

and so no doctor could expect medicine to restore these destroyed parts.

In conclusion, this is the story of a patient whose mother was distracted for two years by his daily or more frequent attacks of inconsolable and causeless weeping which may or not have been due to hypothalamic epilepsy. The point of interest is that, after a primary Homœopathic aggravation for three days, the administration of a single divided dose of *Pulsatilla 1m* coincided with the beginning of the improvement, which led to the cessation of these attacks, and must have contributed some considerable benefit to the home life of that family.

(To be Continued)

—*The British Homœopathic Journal, April, '56.*

TREATMENT OF CONDITIONS INVOLVING RESPIRATORY TRACT ESPECIALLY THOSE DUE TO ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTANTS

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It seems traditional for man and nature to have a falling out, a failure to collaborate in order that living man may benefit.

In typical American fashion, a name for a nameless condition has recently been coined, "Smog," and a serious thing it is. We have learned of the lethal and otherwise injurious effects of London's perennial fogs, accompanied by inevitable rising death lists due to the combining of atmospheric gases, fumes, soot and other products of poorly combusted materials, which resulted in what is now called smog. Inhaled, these atmospheric pollutants have killed and injured many thousands, not only in London but in other large cities of the world. My own City of Los Angeles has been the center of more recent attraction because of the greatly increased need for sensible scientific investigation into its particular sources of smog.

Factually, every community has its peculiar share of causes

which combine to form its brand of smog. You remember Donora, Pennsylvania, which was badly affected by commercial gases from a smelter producing zinc. The City of Pittsburgh has for years borne the burden of being called the "Smoky City," but it now can truthfully point to a very successful clean-up which we can all applaud.

I can assure you that, as time goes by, your own city, your own community will be faced with this problem.

Science News Letter for September 24, 1955, commenting on smog-caused deaths, stated that Los Angeles residents are threatened with a major catastrophe from smog at some future date. This article goes on to say that it is a "mathematical probability that a deadly attack will occur as weeks pass without positive action to eliminate smog-forming sources." This is also the opinion of informed scientists in Washington. The first action should be to pin-point sources of smog-causing particles and determine the worst offenders. The three most serious are fumes spewed forth by the oil refineries and other industries, smoke and particles from back yard incinerators, and exhausts from automobiles. The latter, which you can well imagine, is a most serious factor.

In addition, we have a natural phenomenon in that nature produces what is called an inversion layer, extending out westwards, some thousands of miles, and filling a space upward from several thousand to fifteen or twenty thousand feet in height. This is a variable factor, due to the amount of sunshine, local winds and the like in which nature combines to give us large amounts of oxygen as well as free ozone. At the moment of writing, scientists engaged in trying to solve this problem hold that ozone and nitrogen are seemingly our major trouble makers. In substantiation of the above, one of our local newspapers of recent date carried an item accusing nitrogen oxide as the smog culprit :

The Air Pollution Foundation today published a highly technical 140-page report on the roles of solar radiation and nitrogen oxides in formation of smogs. The author showed that from the known chemistry of nitrogen oxides and other substances, they must be reduced, in order to cut the smog effects.

The California Institute of Technology holds that "investigation of *oxidants* is a major study of smog scientists." Only one constituent oxidant in smog is known—ozone—and "other suspected oxidizing materials need to be identified and traced."

The Department of Agriculture is likewise concerned because of the damage to growing things by smog.

Air pollution cost New York City \$100,000,000 a year, according to Dr. Leonard Greenburg, City Commissioner of Air Pollution Control.

What should our homœopathic treatment, preventive as well as curative, be? I trust I can serve you in two capacities, which is not very common for an essayist, namely that of a patient having experienced the effect of smog, as well as a homœopathic physician who has treated others for the same thing.

Previously, very rarely and only slightly had smog produced any effect but now a conjunctivitis, mild rhinitis, biparietal headache, pharyngitis and, later, a laryngitis followed by tracheitis and cough were most troublesome. The cough was a tight explosive affair, staccato-like and paroxysmal, with mild attacks of dyspnœa. It was painful to breathe deeply. Nasal mucus and occasional sputum with traces of blood in it were products. *Sensation of burning* was most characteristic as far as the mucus membranes were concerned. Pulse was accelerated and seemed more noticeable on reclining. Perspiration about chest and head was increased above normal. Hoarseness was a prominent characteristic accompanied by great increase of mucus ranging from a thin, easily removed, to a thick gelatinous adhesive mass that persisted in remaining attached until interrogating a patient or attempting to carry on a conversation over the telephone. Then it would dislodge itself making it difficult to speak and producing a half-choking cough.

As for remedies, *Rumex* was tried early, failed completely; *Sabadilla*, *Sulphur* likewise. *Bromium* finally gave me the best results and this, mind you, in the face of repeated contacts with the smog irritants, because we had had some six weeks of weather the like of which few of us had experienced before and would like to avoid in the future.

As far as my personal experience with remedies is concerned, the advice laid down in the *Organon* is still best : seek out the total symptom picture ; recognize in this case at least the major cause, smog ; deal with it on whatever bases are available to you. If possible send patients on a vacation into a community that is reasonably free from smog. Insist on giving up all smoking plus the taking of vitamins and so-called food supplements ; in other words strip this case down to its bare essentials, which means you, the patient and smog. I'm sure it will help. Of course you can also advise your patient to complain to his Congressman and his Councilman, urging that something be done about this problem along lines which medicine has no control over. Don't hesitate to tell him facts that help to convince him of the seriousness of this modern-day destroyer.

After receiving the invitation from our Bureau Chairman to take part in this program, my mind turned more directly toward the question of what I could possibly add to the sum total of what you and I might profitably do as good homœopaths. It goes without saying that my interest has been directed toward prevention over a period of years and this problem should be no exception. I'm glad to be able to offer you a remedy which will serve you well in that role.

In my opinion, this remedy covers the picture as well, if not better, than anything I have come across. As John H. Clarke says in his *Dictionary of Materia Medica*, Volume 2, "as we learn more and more how to handle gases, they will take a more definite part in the Materia Medica." I've incorporated in the present scheme a proving by Sivan of the 200th, and provings by Dewar, McKendrik, and 2 others recorded by Allen. The remedy is *Oxygenium*.

Sivan's symptoms have been verified in some instances (*Homœopathic Physician*, Volume 10, page 400), the following cures being recorded :

(1) Cough from dryness in upper larynx and constant tickling in throat pit ; hard shaking cough, causing soreness in epigastric region. Expectoration with every cough thick, lumpy, tasteless. *Oxy.* 1M.

- (2) Passing quantities of uric acid like ruby sand. *Oxy. CM.*
(3) Cough excited by tickling in throat and causing soreness of chest; 2 to 3 A.M.; > lying on back. *Oxy. CM* cured this case.

Symptoms as Clarke delineates them so nicely—

HEAD—headache, outer half R. eyebrow; pain in frontal region; dull frontal headache, < by spot in L. eye; pain in left temple, which feels cold to touch; continued sweat on scalp.

EYES—Lancinating paroxysmal pain in R. eyeball; occasional rush of pain filling whole of R. eyeball extending into R. temple which then became hot. Tingling of conjunctivae and skin of face.

NOSE—Much obdurate mucus in nose, necessitating frequent picking; in morning blowing out of lumps, general tough, opaque, whitish yellow. Sneezes with the cough.

FACE—Tingling of skin of face.

THROAT—Irritation of fauces and glottis. Rawness of throat.

MOUTH—Canker sores in mouth and cheeks.

ABDOMEN—Great flatulence and passing large quantities of stool; flatus seems to accumulate in rectum; feafts to pass flatus lest stool should also pass.

RESPIRATORY ORGANS—Violent irritating cough and sneezing, followed by rawness of throat and air passages. Irritation of respiratory tract as when recovering from an attack of influenza (same irritation can be produced by breathing electricity given off from a conductor). Aponia, with difficulty of controlling voice. Slight hoarseness, dryness of throat; towards evening, dryness increased round rim of glottis; at midnight woke with choking, burning dryness of glottis and upper larynx; no thirst. Hoarseness and hard, shaking, tearing cough from tickling under sternum in night, < lying on either side, > lying on back, with profuse, lumpy, tasteless whitish sputa. Sputa occasionally yeow, purulent. Dry hacking cough; 2 to 5 A.M. cough produces hawking; blowing nose, bursting sensation in chest.

CHEST—Tickling under sternum; tightness under sternum, bringing shoulders forward. Suffocating feeling in chest; tendency to breathe slowly.

BACK—Pain excessive in whole sacral region apparently in arti-

culations, especially a sensation of tiredness all through pelvic viscera, even in perineum.

UPPER LIMBS—Itching of skin, metacarpal end of first phalanx of L. index finger, no redness or eruption.

LOWER LIMBS—Thighs and legs as if overworked; excessively fatigued. Eruption of pimples in the fold of R. side of nates, near anus, becoming very sore and seemingly like blisters; as skin rubbed off, became very sore.

SKIN—Tingling of skin of face.

FEVER—Sweat all over and headache between eyes. Sweat on scalp and slight moisture over body.

I would be pleased to receive a future report of your experiences with this remedy in your respective practices in order that we may thereby derive a worthwhile benefit to us all.

—*Jourl. of the Am. Inst. of Homœopathy, July, 1956.*

CANCER ON THE INCREASE

Figures published by the World Health Organization do not pertain to health but to cancer. The theory must be that health is to be achieved in part by escape from cancer. It would be a fascinating speculation, if nothing more than that, to see if the final escape from everything would automatically leave health the principal remnant; and it would be engaging to reflect whether health as a remnant saved by escape would turn out to be very much worth having. At any rate, the World Health Organization asks itself none of these questions, but goes on to classify cancers by locality. The figures show that in 26 countries the majority of cancer deaths result from cancer of the stomach, next from cancer of the large intestine, finally from cancer of the rectum. All three rolled into one make up cancer of the digestive organs, according to the tabulation, more fatal to men than to women, and in the year 1955 accounting for the following proportion of all cancer deaths: