

# The Guiding Principle

for Success is "To Thine Own Self Be True"

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IT IS evident that Chiropractic thought is not untouched by the mental ferment in the world. Like other intelligent people, chiropractors are more than ordinarily perplexed, self-critical and disposed to examine minutely their work and their prospects.

My contacts with the profession indicate that many thoughtful chiropractors are more or less troubled by questions like these:



Dr. C. S. Cooley.

Are we on the right road, or should we begin to blaze some new trails? Is Chiropractic making satisfactory progress? Is it too orthodox? Should it be altered or amplified? Is it alone all that we need for the service we are to perform?

Questions of this nature are not new to any of us, but circumstances of the moment seem to give them new significance. However—despite the fact that each must tackle the problem in his own way—I am confident we can find the answers. All we need do is "prove all things; hold fast that which is good," or be willing to respect proof already a part of the record.

All human knowledge being more or less theoretical or speculative, we must accept certain standards, if we hope to get anywhere in an inquiry. To quarrel with Webster's Dictionary, as a standard of the English language, would be an utter waste of time and effort. The language is growing and changing, but how long would it be an intelligible language if the changes and additions were matters of indiscriminate individual whim and preference?

To "disagree" with the teachings of Jesus, as expressed in his own words, would be useless in developing a Christian concept. If we want Christianity, rather than Mohammedanism or Bhuddism, we must take it as he gave it to us—remembering, however, that he did not give it to us as "finished", but with this promise:

"The things that I do, ye shall do; and greater things than these shall ye do."

He gave us the principles, but his inference that we might exceed his achievements in applying those principles is evidence that he expected us to work out our own application.

As a pioneer in Chiropractic, I feel entitled to repeat that the Chiropractic standard was established by the Master Chiropractor, Daniel David Palmer, and by none other. He did not discover, or pretend to have discovered, spinal adjusting as

a means of combatting disease. He DID recognize it as having a scientific basis, and he DID discover a method of reducing it to a science. Thereby, despite all opposing claims, he won the right to be known for all time as THE Chiropractic authority.

Discovery of principles that made spinal adjusting a science, as against the hit-or-miss "mixed manipulations" practiced for ages, was important, of course. Without it, there could have been no new science of Chiropractic. It is my opinion, however, that Doctor Palmer's greatest contribution to us, from the viewpoint of "the long pull" was his discovery of the WHY—his revelation that the actual healing or corrective process was not performed by Chiropractic, or any other physical means, but by the Universal INTELLIGENCE, which he termed Innate.

Efforts have been and are still being made to prove that Doctor Palmer was dogmatic and narrow, that he scorned all means and methods except "straight" Chiropractic. The fact, as disclosed in his writings, is that he was not concerned with hair-splitting.

In his Chiropractic "bible" and textbook, "The Science, Art and Philosophy of Chiropractic," he reminds us repeatedly that Chiropractic is NOT a treatment, NOT a remedy, NOT a cure. It is simply and solely a means of giving expression or manifestation to Innate, BUT nowhere does he assert or even hint that Chiropractic is the ONLY means of bringing Innate into operation. For instance, he writes:

"All cures made by Christian Scientists, mental or mind healers, magnetics, suggestive therapists, Metaphysicians or charms, are made by Educated controlling the mind of Innate." (1)

Again referring to those who condemned all healing systems except their own, he writes:

"They forget that the Great Healer said to his disciples: 'Forbid him not; for he that is not against us is for us.'" (2)

Here is another illuminating citation from his writings: "I have never considered it beneath my dignity to do anything to relieve human suffering." (3)

In brief, his thought was that the proper method of dealing with any discordant condition was whatever would bring Innate into play. If YOU should develop a better means than his of doing that, do you suppose Doctor Palmer, if living, would condemn it or try to obstruct it by confusing and meaningless arguments about "straight" or "mixed"?

"I am not opposed to any chiropractor, whether he be good or bad," he tells us in his book. "The

poorest can accomplish more good than a medical man with his bugs and dope." (4)

Nothing was further from his thought than the idea that his disciples should be gagged or handcuffed, or should regard him and his writings as the Alpha and Omega of a science which was complete, "finished" and not to be developed. In fact, he predicted that Chiropractic eventually would be succeeded by something BETTER; and for all his vast knowledge and his uncanny success with the SPECIFIC adjustment, he has this to say about his book and his work: "As to the subject matter of this volume, it is only fair to state that it does not contain all that is or can be known concerning Chiropractic. There are still many problems for which it will be the province of this comprehensive science to furnish a correct solution." (5)

Doctor Palmer recognized the fact that, in many instances, drugs or other means than Chiropractic afforded relief, but he preferred not to employ them because he was concerned with CAUSES and LASTING BENEFIT, rather than with mere palliatives. A specimen of his comment on that point is:

"I do not knowingly take time to fool with any remedy. The use of a restorative would show students that I did not know the cause of a disease or where or how to adjust for it." (6)

Again I quote him: "The medical man prescribes remedies for the treatment of EFFECTS. The chiropractor adjusts the CAUSE of deranged functions." (7)

The gist of all this argument, as I see it, is that Doctor Palmer did not condemn the use of means other than Chiropractic, provided their limitations were recognized. His experience proved to him—as mine has proved to me—that, although Chiropractic might not be the speediest method of abating symptoms in a given case, it was not only the speediest, but also the most dependable method of eliminating the CAUSES of disease in all cases. His quarrel with "mixing" was with the erroneous mixing of cause and effects, leading to the incorrect and dangerous assumption that removal of effects (which often is possible without Chiropractic) was proof of the removal of the cause.

If you are arousing or liberating Innate to heal your patients, whether you are doing it by adjustments or by treatments, you are doing precisely what the Founder of Chiropractic would have you do—PROVIDED you do not overlook that important detail of REMOVING THE CAUSE. If you are working sincerely within the province of Chiropractic, let nobody divert you from your noble work by confusing and empty arguments that you should abandon YOUR way and do it HIS way.

You will feel more sure of yourself and less likely to be confused by exploiters and self-appointed "leaders" when you have Doctor Palmer's book in your possession. You will be a better chiropractor, too, after studying his illuminating comment on diagnosis, the marvels of Innate and how he banished such diseases as smallpox,

typhoid and diphtheria by those wonder working SPECIFIC adjustments.

Doctor Palmer's book is the equivalent of dozens of special courses under the Old Master himself. And, as I hope my frequent citations from its pages will demonstrate, it will help you answer, to your own satisfaction, ANY question that may arise to vex you. It is the chiropractor's tower of strength and safety at all times.

It's a BIG book, in number of pages, as well as in value to the profession. Consequently, not even one copy can be reprinted unless there are enough subscriptions to justify the high preparatory costs. If your order for a copy hasn't gone forward, get it into the mail immediately. In these perilous days, when nobody can foretell where legislative lightning will strike next, Chiropractic needs the defenses Doctor Palmer's book provides. For your own good and that of the science you are helping to develop and protect, do your part in assuring the success of this important venture.

While we await the new book, be not disturbed by machinations of the subversive forces which, in our profession, as in our nation, are boring from within, for selfish purposes, having in mind the "divide and conquer" principle of the dictators abroad. Now, as never before, we need professional unity, just as America needs national unity. It is decidedly NOT a time to quarrel over how sincere chiropractors should practice Chiropractic.

"No two persons are alike either in their osseous, nervous, vascular, muscular or lymphatic makeup", Doctor Palmer informs us. "Variations are found so frequently that no definite and reliable rule can be formulated. At times the exception seems to be the rule. \* \* \* Therefore there can be no "key" which will unlock all pathological conditions." (8)

Stand firm! If you are honestly working within the framework of Chiropractic principles, you're on the right track, regardless of technical "tricks" and theories. Nobody can successfully challenge either our motives or our methods if we rely on the ONE real Chiropractic authority, "The Science, Art and Philosophy of Chiropractic." With that to guide us, we can confidently look to our INDIVIDUAL intelligences for correct interpretation and application of the principles laid down by the Discoverer and Developer of Chiropractic.

Don't miss what may be your only opportunity to own a copy of Dr. Daniel David Palmer's book. It will answer your questions, dissipate your doubts and reveal to you the UNLIMITED possibilities in REAL SCIENTIFIC CHIROPRACTIC. And it will give you perfect assurance, from the man who knew Chiropractic BEST, that an excellent way to conform to his standards is to shun the snarls of pointless controversies and keep in mind that priceless precept of Polonius: "To thine own self be true!"

Reference: (1)—Page 502, (2)—Page 562, (3)—Page 322, (4)—Page 156, (5)—Page 9, (6)—Page 78, (7)—Page 562, (8)—Page 911. The Science, Art and Philosophy of Chiropractic by D. D. Palmer, Published and Copyrighted in 1910-11 at Portland, Oregon, by the Author.