

## THE ROLE OF PHOSPHOROUS IN OUR PROBLEMS OF INCREASING RADIATION

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In that this group meets for the primary purpose of furthering the study of Homœopathy and attempting to solve problems relative thereto, I would like to present to you a few thoughts concerning the greatest problem that has ever confronted us: the threat to all life on earth by the ever increasing amount of radiation in our environment. The newspapers, magazines and medical journals, as well as radio and television, are all discussing the pros and cons, fact or fancy, concerning the effects of radio-active fall-out.

But, before I get ahead of my story, let me present to you a case in which X-ray radiation produced adverse results, and yet the case was curable by homœopathic treatment. For a physician who treats the whole patient for the entirety of his symptoms it is difficult to limit any discourse on Homœopathy to regional pathology, so let us proceed to the case and evaluate the totality of its symptoms, its history and its pathology.

Mrs. F. T., a 44-year-old, tall, thin oikologist, accompanied to my office by her sister, complained of a jumping quivering sensation in her left chest that made her heart-beat felt throughout her entire body, being most pronounced up the back of her neck to the top of her head, which she held tightly with her hands to keep it from bursting. Her eyes felt bulged out so that she wanted to press them back into their sockets again.

She became so nervous and weak anticipating this trip downtown that she had to have her sister accompany her for fear she would collapse on the street if she were alone. She fears going outdoors or leaving her home, and she fears going to church as she can't get her breath there. During a thunderstorm she must have company, some one to talk to.

Before her menstrual periods her breasts get sore and her heart skips and beat violently, and something rises in her chest

to her throat which gets so full and tight that she must remove her beads; all of which symptoms are relieved when her menses begin, even though the flow is scanty.

Her appetite varies from none at all to a hunger so great that she must eat between meals and sometimes gets up at night to eat (salted crackers, pretzels or nuts), and always drinks lots of ice-cold milk or lemonade. Unable to tolerate hot, stuffy rooms, she sleeps with the windows wide open, even though she catches colds that start with a watery nose and end with a dry cough that makes her sit up all night.

She has a left-sided goiter, smooth, 3.75 cm in diameter, freely movable and only slightly sensitive to touch. Treated with deep X-ray eighteen years ago, this goiter has remained stationary in size, but she has had difficult, prolonged scanty menses ever since those treatments. Her hair is dry and brittle and with the exception of cold, clammy palms, her skin is dry. (For the sake of brevity normal findings are omitted here.)

Like so many other cases we homœopaths have seen in past four or five years, this case was simply begging for *Phosphorus*. A single dose of the 10M was given. She had such a terrific reaction to it that she spent a week in bed; but the improvement she made thereafter so altered the picture that other remedies were indicated. *Belladonna* 3x and *Glonoina* 3x helped her headaches; *Spongia* 3x quieted her palpitation; but it took *Lachesis* 500, to give her complete relief of all her fears, premenstrual tensions, headaches and palpitation. When last seen, over a year ago, the goiter was no longer visible.

Evidently *Phosphorus* removed the suppressive action of the X-ray radiation but it did not complete the cure. *Lachesis*, as you all know, has a profound action on the endocrine system, and various potencies from the 12x to the 10M were prescribed.

*Phosphorus*, as mentioned above, has in the past four or five years appeared to be the indicated remedy in so many more cases than formerly that I wondered if I was in a rut. At our convention in Swampscott I asked whether any of the other members had experienced this, and Dr. Grimmer replied,

"Yes, come to think of it, I have." So had Drs. Roger Schmidt, Bellokossy, Rood and Gutman. Thus it was true from coast to coast, and yet each was unaware that the others were seeing an increasing number of cases where *Phosphorus* was the indicated remedy.

Dr. Grimmer stated that in its provings *Phosphorus* produced many symptoms so similar to those of radiation sickness that there must be a correlation between the increased fallout of radio-active elements and increased number of *Phosphorus* cases.

However, it was not until the meeting of The Indiana Institute of Homœopathy in May 1959 that we learned just how universal this trend in prescribing had become. Mr. Roger Ehrhart, of Ehrhart and Karl of Chicago, stated that whereas their greatest volume in world-wide sales for many years had been the common drugs of vegetable origin, such as *Aconite*, *Bryonia* and *Nux Vomica* etc., it had, within the last three years, changed to *Phosphorus* and *Phosphoric acid* as the two leading drugs in sales volume and now outnumbered all other individual drugs ordered three to one.

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