ask one question by way of clarification? There is the University Grants Commission. Will this Institute be entitled to grants from that Commission?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I could not answer that question off-hand. But at the moment I am myself in my Ministry budgeting for this Institute. I see no reason, however, it should not, but I cannot say off-hand because I have not got the constitution of the University Grants Commission before me.

DR. R. P. DUBE (Madhya Pradesh): If it is under the Delhi University, perhaps it might give.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: It is not going to be under the Delhi University but since it enjoys the status of a university itself, it may be that it may come into the picture but I am not worrying about that at the moment. Of course the Government of India will make itself responsible for the expenses but I am always an optimist and I hope that serving the cause of suffering humanity as this Institute will be, it too like so many medical colleges, medical college hospitals and hospitals not attached to colleges, will benefit from private philanthropy which will also come into the picture and help us to progress still further. The future of this Institute will lie in the hands of Director, of the Professors and other members of the teaching staff and of the students. I believe myself that it will be their devotion to duty, their desire to promote their work and their spirit of altruism that will actuate them to subordinate their personal considerations, as I believe the noble profession of medicine should do to the fulfilment of the objectives in view, that will eventually create and maintain an atmosphere which is necessary for an Institute like this. I do therefore hope that in presenting this Bill for acceptance by the Rajya Sabha today, the legal structure that is created may facilitate the progressive realisation of a study development of improved methods of medical education in this Institute and through the influence that it will exert, I am sure that the standards of different courses of professional training in the field of health throughout this country will be raised.

I have received one or two amendments about putting in persons representing the Indian systems of medicine. I would like to assure the members that in not including the Ayurveda, Unani or Homeopathic systems in this Institute no insult is meant to them. They cannot just fit into this picture. I hope to have a Chair for the History of Medicine as you will see that we are including the teaching of the Humanities and in that History of Medicine Ayurveda will make its contribution and so will Homeopathy and Unani. But the actual teaching of these systems cannot be undertaken in this Institute. As a matter of fact I was not going to wait for the teaching of Ayurveda post-graduate courses. Post-graduate studies in Ayurveda are going to be opened in July this very year in Jamnagar where there is already an Under-graduate college and I feel that later on when more research comes into the picture and as we widen our scope, we shall be able by that time to have enough knowledge about all the drugs that are available in India. After all, there is a Drugs Research Institute in Lucknow. I pleaded with Dr. Bhatnagar at the time when he was raising these scientific laboratories all over India. I said, "Please have one as quickly as you can for research in Indian drugs". It is working in Lucknow. It is doing very fine work. I believe that there is now going to be a harbarium which will feed it still more. Then there is Jamnagar which has been working extremely well and when the Prime Minister went there the other day, he said this is a fascinating experiment that is going on here. And now we are going to have post-graduate studies evolved there also. We are gradually taking more and more of our Indian drugs into the pharmacopoeia. I have placed in the library of this House the latest Indian Pharmacopoeia. That has been drawn up not by vairs but by those who profess modern medicine. I hope that those who go in for modern medicine will more and more after they have qualified go in

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for the therapeutics of Ayurveda. I do not believe that we are really going about the right way in enriching Ayurveda or allowing Ayurveda to enrich modern Medicine, because what is happening today is that all those young students who into the so called Ayurvedic schools come out and practise nothing but modern medicine. That is not what you want if you want Ayurveda to live. It ~~want Ayurveda to live. It~~ will be killed by antibiotics and the use of penicillin, sulphadruugs and everything else by the practitioners of Ayurveda themselves. I myself feel that I am a much greater friend of Ayurveda than many of the Members of this House or of the other House imagine. Now, I hope with this brief and perhaps longer survey than I intended to give. I have made the objectives of this Institute perfectly clear before the House and that I shall have their full support to this measure.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI P. N. SAPRU (Uttar Pradesh):
Mr. Deputy Chairman, I give my support to the Bill. The Bill carries out one of the major recommendations of the Bhore Committee on Health Survey and Development, of which I was a member. Now, one of the objects of this will be to provide an All-India Institute for the advancement of medical knowledge and for the training of medical personnel. It will provide refresher courses for the physicians working in our towns and villages. It will provide, I take it, facilities for higher instruction in modern medicine. I think Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, if I may say so with respect, was a little far too apologetic in defence of modern medicine. We don't stand today where we did about four thousand years back, when our

ancestors had creative minds and did a very great deal in the world of medicine. The world has moved during those four thousand years and if you want to benefit by medicine or by the facilities which medical science offers, you must be prepared to go to doctors who have knowledge of physiology, anatomy, bacteriology, pathology and who can perform the various tests which are necessary in order to diagnose disease. There is a very great deal that can be done by way of research so far as our pharmacopoeia is concerned. I think we have a rich pharmacopoeia and one of the conclusions to which we were driven, as members of the Bhore Committee, was that the most fruitful way in which the ancient medical systems could be advanced was by the encouragement of research in those sciences. Now, I should have liked some more light to be thrown on the organisational side of the Institute. One of the questions ~~which we had to consider~~ ^{I remember these questions were days—} which we had to consider was whether this Institute should not be affiliated to the Delhi University or to any other University for that matter. We came to the conclusion—at all events the majority agreed and I was one among the majority—that it should serve, it should function as an autonomous institution having more or less the status of a university. But I do not on reflection like this segregation in education. The tendency to have special institutes and call them by the name of universities or to devolve on them the functions of a university has, I am afraid, been carried a little too far in this country. We have an engineering university and we have, I suppose, a technological institutes; should they call themselves universities? Now, a university is a place where knowledge is integrated. It is a place where you have researchers and professors of various branches of knowledge working and co-operating together for the advancement of learning. It is an advantage to have a big institution of a specialised character affiliated to a university. I wish, therefore, that a

decision had been taken to affiliate it to the Delhi University which, I believe, is a Federal University and, if necessary, the constitution of the Delhi University could have been modified for that purpose.

Another thing that I would like to say is this. I have gone through the Bill and I find that far too much has been left to be filled up by the rules to be made by the Executive Government. Now, by merely reading the Bill I can have no idea as to how the Institute will actually function and what the measure of internal autonomy will be that the Institute will possess. In a note which Dr. Abdul Hameed and I had the honour of appending to the Report of the Bhore Committee, we emphasised that the institution must not be allowed to develop in such a manner as to become a place for mutual admiration. We wanted, therefore, provision to be specifically made in the constitution for an external element on the academic bodies of the institution. I may be perhaps permitted to quote myself in this connection:—

“We cannot agree to the further suggestion that the shaping of the Institute in its technical aspect should be entrusted solely to the Director and Professors of the Institute acting as a medical faculty. No adequate reason has, in our opinion, been given as to why on the medical faculty, which will presumably frame the curricula and appoint examiners, an external element should not be provided for. In our opinion, there is danger under a constitution of this character, of the academic faculty of the Institute developing into a close corporation of mutual admiration. We would, therefore, provide for representation on this academic body of faculties of medicine in Indian Universities, grouped together, as an electoral college for this purpose.”

Now, I think that the Institute will have four representatives—I refer to clause 4—of the medical faculties of Indian universities to be nominated

by the Central Government in the manner prescribed by rules. But the Institute is not a medical faculty. The Institute will have a governing body and there will be many other bodies which will work as part of the Institute. What I have in mind is that on the academic bodies which will frame the curricula and which will be responsible for the conduct of examinations and for prescribing all the standards, there should be representation of an expert character—representation of an outside expert character—provided in the Constitution itself. I should like, Mr. Deputy Chairman, the position to be clarified in this respect by the Health Minister. What is the intention of the Government in regard to this matter? How do they propose to constitute the bodies which will be responsible for the framing of the curricula, for prescribing the courses and for the laying down of academic standards and how do they propose to maintain a liaison between this Institute and various medical bodies in the country? I think that at least we should have been given some information on this aspect of the matter because I find that almost everything is going to be left to rules which are going to be framed hereafter and we have no clear picture before us as to how this Institute will function. That it is desirable to have this Institute will be admitted. It is becoming increasingly difficult for our young men to get facilities for higher education in the bigger universities of western countries. Those universities have their own problems. They have got to think of providing for their own young men first and it is essential that we should have an Institute in this country of a very high character where it is possible for research to be carried on under almost ideal conditions. We do not want to lag behind in the race for knowledge in the modern world so far as knowledge and research are concerned. While we have produced eminent physicians and while we have produced good practising surgeons, it is

[Shri P. N. Sapru.]

a matter for regret that our output so far as medical research is concerned is poor. There are some people who have research to their credit, but one reason for—I am glad that Rajkumariji referred to it—the lack of output in research is that the abler physicians in our medical institutions are allowed private work. They devote too much time to private practice. I have known professors of pathology and anatomy having extensive private practice. How can you expect them with their lecturing work and with their private practice to advance medical research or knowledge? Therefore, the decision that, in this Institute, teachers will not be allowed private practice, is to be welcomed. It will be in the interests not only of the people who go to the hospitals connected with this Institute, but it will also be in the larger interests of medical research in this country.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, I do not think that I would be justified in occupying more time. But I hope that the Health Minister will enlighten us on the points which I have raised. I would like also to say one word about the President of this Institute. The recommendation was that the President of the Institute should be an independent person and it was suggested by some of us that he must be the Chief Justice of India or the Speaker of the Lok Sabha or it might be some person of high status not identified in the popular mind with any political party. I emphasise that in order that this Institute might inspire confidence, the President should be a person of independence and character and status and a person who would be regarded as free from the control of the executive government.

That is all that I have got to say, Mr. Deputy Chairman, on this Bill. Thank you.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH (Madhya Bharat): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I

must congratulate Rajkumariji for having secured an enormous sum from New Zealand to get this Institute started. As she herself has admitted there has been much delay in starting this Institute. Anyway, now the Institute is there and we wish it all luck. The Bill is before us now.

At the outset, I would like to make a few remarks about what I would personally wish the Institute to do and in that respect I have two particular points to make. The first is that I would like to know whether this Institute of Medical Sciences is going to be one of those colleges that we have had all along throughout the length and breadth of the country or it is going to mark a departure from the past. Sir, we know that till about 12 or 15 years ago, there used to be a course called the Licentiate Course. That course has now been abolished. It used to take generally about four years after the passing of the matriculation examination. Now, the present course of M.B., B.S. takes seven years. On account of this, the medical studies have become difficult and very costly. In spite of a very large number of colleges throughout the length and breadth of the country, they are not able to produce really large number of medical graduates. Then, another problem is that the medical graduates who pass their examinations and want to take up practice, are not in any way willing to go out into the villages; we want and we are trying to extend medical facilities in the rural areas, but we find that necessary personnel are not available to go to these places. Many a time I have had a chance to discuss this question with many of the young medical practitioners, and they usually come out with two pleas: First they say that they have spent so much money on their medical education, and many of them generally come from poor families and are very keen to ensure that they recover at least some part of what they have spent. Secondly, they say

that once they go to the rural areas, they will not have any chance either to increase their knowledge or to get sufficient practice. The question then arises as to how, when we are anxious to increase medical facilities in the rural areas, we are going to get the personnel. Therefore, I would earnestly request Rajkumariji to call upon this Medical Institute to find out some solution for this problem and try to evolve an undergraduate course, which would be, if not similar, at least akin to the old licentiate course.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: In this Institute? It is really meant for research, not anything else.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINGH: May I inform Dr. Barlingay that it is expected to give diplomas also, and I think diplomas are smaller things than degrees.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Not undergraduate diplomas.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Post-graduate diplomas.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Dr. Dube does not possibly know what is the general feeling of the persons who come out of such institutions.

DR. R. P. DUBE: How do you know? You are a literary man, not a doctor.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I live in a rural area and Dr. Dube comes from Jabalpur. I have travelled widely in rural areas. Anyway what I am trying to emphasise is that an answer to this problem should be found. If an answer is not found, the possibilities of increasing medical facilities in rural areas will be remote. That is my only point. I do not insist that this Institute alone should produce. I only bring it to the notice of the Health Ministry to see that something is done to find a solution to this difficulty.

Secondly, as my friends, Dr. Dube and Dr. Barlingay, said that this Institute is going to do only research work, in this connection, I would like to say that what we look forward to

is not the continued segregation of the various systems of medicine but an increasing integration of the various systems. We know that the Tropical School of Medicine did much good work in the earlier days when it tried to find out a solution for the relief of tropical diseases. I think it is very essential that an effort should be made to integrate the various systems with a view to giving more relief to the ailing humanity. Sir, it is the ordinary rule of nature that, wherever there is a disease, there is also a cure for the same near about. I feel that in many of these cases of tropical diseases, their relief will be found in this tropical country. I believe that, if a more thorough study of Indian medicines and medicinal plants is carried on, we will be able to find out more effective remedies from our Indian medicinal plants.

Coming to the Institute and the Bill, I have only a few remarks to make.

As Mr. Sapru has pointed out, much has been delegated by way of legislation, I have hardly come across one clause in this Bill which does not mention "prescribed by rules or prescribed by rules and regulations" or something like that. Is it intended to give this Institute some autonomy or, as somebody suggested, to make it some sort of university? If it is intended to develop this Institute as some sort of university, I may point out that the rules of no university whether it is Centrally controlled or otherwise, are placed before the Legislature which controls it. Therefore, if it is intended that there should be delegation of legislation by rules and regulations, I do not see the reason why they should be placed here before the Houses of Parliament. Anyway, I feel that it is wrong to delegate too much of these powers for rule-making. I was talking to a very eminent Congressman, who is also a medical man, and he just mentioned to me that, if such a Bill had been introduced in any of these Houses some twenty years before, they would have ragged it to pieces. I think that is sufficient criticism on the subject.

[Dr. Raghubir Singh.]

Then, there are two or three points on which I would like some information. This question has been raised in this House very often. We find that appointments to this Institute have been taken away from the U.P.S.C. One would like to know why this special procedure has been adopted in this particular case. In a case like this where we want to ensure efficiency, where we want to raise its level, I do not think this is advisable in any way.

Then, it is said that this Institute is expected to supply personnel to the increasing number of colleges. I am rather sceptic about this possibility, because the persons who will come out of this Institute will need sufficient time to gain necessary experience and to complete essential high studies. It may be a possibility some twenty years hence, but not in any case today, nor in the near future.

Finally, I would also like to say that in case of Selection Board or persons who are appointed to select the persons to be appointed in this Institute, the persons are generally superannuated ones and not younger men who can have a different outlook. I believe that the new age wants new men and new outlook and for that, we will have to look out for newer people. I believe that we have definitely gone a stage ahead by inaugurating this Institute and whatever I have said here by way of criticism is only to ensure that this Institute does improve and should be much more successful in the future.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: (West-Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I rise to speak on a subject on which I am not very competent to speak. I am a layman and my touch with the medical profession is only when I fall ill. Yet, as a public man, I come across certain things to which I should like to draw the attention of the Government. I am glad that in moving this Bill the hon. Minister has covered

a wide field of subjects and that has given us an opportunity to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister certain rather important facts. It will be agreed on all hands that in the field of modern medical science, we are lagging far behind. It is a matter of regret that even after Independence, we have not made the kind of effort that should have been made in order to catch up with the developments in the field of medical science. In fact earlier years have been years of neglect and today, when this kind of thing is being moved, we are naturally glad that at least an attempt has been made to turn the corner. As you know, in our country the medical profession is very badly organized. I have not in mind individual doctors or medical men or individual institutions and associations, which the medical men may have got in the country. I think that the whole question should be viewed from the point of view of Central direction. I also know that these medical things are very much under the State Governments and great responsibilities have devolved on them but that is no reason why the Central Government should not take more initiative in the matter and set things right where they require to be righted. At the same time I think it is the duty of the Government of India to initiate certain policies and measures which would promote the medical education in the country on a much wider scale than as at present. The state of our medical profession is not very good in certain respects and for that, I would not at all blame the medical men at all. I know they function and work against all manner of difficulties and at times they are even prevented from making headway by the powers that be. Sometimes we come across certain very unwholesome interference on the part of the Government authorities and as far as the States are concerned, there are too many of them. I come from a State where one of the chief medical men happens to be the chief

Minister of the State, a very powerful personality in the medical field and of course much more terrifying in the field of public administration.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Do you want to stop his private practice and deprive the country of an eminent man's.....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He has two kinds of practices—one on the patient and the other on public life. I tell you, as far as the patients are concerned, I want him to continue the practice. As far as public life is concerned, otherwise, I want to stop his practices. But that is beside the point. Sir, as you know, Calcutta is a very important centre of medical profession and there are a number of medical colleges. There are eminent physicians and surgeons in our State. Even so, you would find that things are not getting on well. In fact in the past few years, the progress has been very very halting and limited. I think it has even been vitiated by certain interference on the part of the Chief Minister. You will find.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Mr. Gupta, the Chief Minister of Bengal is not here in this House. So don't make any personal allegation against him.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: These are not allegations. How can I talk about medical profession without mentioning a person like him?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should not make any personal allegation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Till he chooses to be elected to the Rajya Sabha, we will not get him here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Till then, you should not make any personal allegation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am making allegations against the incumbent of an office. I have no quarrel with him as far as the person is concerned but all that I am saying is, I am speaking of the State Government and anyway, if you like, I need not mention even the word

"Chief Minister". I have avoided mentioning the name. Anyway, the head of the State Government in our State undertook the reorganisation of the medical profession and medical institutions there, and he set about it in a particular way. Appointments were created where they were not necessary and some people were placed in positions for which they were least qualified. Important personalities from the medical colleges were sacked because of certain reasons. Such things had happened. Now if such things go on.....

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Then of course you cannot have progress in the field.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All these are matters for the Bengal Legislature. You should not make such allegations.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: He should put them before the State.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has nothing to do with the Bill. Please speak on the Bill.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It has something to do with the Bill. I will show you. You please consider it.

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ (Madhya Pradesh): Order, order. The Chair has given a ruling.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: There is provision for providing medical teachers and teaching personnel for the various colleges. This will be one of the functions of this institution. Am I right or am I wrong? It is provided for in the Bill itself. I take it that the institution will be interested in supplying medical personnel to the various colleges. But I would like to know as to where is the guarantee that the people who are qualified at the institution, when they are sent to the various States, would be accepted by the State Governments or the medical colleges there? There is no guarantee at all. Because these are inter-related questions. The colleges

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

are under the State Government. This institution is here. This institution is for what? It is for training personnel, for developing medical science. So the science is applied in the colleges and other institutions in the various States. Therefore, they become inter-related subjects. It is very difficult for us to judge one thing in isolation from the rest. Therefore I am saying that it is very essential to ensure that the personnel that you would train here are accepted by the State Governments and they are not either victimised or given undue promotions. We have fear, from our own experiences, that such things might happen unless and until the institution—to make the subject-matter relevant—assumes certain powers in this regard with a view to setting things right. That is very important. I am not in favour of curtailing the powers of the State Governments. In fact I should like the State Governments to have ample powers but should there be any difficulty in discharging the responsibilities of the institution, owing to certain interference by other agencies than the institution itself, that is to say, the State agencies or agencies outside normal jurisdiction of the Central Government, then the institution should have certain powers, at least certain powers of supervising things and all that. Otherwise I am afraid those things will not be put right.

Then about training personnel, it is very important that we train up a large number of medical personnel in our country. The requirements are very great and I don't think that we can at all come anywhere near our requirements unless and until we make very vigorous efforts in all directions for training up our medical personnel in our country. At the 4 P.M. moment, as you know, most of the experts in the medical profession are those who have been qualified from abroad. I have no quarrel with foreign qualifications. I would like our men to acquire knowledge from various countries of the

world which have made progress in particular branches of the medical science. That is very important, because there must be a lot of give and take in this matter. But what I am concerned about in this connection is how quickly we can train our personnel in our country so that a larger number of students could be educated in these lines in our own land. It is quite well known that at present it is not possible for the general run of students to have the resources to go through this education. So far as scholarships are concerned, they are given to a very few students. They are not available to most of the students in the medical colleges. Therefore, it goes without saying that the overwhelming majority of students in our medical colleges are denied the possibility of higher medical education which only a few of them get abroad. That is why I would like to emphasise the importance and the urgency of developing higher education in our own country, specialised education in our own country. With that end in view, we should send our students abroad. At the moment, if somebody has the money, he goes abroad for training, no matter what he does there. Therefore the Government should come forward and so direct the education here in the medical field that we have a larger number of medical men sent abroad who would be mainly devoted to training our own medical personnel in the country. That is how the matter has to be approached. There is a lot of individualism and anarchy in this field which has to be controlled and directed, keeping in view the broader interests of the country in general and of the medical profession in particular.

There is another point that I would like to make in this connection and that is about the cost of education. As we all know, medical education is one of the most costly educations in our country. Even as it is, it is not possible for a large number of students who emerge out of the colleges and universities to go in for a medical

education because it is such an expensive course. The Institution should therefore, keep this in view and reduce the fees and tuition fees so that a larger number of students could avail themselves of the opportunity that would be put before them now. Unless that is done, medical education would be restricted to a very small number of students, however much the Government might desire to extend it, because of the financial difficulties, if not for other reasons. Therefore, this question is one of vital importance to the country and, when dealing with our medical institutions, we should bear in mind the possibilities and the financial capacities of the prospective students seeking education in these institutions. But in this Bill there is no such provision whatsoever. I think it is worthwhile the Government giving a subsidy, if necessary, to this education. They can reduce the fee and the Government should set apart some money to be given to the institution as subsidy for the loss on account of fees. After all, this is an institution which is required in the interest of the whole country and the whole of our society. Therefore, here we should not be guided by the considerations which generally dominate when we start institutions or colleges.

Then I come to the question of the composition of the Institute. I find that in clause 4(f) it is stated:

"four representatives of the medical faculties of Indian Universities to be nominated by the Central Government in the manner prescribed by rules;"

We are still to see the rules. We do not know what these rules will be like. I would like to make it very clear that I have no objection to the Central Government nominating provided the nomination is based on a proper assessment of the quality and competence of the representatives from the medical faculties. What I fear might happen is this. They would be consulting what they call the States, by which is meant nothing

more than the State Governments and on the recommendation of the Minister in charge of Health there, they would appoint people on this Board. I see that the hon. Minister assures me by indicating that this would not happen. I would be very glad if it does not happen. I would like to know how the Central Government would select the personnel or the representatives to be appointed on this Board. I am against leaving the whole matter to the State Government. I am not one of those who would say: Do consult the State Governments. Certainly the State Governments should be consulted, if necessary. Certainly the medical institutions should be consulted. But that consultation should be of such a nature that it brings out the best talents from the medical colleges in our country. There should not be interference by anybody in the selection of these representatives who are to be appointed on the Board, because they have to be people who bring in their experience of how medical colleges and institutions are being run, their experience born of the living touch they have with the student community. It is of vital importance, therefore, that the proper type of men are selected for sitting on the Board.

As far as the three Members of Parliament are concerned, it has been provided that two of them shall be from the Lok Sabha and one from this House. We have a large number of doctors and we can easily spare one for this purpose. I hope in the matter of this selection, proper care will be taken so that the right type of persons are taken. Of course, we are all right type of persons here.

I, however, find something missing in this Bill and that is that there is no provision for consulting the various medical associations in the country. Almost in every State and on an all-India scale, I believe, there are certain important medical associations to which eminent medical men belong. I do not know whether it is not possi-

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

ble for the Government to seek their advice and suggestions in the matter of the administration of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences. I find from some of their writings and publications that they have very many constructive suggestions to offer for the advance of medical sciences in our country. I also find that sometimes they come out with very good and constructive criticisms of certain policies and doings of the Government. Having regard to these things, I am inclined to take the view that it is necessary for the Government, when embarking upon this scheme of things, to seek their advice and suggestions so that things may be put right and progress may be assured.

Then I have a few remarks to offer about medical students' associations. I know that sometimes the Government is not at all willing to consult the students. But here, you see, one of the purposes of the institute will be to train up students, the higher medical personnel and I think it very necessary here to consult the students' associations in this matter so that you come to know what are their requirements, what are their difficulties and what are their experiences. This also, in my view, is very important.

As regards the sending of students abroad, I think the state of affairs at present is not very satisfactory. If for the purpose of this Institute medical men were to be sent to various countries abroad, the Government should consult the students associations, the colleges and other institutions with a view to making proper selections in the matter. I am afraid sometimes selections are made in an arbitrary manner and due attention is not given to talents and the possibilities of the various students who are sent abroad. I know also that sometimes good and capable persons are sent; but this is not always the case. Sometimes things are done in a very wrong way.

Now, about giving it the status of a University, certainly it should be given a very high status. I am not one of those who would like to restrict the functions of this Institute. In fact, I would like to enlarge the functions of this Institute because it is going to be a vitally important institution in our country. While I am in favour of enlarging the functions of this Institute, I am also interested in running it in an efficient and democratic manner. I would not be in favour of bureaucratic or arbitrary interference from any quarter. There should be living relations between the activities of this Institute and the Parliament. I think it would be worthwhile at least in the formative years, in the early period, in the beginning of this Institute, for Government to submit some kind of a report to Parliament as to how things are progressing. We are all interested in very quick advance in the field of medical science because we know that until and unless we can achieve successes very quickly, we would not be in a position to cope with the problem which is of very great magnitude. The problem is there before us. Therefore, as Members of Parliament, we would be interested in knowing as to how things are being carried on in the Institute. The hon. Minister would please consider whether it would not be worthwhile to present some kind of a report on the activities of this Institute at least in the coming few years or so.

The last point that I want to make is that when we start this Institute, we should keep in view the fact that we should not only concentrate expert medical men in certain chosen localities such as big cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi or Madras but that we should provide expert personnel and eminent medical men in the various small towns and villages as far as possible. Certainly, attention should be paid to the working class areas which are denied medical facilities. As you know, in our country they do not get proper medical personnel in the hospitals and institutions run in the working class areas.

Therefore, I would like to impress upon the Government that while sending trained personnel from this Institute, care should be taken to see that they are distributed amongst the people keeping in view the fact that the majority of our people are not in a position to pay the high fees that are charged by eminent men.

It is a good thing perhaps that those people who will work in this Institute would devote their whole time to research work. Medical research has been a casualty in this period in very many respects. Therefore, we must have a set of personnel who would be solely devoted to research work as that is of great importance especially when we are thinking of developing our medical science on our own soil. I do not see any reason why we should not find self-sacrificing patriotic individuals who would be satisfied with this kind of research work in the Institute. We have got such people but the important factor is that only if the Institute is run efficiently and well as well as democratically, will the people feel enthused and inspired to devote their whole time and forego private practice in order to develop the medical science in our country.

With these words I wish the hon. Minister all success and hope that we shall soon see in our country a properly run All-India Institute of Medical Sciences catering to the needs of our society, concentrating the medical profession not in a few hands, not concentrating it in the cities and towns for the benefit of the rich only, but distributing the benefits of this Institute, the blessings of this Institute, evenly among the entire population which needs medical care most urgently, but which does not have the wherewithal to get such care because of the poverty for which it is not to blame.

PROF. A. R. WADIA (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I quite appreciate the enthusiasm of the hon. Minister for starting this Institute but I am afraid in actual practice the All-India

Institute of Medical Sciences will not be able to live up to all her expectations. It seems to me, Sir, going through the Bill, that after all this is going to be just a medical college. perhaps a super medical college with all the great financial help that she will naturally lavish on it and which an institution in Delhi may expect from the Central Government. My fear is that if there is so much attention to be given to under-graduate training, there is hardly any justification for starting this Institute at all. After all, we have got so many medical colleges in India. We need more medical colleges. I do not deny it, if we have these medical colleges, it is their duty to provide for under-graduate training. If you are, however, going to have a real super medical college, if I may use that expression, in Delhi, I think it should be for the post-graduate classes and not for the ordinary first degree classes. I assure the hon. Minister that she will soon realise the difficulties of the position because there is a general tendency to overemphasise the importance of under-graduate classes when both co-exist. A proper amount of emphasis on post-graduate training will be forthcoming when you have got only post-graduate classes and this is true not merely of medical institutions but of all institutions in India generally.

I find that due representation has been given to various interests in clause 4 but I do not find any direct representation given to the Indian Medical Council. I do not know why that is omitted. That is a sort of general all-India body and it would be useful to have one or more representatives of that body very directly. Of course, I share the misgivings of my friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, when it comes to nomination of the different people. One can hope that the nominations will be exercised not for political reasons but in the pure interests of medical science.

I come now to speak on one subject to which Rajkumariji has also referred. She will pardon me if I say that there is a general impression in the

[Prof. A. R. Wadia.]

country that the Ministry of Health is not very friendly to the interests of Ayurveda and Unani. The impression may be certainly wrong and I am extremely happy to hear from her on the floor of this House that she has got great admiration for Ayurveda and Unani. I would request her to go a step further and not merely stop at expressing that sympathy but do something for them in practice.

SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO (Andhra): She gave a convocation address to an Ayurvedic College.

PROF. A. R. WADIA: It seems to me that here is an Institution which will give a splendid opportunity for doing something for research in Ayurveda and Unani. If the undergraduate classes are taken away—as they should be in an institution of this type—there will be room enough and I am sure money enough for the encouragement of genuine research in Ayurveda and Unani. She referred to the institution in Jamnagar. I have seen it myself and I can appreciate the good work that is being done there. But one institution of this type is not enough. Perhaps there are others, two or more, in our country, but considering the needs of our country and the real demand for Ayurveda and Unani that exists in our country, it seems to me that an institution of this type can easily take up research in this direction. I am aware and painfully aware that our graduates from the medical colleges are usually hostile to Ayurveda or Unani. I am glad that there is at least one college in India and that is in Gwalior, where we had a very sympathetic and a very far-seeing man in the late Dr. Bhagwat Sahay, who created in that college a special department for research in Ayurveda. I have not heard any particularly glorious reports of the work being done there, but it was a step in the right direction. Now the point is that from personal experience the Ayurvedic drugs are of extremely great utility, but unfortunately we have not enough faith in our Ayur-

vedic practitioners. I would like to see a new type of medical graduate arising who with all the resources of western education can diagnose a disease and yet has enough knowledge of the Ayurveda and the Unani drugs which he can apply in practice. This is the combination that is really needed in India.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Does the hon. Member presume that there will be no chair for it or no research will go on in this institute? How does he presume that?

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA (Mysore): The Bill speaks only of modern medicine. That ought to make things clear for my hon. friend.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order, let him go on.

PROF. A. R. WADIA: Sir, I do not presume anything which Rajkumariji has not herself said on the floor of this House. If Dr. Dube wants to speak on behalf of the Government he is welcome to do so; I have not the slightest objection. I am only pointing out to you, as a humble citizen of India, the real needs of India. I think it was pointed out by my friend, Dr. Raghubir Singh, that an average medical graduate does not care to settle down in a village; it is no use lecturing to him that he is unpatriotic; after all he has to live. And for the various reasons mentioned by him we do know that our villages are neglected so far as our ordinary graduates are concerned. He also referred to the existence of that somewhat inferior grade of medical people, the licentiates of some years ago, and it is a pity that that class has been totally abolished. They served after all a useful purpose. They may not have a very high degree of medical knowledge but they were the people who could be expected to settle down and who did settle down in the villages.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh): They have been upgraded there; they have not been abolished.

PROF. A. R. WADIA: I am glad they are upgraded there but I am talking from my experience of South India.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: I am talking of North India.

PROF. A. R. WADIA: All right, Sir, I am glad to hear it. I am prepared to accept this suggestion and I think there is room for them and they ought to be encouraged.

Well, Sir, it is on this standpoint that I appeal to Rajkumariji to make some provision for real research in Ayurveda and Unani in this institution because it is only that thing that can justify the existence of this institute. I know that a good deal of fine medical research has been going on in all the universities of Europe and America. We are lagging behind in that; by all means let us catch up, but my own personal feeling is that we might prove ourselves more useful if we try to carry on experiments not exactly on the lines in which the universities in America and Europe are doing, but if we can carry on experiments on our Ayurvedic and Unani drugs, which have been known to us for centuries and the use of which is very efficacious, and if we can produce the type of men who can put that knowledge into good practice, I think, Sir, this institution will have amply justified its existence. But the way it is put, that there is going to be undergraduate teaching and there is going to be post-graduate teaching, in spite of our best wishes, I am afraid it will grow only into one of the ordinary medical colleges that exist in India.

Another little thing, Sir. This institute is going to be located in Delhi. Now, so far as medical colleges are concerned, it is always best to locate them in the biggest cities possible, not in the smaller cities. It is not a question of carrying on research in a very calm atmosphere—probably Delhi is calmer than Calcutta or Bombay even. But I do feel that the proper place for the location of this institution would be Calcutta or Bombay, because these

large places throw up a number of very interesting medical cases and a comparatively smaller place like Delhi will not be able to do it, but that is only a minor thing, Sir.

I would once again press not to waste public money on undergraduate classes and I would again press for making due provision for the teaching of Unani and Ayurvedic systems on a definitely research basis. If that is done Rajkumariji will have earned the genuine gratitude of our countrymen.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Sir, I rise to give my support to the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences Bill. Lest I should forget I offer my gratitude to the hon. the Health Minister for having pleaded with the late Dr. Bhatnagar for the establishment of a Drugs Institute at Lucknow, which is doing very useful work, not on behalf of myself personally, not on behalf of the residents of the city of Lucknow alone, but on behalf of the entire Uttar Pradesh.

Sir, when we are complaining of the deficiency of research in the indigenous systems of medicine known as Ayurveda and Unani, I am reminded of the charge that was laid upon us by the British Government, which always used to say that India could not be granted self-Government or Home Rule because they were not fit for it, because they had no experience of it. Now on the one hand we were denied all admission to the administrative branches of the Government, all admission to the legislative branches of the Government, and yet the charge against us was that we were not fit for Home Rule or self-Government. The same, it appears to me, is the case so far as this deficiency in Unani and Ayurvedic drugs is concerned. Now I may be permitted to enquire whether anybody on the allopathic side has ever cared to find out what these tinctures and other allopathic medicines that we are importing to the extent of crores of rupees are made of. I assure you, Sir, and the entire House that almost all these preparations are

[Shri H. P. Saksena.]

prepared out of the Indian drugs which are exported from this country to all the countries of the world where allopathy is in vogue and they are sent back to us in the form of tinctures and other medicines.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. P. TAMTA) in the Chair.]

When I talk to them, to the Ayurveda and Unani practitioners, they say, "Our medicines have undergone the experience and the experiment of thousands upon thousands of years and therefore there is not much for us left to carry on research. What are we to make the research for?" I know from personal experience, in the hilly tracts of our country, if there is a plant which gives you as severe a pain as a scorpion bite the moment you touch its leaf, there is nearby another plant which at once cures that serious pain and gives you relief as if no scorpion had ever bitten you. What is there for that rustic villager of the hills to make a research of? He knows the effect of both the kinds of plants and that is a knowledge that he has gained from his ancestors. He knows it; his children know it and it is a common possession of all the people. So this charge of the research in indigenous systems of drugs and medicines being defective is not proved. It has been levelled but it has not been proved.

Sir, I endorse the view expressed by my friend Prof. Wadia that somehow or other, perhaps inadvertently or perhaps by oversight, no place has been given, no representation has been provided for the All-India Medical Council which is a very important institution and which is a medical institution of an all-India character and which should have found a place in this Bill, intended for the establishment of an All-India Institute of Medical Sciences. I am rather positive that it was through an oversight that this has happened.

So far as encouragement of the indigenous systems of medicine is

concerned, I am personally acquainted with the fact that we never gave up the practice of making use of these systems. There have lived even in the city of Lucknow where I reside for the last 70 years of which I have personal experience, Hakeems as well as vaid. The majority of the people go to them for treatment. They used to go to them; they continued to go to them and they go to them even today. But for lack of any encouragement from the State those not very rich people—I can safely say those poor people—cannot afford to distribute medicines to the poor gratis as they used to do before. Now they have been driven to the necessity of charging some fee for the medicine that they give. Of course, they do not charge any consultation fee but they cannot do but charge for the medicine that they give. But I have never found any financial assistance being given to these practitioners. If the matter is ever taken up with any person whatsoever, it is pointed out that it is a municipal affair and then subsequently it is said that it is a State Government affair and there is no talk about it at the Centre. So the thing remains where it has been for so long a time and the result is that that system of medicine and those practitioners are falling into decay and are undergoing very bad days. What else can be expected? What will be the result of this lack of encouragement? There can be only one result and that we see in the establishment of allopathic institutions in every city, in every district, in every town, in every big place. There is no Unani Medical Institute or Ayurvedic Medical Institute. Yet, I say all honour and all credit to them—I mean the Hakeems—who had a full area for themselves at Lucknow known as Jhawaitola. In that place there were Hakeems who could beat any medical practitioner hollow in the diagnosis of the disease as well as in its treatment. That big centre has gone into decay; not that there was anything wrong with that system of medicine, but because of the establishment of these State-aided institutions known

as allopathic dispensaries. The same is the case with Ayurveda. There is a very useful college for teaching Ayurveda at Pilibhit. Of course, that gets some monetary grant from the State Government of U.P. but then one college or one Institute would not suffice for such a big country as ours. At Lucknow there is a Moolchand Trust which prepares very useful medicines and sells them. Then the whole of Hardwar is full of people who are engaged in research in the manufacture of drugs and in other Ayurvedic occupations. Now, what encouragement, what financial help, what impetus, I humbly enquire, is being given to them? Nothing. I do not call this even step-motherly or step-brotherly treatment. I simply bow to the system that is in vogue and which is receiving fortunately enough a very great encouragement at the hands of the Governments both at the Centre and at the State level.

Sir, when we plead for the recognition and encouragement of Indian systems of medicine, let us not be misunderstood. I would beg of the hon. the Health Minister not to misunderstand us when we plead for the recognition and encouragement of Indian systems of medicine because it is just to make her task easy, to make the task of the Administration easy, to make it run very smoothly and very successfully, and to bring all praise and credit nearer to the Government that we plead for them. So we should not be misunderstood. None of us has got any axe of our own to grind. We want the country to prosper; we want the country to flourish; we want the country not to suffer from disease which is already suffering from poverty, squalor and so many other ills. So for Heaven's sake please do not add one more ailment to the already sorrowful life, that is, lack of medical treatment and medical help. That should be provided to the people in the cheapest manner in the way to which they are used, in the way in which they have faith and belief and in the way which has proved efficacious to them. They can quote the

story of their father or grandfather or of an old aunt who was cured by the treatment of a vaid or a Hakeem but the poor fellows have no quotations to make of any doctor who had attended them because their means are so small that no allopath, no M.B.B.S. doctor would ever go near those people. Therefore when we plead for the recognition and encouragement of Indian systems of medicine, it is as I said to help the Health Minister to do her work more fully, to lighten the burden of the allopathic graduates and to provide for the large population of the country that type of medical treatment that suits them, to which they are used, which is germane to their nature and which is cheap and within their scanty means.

Now, these are not objectives for which we may be blamed. There we may be accused just as I was accused in the morning by friends. For my purpose, I may point out to the House that if there is not much more in this Bill excepting this clause 5, I would have been satisfied. Clause 5 of the Bill says:

"It is hereby declared that the Institute shall be an institution of national importance."

Now, I may point out most humbly that it is a solemn declaration on the part of the Health Minister and the Central Government. National importance is a thing which carries within its fold all those things needed for a people like we Indians. Now, coupled with it there is a sentence in clause 13; the objects of the Institute are, namely, that this Institute of national importance will "demonstrate a high standard of medical education to all medical colleges and other allied institutions in India". Here the words used are, again, "medical colleges and other allied institutions". We all understand as we are used to the phraseology of English language that "medical colleges" mean the medical colleges which are run under the allopathic system of medicine. But there is no mention of the institutions being run under the indigenous sys-

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tems of medicine. So, if I am not wrong those institutions have been rigidly excluded from this, and that the objects of the Institute should have been very specifically and very clearly stated. I was under the impression, my study of the Bill had convinced me that the Institute would be doing immense good to the country, to the cause of medical education, to the health of the people in future. But the remarks of a wiser friend, of a more experienced friend like Prof. Wadia, have set me doubting my own assessment of the Bill. I do not know—perhaps he is right and I am wrong. Still, I heard from the Rajkumari's lips this morning that some revolutionary changes were going to take place. Now, I simply hope and wish for those revolutionary changes. Politics we have revolutionised; social relationship we have revolutionised. Now, what remains is only this treatment of diseases and restoration of robust and complete health to the people of the country. And their number is legion; we all know it is thirty-six and odd crores and all that. Anyway I am very sorry that I was made a victim of misunderstanding this morning wilfully, advertently or inadvertently I do not know. But I have no grievance against anybody. I resume my seat by praying with Lord Jesus Christ when they put him on the Cross, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" or what they say. Thank you.

SHRI R. C. GUPTA (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I welcome this Bill and I also congratulate the hon. Minister for taking concrete steps to found this institution of all India importance. This was really a dream and a dream is going to be realised after passing this Bill. I only desire that the institution should be worthy of its name and worthy of this great country. It is going to be an all India medical institution to which students from all parts of the country will flock for higher medical studies. It seems to me out of place to allow undergraduate students to receive training here.

I am definitely of opinion that no undergraduate should be allowed to study medical science in this Institute. This Institute should be reserved only for post-graduate teaching and research work. This in itself is a very ambitious work and the institution will fulfil its objects if post-graduate teaching of the highest order is imparted in this institution. At the present moment, hundreds of our students have to go abroad for foreign degrees for want of proper medical facilities. What the country requires is that the highest knowledge of medical science should be available to them in this country and I hope that this Institute will fulfil this great need of this country. One thing that strikes me—and to which I will draw the attention of the hon. Minister—is that this Institute may not become a close preserve of a few individuals. This should be guarded against. There is already a whisper—before this Institute has come into existence—that there are signs which may injure the reputation of this institution.

The idea should be to appoint the very best Indians available in this country and if there are certain subjects for which properly trained Indians are not available, it would be much better to get them from outside. But the teaching that should be imparted here should be of the highest order. We should not mind getting people from outside if they are not available in this country. Our degrees and diplomas should rank with those of the highest institutions in the world. People should not think of going to America or England or any other country for higher training. That should be the aim and for that, I hope that the hon. Minister will take adequate steps to find money in ample measure. A large amount of money would be necessary and that should be well spent. Therefore, one of the suggestions that I would like to make is that recruitment to this Institute should be through the Union Public Service Commission. The appointments should not be left in the hands of the members of the Institute. That

is likely to be misread, if we want to have a very good staff—and a satisfied staff—in this Medical Institute. I hope that the hon. Minister will take this question under her active consideration.

The second point is as to who should be the Director of this Institute. Much will depend upon the head of this institution. The Bill provides that the Director of the Institute would be nominated by the Central Government from among the members other than the Director of the Institute. I do not think that it is necessary to limit the choice to the members of the Institute. Anybody who is competent, anybody who can guide the.....

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Will you please excuse me, Sir? Is he referring to the President, or to the Director? Presumably he is referring to the appointment of the President and not the Director.

SHRI R. C. GUPTA: I am sorry. The President of the Institute should be one who would inspire confidence in the public of the country and the choice should not be confined only to the members of this Institute.

So far as the question of the Director of this Institute is concerned, I am in agreement with the provisions of this Bill.

I would make one more suggestion so far as the composition of the Institute is concerned that some representatives—at least one from the Indian Medical Council—should be nominated by the Central Government because that is the highest body so far as this country is concerned. It does not seem proper that representation has not been given to the Indian Medical Council.

Some criticism has been made with regard to the powers given for making rules and regulations. I think that, in the very nature of things, this Bill is a skeleton Bill and it has very rightly kept to itself larger powers for

making rules and regulations. Unless the entire Governing Body of the Medical Institute is constituted, it would not be proper—and it is not possible also—to make the rules as may be necessary for running that Institute. Therefore, those wide powers are necessary and they are vested generally in all the educational institutions of the country. These larger powers will, I am sure, be properly exercised and worked and they will be exercised in the interests of the Institute itself.

Sir, the Institute would be only a medical college and not a university. I do not know if there would be any difficulty in the recognition of the degrees and diplomas of this Institute either in India or outside. Roorkee was an engineering college for a long time and it used to grant degrees and diplomas. But the reputation of the college was so very high that its degrees and diplomas were given preference over others by the employers. Some difficulty was later on experienced outside the country and then it was considered proper that the college should be constituted into a university. Now that college is a university. I do not know whether it would be necessary to convert the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences into a sort of university. The Bill contains provisions relating to the grant of degrees and diplomas. But that is the function of a university. Therefore, this college will serve the double purpose of training people and also granting degrees and diplomas. But the point worth considering is whether these degrees and diplomas would be recognized in foreign countries, when the graduates of this college go to other countries for higher studies. That is a point which should receive due consideration.

Something has been said about the location of this college. I entirely agree that such college should be located in Delhi. It is not necessary that Delhi should possess a very large number of medical colleges. It already possesses one college and there are so many other colleges in the neighbourhood. What we want is

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good material in this Institute for training in medical science. Delhi is the capital of the country and it is proper that such Institute should be located here.

These are days of specialization. To say that provision should be made for teaching Ayurveda or Unani or other system of medicine, I think, is beside the mark. This is a medical institution for the allopathic system of medicine. We must have the best type of institution so far as allopathy is concerned, for research. It may be that so far as higher studies or research is concerned, it may be carried on in allopathic, homeopathic, Ayurvedic or unani systems. But as far as teaching is concerned, I think it would be wrong to introduce other faculties of Ayurvedic or Unani systems in this Institute. It is just and proper that teaching is confined only to the allopathic system and to no other.

In the end, I would again request the hon. Minister that she should see that no under-graduate training is imparted in this institution. The entire energy, the entire funds and the entire resources of the Institute should be utilised only for giving post-graduate training and research work and nothing more.

I hope that this institution will work well. The name of the hon. Minister will always remain associated with this Institute and it will go down in history that such and such a Minister was the person who founded

this Institute and it will really be a matter of great pride for this country in times to come.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, there is a little time at my disposal.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. P. TAMTA): You just begin and you may continue next day.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Sir, there are so many good things which Rajkumariji has said this afternoon.....

AN. HON. MEMBER: We cannot hear.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: I said that there were so many good things which Rajkumariji has said this afternoon that it is really a very difficult matter to disagree with her. In point of fact, so far as the assumptions or the postulates of her argument are concerned, I do not find any difficulty in agreeing with her wholeheartedly and yet I have to say something which superficially at any rate will appear like opposition to this Bill. That, however, is not the case at all.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI R. P. TAMTA): You may continue the next day.

The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow, Friday, the 4th May 1956.

The House then adjourned at five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 4th May 1956.