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EDITORIAL

IN this world of changing times and conditions it is interesting to know that medical men have seen fit to modify and clarify the Hippocratic Oath. This was done at the World Medical Association Meeting in Geneva in 1948. I quote below the Oath as it was set out by them at that time.

“Now being admitted to the profession of Medicine, I solemnly pledge to consecrate my life to the service of humanity. I will give respect and gratitude to my deserving teachers. I will practice medicine with conscience and dignity. The health and life of my patient will be my first consideration. I will hold in confidence all that my patient confides in me.

I will maintain the honour and the noble traditions of the Medical Profession. My colleagues will be as my brothers. I will not permit con-

sideration of race, religion, nationality, party politics or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient. I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of its conception. Even under threat I will not use my knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity.

These promises I make freely and upon my honour.”

Is it not time perhaps for us of our Society to consider our own ideas and approaches along similar lines?

In countries where the profession of Physiotherapy has no official protection, it is perhaps even more necessary for our moral and ethical approach to be of the highest order. This is something we must all think about and ask ourselves if our consciences are clear.