

# THE HAHNEMANNIAN GLEANINGS

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Vol. XXXIII

MARCH 1966

No. 3

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## EDITORIAL

### I

#### MOURNING

We, along with our bereaved country-men, mourn with weeping heart the sudden demise of our beloved Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, at a time when the world needed him most. We hope that our present Prime Minister Shrimatee Indira Gandhi will further enrich the glorious line initiated by her illustrious Father and carried forward by the Late Shastriji.

### II

#### CRISIS OF HOMŒOPATHIC BUSINESS AND PROFESSION

The drastic cut in import, enforced by the Union Government, is telling vitally upon the manufacture of Homœopathic medicine, and for that matter, upon the whole Homœopathic profession in India. The manufacture of Homœopathic medicine, as it stands to-day, depends, almost exclusively, on the import of Sugar of Milk, raw materials, mother-tinctures, corks, etc. It will necessarily take pretty long time, before India can be self-sufficient in this respect. If the Government refuse to take this obvious fact into consideration and insist on their hasty step in the matter of import of Homœopathic goods, it will be tantamount to totally crippling Homœopathy out of India. So we urge upon all Homœopathic Associations and personalities of India to prevail upon the Government, through all channels, to arouse them to the gravity of the situation for the Homœopathic profession and myriads of ailing people vitally depending upon it.

While entreating the Government to a bit relax their import policy in favour of Homœopathic business and profession, in order to allow time to the Homœopathic manufacturers, industrialists and scientists in India, to free Homœopathic business from its dependence on foreign supply, we call upon

the latter to wake up to their responsibility in this matter. The following are some of the important items which may be seriously considered by them for the purpose of making Homœopathy in India self-sufficient:

(1) *Manufacture of Sugar of Milk*—The production of Sugar of Milk from whey is not at all a difficult task. The crux of the problem is the supply of whey. We do not think that, this problem is unsolvable if the Government and various dairy-farmers in India seriously co-operate with each other for the matter. At least small scale manufacture of Sugar of Milk can be organised in various places, in co-operation with those farms which produce curd for any purpose, from the whey which they usually throw away.

The Homœopathic Physicians should bear in mind that Sugar of Milk is an indispensable requirement for the production of triturations, rather than for their dispensing purposes. In the interest of production of triturations, they should avoid the use of Sugar of Milk for dispensing purposes, and, instead, use plain water, cane Sugar Globules, Glucose, or even starch (in the form of Barley, Arrowroot etc.) for the purpose. The habit of patients of taking Homœopathic medicines or placebos in Sugar of Milk, can be changed by proper education and persuasion. The use of Lactose as a dietetic item should be totally avoided.

(2) *Manufacture of Corks and their substitute Plastic caps, Phials and various other accessories* in sufficiently good quality for Homœopathic purposes can be organised in collaboration with various industrialists.

(3) *The problem of Drugs*—This is the most vital of all problems. Almost all the drugs used in Homœopathy to-day are of foreign origin. All these drugs were proved in various foreign countries having been collected from their respective native sources. It is an established fact that drugs especially, those coming from vegetable kingdom, change their chemical, biological and therapeutic properties according to their habitat. So in order to be self-sufficient on the score of drugs, following steps are urgently called for—

(i) Botanists and Chemists should be employed for finding out the herbs and other drugs of classical *Materia Medica* born and collected in India, or their analogues or substitutes as determined by their biological and chemical properties.

(ii) Then these drugs must be extensively and thoroughly proved on completely scientific basis with all arrangements for control experiments, laboratory data, etc. under scrupulous and efficient supervision.

(iii) All the Indian drugs, with any known therapeutic property must be similarly proved.

We as well as various other Indian Homœopaths have been crying for this most vital task for a long time; still, no remarkable step has as yet been taken in this line, except by one or two Homœopathic Teaching Institutions like—Midnapore Homœopathic Medical College, with their extremely inade-

quate resources. In our opinion, if this step is to be really fruitful, the Government must take the basic initiative with all seriousness and sincerity and open their own institutions for the purpose, and also engage or collaborate with the various Homœopathic Teaching Institutions and unofficial organisations for the matter.

If all these steps are seriously taken up, India can, in course of some time, not only be completely independent in Homœopathic business, but it can turn into an actual exporter of Homœopathic goods, as it has already become to a very meagre extent with some Homœopathic books and Indian drugs.

J. N. Kanjilal

#### OBITUARY

We deeply condole the sad demise, although at ripe old age of 78 years, of Dr. P. Saha, M.D. on 12.12.65, early morning. With him, Indian Homœopathy has lost one of its brightest stars.

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