

## THE HAIR OF THE DOG

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From his somewhat unique position within the medical sphere, the homœopath's chemist and druggist can sometimes see the wood in spite of the trees, make observations and proffer suggestions of value which might otherwise be overlooked or insufficiently appreciated in either the homœopathic or allopathic orbit. An example of this for those who are not homœopaths, is the value of the infinitesimal dose through tautopathic experience.

Tautopathy is a word I have coined to differentiate this line of thought, with the object of defining its meaning as nearly exactly as possible and to emphasise the difference between it and that which we understand by homœopathy.

The word homœopathy is derived, but not very fortunately constituted, from the Greek words "homoios" (similar) and "pathos" (disease). It means in effect "similia similibus curen-tur", with the emphasis on the word "similar"—not "identical".

Isopathy, the Greek "isos" (equal), means the treatment of isolated disease conditions solely by the administration of the identical attenuated disease product, as produced by that disease.

The possible word homœopathy has never been used, but would be composed from the Greek "homos" (same) and "pathos" (disease) meaning the treatment of disease by the use of the identical thing which caused it. But this word, although probably the most explicit for my purpose is discarded because it is too similar to homœopathy, so I have chosen tautopathy, from the Greek "tautos" (same) meaning treatment with the identical substance which has caused a condition.

### *Ill-Effects of Modern Drug*

We are all only too familiar with those cases who, having been treated by an everyday modern drug, suffer in one way

or another as a consequence. It would seem to me that practically any present day drug of synthetic chemical substance, and including even the vitamins, is capable of producing unwanted effects in various degrees of severity, of ten passing unrecognised except by the homœopath. Even the often long lasting after-effects of measles or scarlet fever and so on are poisoning effects which the body frequently proves itself incapable of overcoming. I suggest that when the physician gives the nosode of these disease products prepared homœopathically from the invading bacteria or virus in such cases, he is doing so tautopathically, for to be truly homœopathically applied these nosodes would have to be given according to the provings of the particular nosode.

All these effects, from drugs or disease, the homœopathic physician is better able to recognise, and by his knowledge remove, often without recourse to tautopathy, although many homœopathic doctors have reported striking results by giving the potentised drug which has caused trouble. However, the allopath can hardly fail to agree to the exhibition of ANTI-TETANUS SERUM 30 in the case of, perhaps, urticaria following an anti-tetanus injection; or PENICILLIN 30 or other such antibiotic to the case recovered from, possibly pneumonia, which has had the normal antibiotic dosage, but which does not proceed to convalescence normally.

There is a report on contact dermatitis in the "Pharmaceutical Journal" of May 5, 1956, the official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, of the treatment of six cases caused by handling antibiotics, described by R. M. Morris-Owen in the "British Medical Journal", 1956, Volume 1 page 654, that doses of penicillin or streptomycin of the order of one unit or more, given subcutaneously, are useful in conferring immunity in cases of contact dermatitis caused by handling antibiotics. The same report goes on to say that in the case of patients recovering from severe or widespread reactions, the dose used was only one-tenth of a unit, approximating to the 4th centesimal homœopathic potency, if one takes one million units as a dose.

These latter observations are even more interesting than

the first. But it is safe for the homœopath to predict that good or better results could be obtained by the use of a much greater dilution than even one-tenth of a unit, as was used in cases suffering from severe reaction to antibiotics. I would suggest they now try the 6th, 12th, or 30th c.H. potencies, made in the special way the homœopathic pharmacy requires.

#### *Boracic Acid Danger*

It has lately been realised in Britain that the age-old popular remedy boracic acid can be dangerous, especially to young children. Its use is now officially discouraged, since serious effects and even deaths have been attributed to it, as reported in the "Pharmaceutical Journal" of April 21, 1956. In these cases ACID BORIC 30 could be very useful in the removal or neutralisation of after effects due to boric acid assimilation through the skin.

Much of the above I stated at the International Homœopathic Congress in London, in 1956. Since then it has been realised that persons can suffer extensively from the chronic effects of anæsthetics. Dr. Foubister, Dean of the Faculty, has reported that high potencies of that drug which has been used to produce anæsthesia in a patient will frequently produce remarkable results, even many years after its use.

One wonders how much unrealised damage has by now been done to the nation through necessary anæsthesia. We may have immensely valuable remedies in the potentized anæsthetics, and the possibilities could be very great indeed.

What better way on occasion to demonstrate the value of the 30th potency, even though the purist may prefer not to class this branch in therapeutics with what he understands to be homœopathy. The use of the word "tautopathy" would keep the practical meaning of "homœopathy" or "homœopathic" clearly defined and free from ambiguous confusion in the minds of those coming to homœopathy for the first time—a very necessary precaution.

I believe this to be a contribution which the homœopath can give to the world today and when once demonstrated may

lead to a keener interest understanding of the homœopath's work. This same tautopathic principle could successfully be demonstrated with the immediate or after effects of snake or spider bites, but dosage given in this way would not be homœopathy as is generally understood. Snake venom serum, when used by allopathic medicine to alleviate the sufferings or save the lives of those bitten, is very probably in theory rightly vaccine therapy. But the homœopath uses the potentised venoms only according to their provings for any disease condition which they may thus fit, according to homœopathic principle.

It is a simple matter quickly to potentize any present day drug to the 30th c.H. potency; and no drugs need be passed over should they be needed for tautopathic use.

The world's need of homœopathy is much more likely to be supplied if we give proofs in the first place that the infinitesimal dose is indeed an active factor, and thoroughly worthy of investigation. How often do we hear from those who have not come to believe or even look at homœopathy that our apparently absurdly small dose cannot possibly have any effect and, as a consequence, that they never come any nearer to homœopathy, just on account of the smallness of the dose alone?

#### *Value of Boyd's Findings*

In January, 1954, the "British Homœopathic Journal" published a 44-page report entitled "Biochemical and Biological Evidence of the Activity of High Potencies", by the late Dr. W. E. Boyd, which was a remarkably full, and well presented account of his highly scientific laboratory work of many years' duration. As a scientific report it has its own great value to the scientist, for it is in the form and language in which all such original scientific research should, very properly, be presented—the language of research.

However, to the ordinary man in the street, and indeed very many members of the medical and, perhaps, a little less so to the pharmaceutical professions, the reading and even assiduous study of these pages will in itself cloud the extremely important findings. One may be left with a more or less vague un-

pression, smothered by scientific laboratory procedure and detail, that Boyd definitely found something, "an unknown factor", in homœopathic high potencies of the order of the 30th c.H. (centesimal Hahnemannian, as distinct from machine made) which it is now hoped scientists will read as true; as supported by the technique reported.

This technique occupied some 44 pages, while the all important kernel, a matter of only 14 lines of page 30, is written in such simple, self effacing phrases of unassuming scientific report, that it is likely to be missed by most of us. This is what is said:

"We are left with a conclusion which may be defined thus:

1. Microdoses derived from a mercuric chloride and prepared by 27 to 31 stages of serial dilution with mechanical shock, nominally of the order  $10^{-61}$  to  $10^{-71}$ , were found to accelerate the hydrolysis of starch with diastase.

2. There being no material trace of mercuric chloride nor of contaminants in the microdoses additional to those normally present in the same distilled water as is used for controls, and there being highly significant effects obtained by these microdose solutions, it is concluded that an active factor derived from the mercuric chloride accelerates the hydrolysis of starch with diastase. This stimulative factor is capable of affecting the microdose distilled water, and of thus transferring its activity to subsequent ultra molecular stages of the 'high potency' microdose preparations. The nature of this factor is unknown."

#### *Need to Spread Knowledge.*

This Boyd research report also mentions other important results, but the immensely important kernel of it is that stated above and cannot be repeated in simple language often enough. I believe that every country interested in homœopathy should go to any lengths to see the result of this magnificent research published in full, in their own languages; but it does need, I submit, to be explained in simple everyday language, to be understandable by all.

- The important point to note, and which should be clearly

in everybody's mind, in my opinion, especially the homœopath's, is that in the world of science, when a new scientific phenomenon has been noted and demonstrated, as is proved without question by Dr. Boyd's research, it remains the duty of the scientist, homœopathically inclined or not, to *Measure* quite impartially that phenomenon. The more unusual the new observation made, the more important is it to proceed to *measure it*.

By measurement the scientist means a complete investigation of all the ascertainable properties of the newly noted phenomenon, in this case the force discovered and so clearly demonstrated by Dr. Boyd. Thus although this remarkable research is complete in itself, it calls upon the scientist to make a special study of this force so new to science, and present in homœopathic potencies. When it has been satisfactorily "measured" it will then be indisputable scientific fact.

—*The Homœopathy, Oct. '59*