

*Contents:*

<b>Editorial</b> .....	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>The Treatment of Scoliosis</b> .....	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Use of Glasso-Pharyngeal Breathing in Cases of Scoliosis</b> .....	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>Time Marches On</b> .....	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>General</b> .....	<b>Page 12</b>
<b>Branch News</b> .....	<b>Page 13</b>
<b>Book Reviews</b> .....	<b>Page 19</b>

**EDITORIAL**

**S**INCE 1928 the SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY of PHYSIOTHERAPY has been asking for compulsory registration. The idea has been to have State control of our profession and its relationship to the public and the medical profession as a whole.

This has been considered necessary as the name of Physiotherapy has been used and misused and abused through the years, and it is only through compulsory registration that we can protect our name. Unethical practices have been hiding under the name of Physiotherapy, unethical persons have been practising under the name of physiotherapists.

Before embarking on the long arduous and expensive task of obtaining state registration, we as a Society must ask ourselves several important questions.

Firstly, what benefits will we derive for our Society and profession from this protection?

Secondly do we need protecting? Surely the standard of work maintained by members of our profession and our ethical behaviour is protection enough.

Many questions of this sort will have to be asked and many paths will have to be explored before any final decisions are made. We must be very sure compulsory registration is what is really

needed and whether having obtained our goal the profession as a whole will benefit greatly in the future.

Much of the control of our internal affairs may be taken out of our own hands and put into the hands of some body, committee, or persons who will have to decide on many vital issues having a bearing on our profession. Who will be on this body? Who will have the final say in forming the acceptable standards of training and experience for registration purposes for instance? How much representation will our Society have on any board or committee dealing with our affairs?

It is possible that additional restrictions may be imposed upon physiotherapists that are not applicable to other auxilliary professions. In this way our freedom of action, valued by physiotherapists, may be thwarted. In this last point private practitioners might find their liberties severely interfered with.

Finally we must ask ourselves "are we advancing the cause of our profession or are we hanging ourselves unnecessarily" should compulsory registration become law.

Much thought must be given to this matter by each and all of you, as it will be through your efforts that compulsory registration will be achieved eventually. Once a law it will be well neigh impossible to recind this law.