

other emotions and instincts is sacrificed and suppressed. A perverted instinctual and sexual life results, with irritability and impatience often of a definitely hysterical character.

STAPHISAGRIA.

Also *Staphisagria* tends to overrate his own importance, though often quite unaware of doing so. He is quite self-indulgent and will not deny himself the satisfaction of his emotional and sexual urges. Since he is very sensitive to the way he is judged, in relation to his own artificially inflated standard, he is constantly forced to hide and suppress his real emotional and personal self. Living by the grace of artificially maintained appearance, he easily lays himself open to injury to his pride, which, again, never must be admitted or noticed by others. The price for the maintenance of this artificial structure is paid for in tension, hysteria, spasticity and impatient irritability.

—*The Homœopathic Recorder, December, 1950.*

METHODS OF SCIENCE*

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The auxiliary sciences which though not basic to the study of medicine but so essentially necessary for a comprehensive knowledge for an understanding of a diseased person are being blamed nowadays to be devoid of the principle of vital energy. Some of us, Homœopaths are going so far as to say that we should have a modification in the method of studying and of teaching these things in Homœopathic training institutions. This brings to the mind of a man who has only delved into the shores of these vast knowledges a thought that unfortunately in our profes-

* A lecture delivered to the students of Pratap Memorial Homœopathic Medical College.

sion there are people who are in the position of a parrot, which learns to speak of a thing or a subject without having a comprehension of the principles of the same.

Let us see what actually is meant by "the auxiliary sciences" so essentially necessary for the understanding and fulfilment of the calling of a physician whose highest duty is in the curative sphere. Cure has been termed restoration of the normality in a sick person—so that deviation from normal health is sickness. Normality of health is a difficult thing to define. But for all practical purposes, a harmonious working of the vital energy, mind and body may be taken as a criterion of health. This relationship is manifest in function and structure. They are however intimately co-related up to certain extent by the medical sciences. It was believed that structural changes were absolutely necessary to produce functional derangement. It is agreed now that functional derangement can exist alone without a change in structure. As a matter of fact there is a school, who believe that functional derangement precedes all structural changes.

Attempts have been made to evolve water-tight compartments in the study of sciences at the early stages of systematic knowledges. But it has been found as knowledge progressed that such water-tight compartments were not feasible and the sciences have merged into each other.

During the renaissance period the working in this sphere have gone to such an extent that each individual science have become almost a subject of life long study of an individual. Such are the sciences of today which are now supposed to be auxiliary for the study of medicine. Study of structure in their normality is known as "Anatomy" and study of function of these structures is known as "Physiology". Anatomy has again evolved out into separate sciences as "Embryology", "Histology", "Morphology" etc. In the beginning, the study of these structures has of necessity been in dead body and a co-relation of such structural knowledge and observed function has evolved

Physiology. But from the beginning the scientists were aware that these co-relations were only an attempt and could not be perfect. With the evolution of science and its methods, man today is attempting to gain an adequate knowledge of structure and function in the living, so that to say science has not accepted the difference of vital and non-vital subjects, is to show one's ignorance of science and its methods.

The attempt of studying function in the living started with vivisection and is being carried on by science whose end-results up-to-date is so far as we can find employment of "isotopes" in radiological investigations. It had always been an effort on the part of the medical scientist to analyse and reduce vital structure and function to the realm of exact sciences like physics and chemistry. But the attempt has never been successful and has been fructified in the development of such sciences as "bio-physics" and "bio-chemistry". The term itself signifies that the medical scientist is fully cognizant of the effects of the vital energy in modifying physical and chemical laws in relation to biology. As such it would do harm to the homœopathic profession to neglect or to discard the method of such sciences as Anatomy and Physiology. But study of function of vital energy is a different matter. Possibly that study in its entirety is applied to the practical application of its therapeutic methods, which has been taken up by the homœopathic profession, (i.e. what is embodied in the most interesting subject of Organon and homœopathic philosophy).

But one wonders why the profession is satisfied only with the study of deviation of vital energy. It is time that we should start to study the functions of normal vital energy. One would also like to mention that the study of symptomatology either in diseases of dynamic nature (natural) or due to drug provings is at best a study of Pathology.

Here also modern science is coming up and the science of Psychosomatic medicine is being slowly evolved out but the study of homœopathic materia-medica stands in its glory as a contribution of the homœopathic profession to the sciences of Pathology and Pharmacology. But in this sphere also much remains to be done though much has been accomplished. Further generations of homœopaths will have to take recourse to the advancement of scientific methods which have aided our powers of observation in that sphere of activities namely evolution of a proper materia-medica or we might not keep abreast of civilisation in its march of progress and might be found wanting even in selection of a homœopathic remedy in the fast moving methods of life that exist today.

**PROPOSED SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A STATE OR STATE SUBSIDISED HOMŒO-
PATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL**

*(Presented by the General Council and State Faculty
of Homœopathic Medicine, West Bengal to the
Government of West Bengal)*

This Faculty approves of the two types of courses for the teaching of Homœopathy (*viz.*, Diploma Course and Degree Course) as per resolution passed in the Third Health Ministers' Conference on the basis of recommendations of the Homœopathic Enquiry Committee Report. As regards the Syllabus for the course of study of pre-clinical and clinical subjects the following scheme is hereby sponsored by the Faculty as best conducive to turning out of fully-