

# THE HAHNEMANNIAN GLEANINGS

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## EDITORIAL

### HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACEUTICAL BUSINESS

For last few decades there has appeared an overwhelming trend among Homœopathic Pharmacists to manufacture various products like Patents, Compounds, Disease-Specifics, Injections, Tonics etc., all in the garb of Homœopathy, but which not only have nothing to do with Homœopathy but often actually vitiate and vulgarise all the principles of Homœopathy. This trend was started by the pioneers in the line like Boericke & Tafel, etc. and at present has been adopted by one and all Homœopathic Pharmaceutical firms, big or small. The basic motive behind this trend is purely mercenary, and it is thriving or rather gaining momentum banking upon the laziness of the Homœopaths themselves to learn and apply in practice the golden principles of Homœopathy, as well as their naivety which make them fall victim to the glare of Allopathic methods alluring them to imitate the latter, in place of sticking to the far superior and more dependable but a bit laborious and intelligent methods of Homœopathy.

However incongruous these products may be with the fundamental principles of Homœopathy these businessmen are always very particular to put a cloak of Homœopathy on them (only to allure and dupe the Homœopathic public), and that always with the plea that they are inventing new methods to improve Homœopathy. They always claim that their commodities are products of strenuous research work to improve the science of Homœopathy. This plea sounds like inventing vegetable Ghee to improve upon natural Ghee. We cannot have any reasonable objection if the

former designates itself as hydrogenated vegetable oil, and abstains from simulating and using the garb of the latter. Similarly, we cannot have any legitimate objection against these products if they are labelled as what they are, but sparing the name of Homœopathy.

**A Homœopathic medicine** must be prepared from a *single* drug, the therapeutic properties of which have already been established by Homœopathic proving and or clinical proving, and or toxicological effects on human beings (or with sufficient control and scrutiny on animals), and which has been prepared and stored according to standard Homœopathic methods, in various potencies beginning from mother-tincture or trituration up to the highest potencies, and dispensed for internal or external use in standard vehicles like sugar of milk, cane-sugar globules, alcohol or distilled water (for internal use), vaseline, paraffin, bland oil, spirit or water (for external use), in sterile and neutral container.

Any product not conforming to any of the above-mentioned clear specifications cannot be labelled as a Homœopathic medicine by any tenet of logic or any stretch of imagination, as it cannot be fitted with the basic law of Homœopathy—the Law of Similimum.

Our earnest appeal to Homœopathic Pharmacists, particularly of India, is that, if they want to thrive on Homœopathy they should sustain the life of Homœopathy by straining all their nerves to manufacture pure Homœopathic medicines (which task itself is full of so many problems), and avoid choking out Homœopathy with these mushroom products. They should remember that if Homœopathy dies, there will be little chance of their surviving. And in this matter they should take lessons from the experience of the U.S.A. where most of the Homœopathic firms, which had far bigger capital resources than the firms of our country, had to die out; and those few biggest ones that are still surviving are leading a very miserable life mainly on their business with pseudo-homœopathic products. They should remember further that the little profit they are at present making with these products may not last long. If, somehow, these products are officially recognised by the Government of our land, the multimillionaires

in the official pharmaceutical line may take up the manufacture of these pseudo-homœopathic products on a gigantic scale and oust the Homœopathic firms by ruthless throat-cutting competition. On the other hand if the pure Homœopathic market, which is already vast in India, is maintained and enhanced, nothing on earth will be able to crush them; rather, a day may come when they will get a far bigger market for pure Homœopathy on world scale, as they are now getting for their publications of Homœopathic classics.

It is up to the will and prudence of Homœopathic firms of India to accept this timely counsel or reject it. But we, the Homœopathic practitioners of India, cannot allow ourselves to be a party in crushing out Homœopathy, from India by being customers of these pseudo-homœopathic products. We will spare no pains, or fear no loss to denounce these products and methods from whatever platform or through literature we have at our command or may avail of. We know that, the organizers of the last W. B. State Homœopathic Practitioners' Conference held at Krishnagar in December 1963, gladly sustained a loss of more than a thousand rupees by refusing to entertain advertisements of patents and specifics in their Souvenir and Exhibition as pressed by certain Homœopathic Pharmacists. They valued the basic principles of Homœopathy far higher than any sum of money, financially poor as they were. Of course, the Conference was liberally financed by the larger section of honest Homœopathic firms who preferred to co-operate with and support the principles of the organizers. The grand success, not only of the Conference itself was largely due to their financial support, but of the Exhibition also was due to their hearty co-operation. By far the main purpose of the exhibition was educative rather than commercial. In it the pharmacists tried to make the visitors familiar with the various raw materials (herbs, minerals etc.), mother-tincture of various Homœopathic medicines, various forms of vehicles like sugar of milk, globules etc.; explained various methods of preparing Homœopathic medicines, cautioned against various irregularities in the collection, storage and manufacture; exhibited various highly valuable publications. Thus an academic and scientific

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Attention to the constitutional elements in the case, the possible toxic factors present, the probable causal agencies recent or remote, will often be of immense help in working out the problem and arriving at a satisfactory plan for treatment.

TO SUM UP: It is suggested that a remedy should be regarded not as a chemical compound, natural or synthetic, capable of controlling symptoms by pharmacological force, that is by interfering with vital function in one way or another. Rather should the remedy be recognized as something possessing life-force and individual personality, therapeutically potent if correctly prepared and suitably employed.

To this end the remedy should be intimately studied in relation to its origin and background, its toxic propensities, its tissue affinities, its affiliated constitutional types as well as in regard to its particular symptoms as noted by planned provings.

The relation of the Homœopathic Materia Medica to the ætiological factor in disease has been briefly reviewed.

—*The British Homœopathic Journal, April, '59*

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atmosphere prevailed in the Exhibition area of the Conference. We wish the organizers of all Homœopathic Conferences and Exhibitions and homœopathically minded pharmacists co-operating with them, will always emulate the same method.

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