

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POISONING

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Long months ago I was asked to prepare a paper for this Bureau. Foolishly I accepted. Since then I have kept my eyes and ears open as to what Homœopathy can or could do in the field of industrial poisonings from such substances as lead, benzol, aluminum, phosphorous, mercury and nicotine. I found nothing of any import in the current literature or in earlier homœopathic literature. Even Dr. Hering, who was as consistent and thorough as any homœopath since Hahnemann, had very little to say of Homœopathy in industry or in industrial medicine.

In May, while attending the annual meeting of the Indiana Institute of Homœopathy, I received no help on industrial medicine though it was suggested that I ignore that topic and instead write a paper on emphysema. This suggestion I did not accept, still hoping to discover something in the realm of poisonings and their homœopathic treatment.

As you well know, the toxic effects of a crude drug or metal can always be antidoted to some extent by the same drug or metal in potency. This procedure is of considerable help in all cases of poisoning. At least it gives something beneficial to do immediately while seeking a more complete or effective antidote.

For mercury poisoning other antidotes besides potentized mercury are *Hepar sulfuris*, *Calcarea*, *Nitric acid* and *Iodine* and *Kali iodatum*.

For aluminum poisoning *Aluminum metallicum* and *Plumbum metallicum* are the chief antidotes. For nicotine poisoning *Nicotinum*, *Tabacum* and *Strychnos Nux vomica* are frequently antidotal.

For the toxic effects of radiation, X-ray or *Radium bromicum* or *Phosphorus* high (10M) are effective. Along this line, for antidoting the effects of "fall-out," *Strontium* high or *Phosphorus* or *Phosphoric acid* is indicated. Incidentally the dangers of radiation "fall-out" seem much less serious or dangerous as was previously thought to be the case. *Calcarea fluorica* in potency is often of value in X-ray burns.

Lead poisoning can be antidoted by lead in high potency as *Plumbum metallicum* and also by *Alumen*, *Alumina* and *Aluminum metallicum*, especially for the spinal cord symptoms.

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