

all round, and so cured, because *Thuja* has evoked in the provers all her mental symptoms—obstinacy—despairing mood—even to loathing of life. And *offensive sweat* is, of course, a great feature of *Thuja*.

Man, 65, after operation for cancer of the leg, had persistent temperature 103°—105° for a week, despite orthodox treatment. Was delirious, very suspicious, would not drink a glass of water unless nurse tasted it first. *Lach.* 30., a few doses, two hourly, quickly brought him round and he lived for two years afterwards.

Man, 36, severe headaches for years, helped by *Nat. mur.* 200. After 3 months he reported that he was well. He asked if we had intended to cure the "bald spot" (alopecia areata) which he had had for several years. He had not previously mentioned the symptoms, but having been treated constitutionally the hair returned naturally.

When gold injections were first introduced for the treatment of rheumatism, I was asked at a medical meeting for my opinion from the homœopathic aspect. I mentioned that we did use *Aurum* in homœopathic preparation for rheumatoid cases, but that we got the best results when the patient was desperately depressed, even to the verge of suicide. The lecturer confirmed this in his series of cases but, of course, he did not know why.

(To be continued)

—*Jour. of the Am. Inst. of Homœopathy, Sept. '55*

A SERIES OF SCIATICAS

DR. WILBUR K. BOND, M.D.

CASE 1.—Mr. C. H., aged 53, April 7, 1949.

Soreness of right sciatic nerve for eighteen months.

Onset from a strain playing golf. Cold natured.

Aggravated standing.

Aggravated lying on the affected side.

Ameliorated warmth.

Rx. *Lyc.* 1M, 5 doses.

April 21—Little relief from the pain.

May 19—Better: gets around much better.

May 27—Placebo continued.

June 15—Rx. *Lyc.* 1M, 3 doses.

CASE 2.—Mr. H. C. H., aged 64, November 2, 1948.

Left sciatica for one year. Three years ago it started on the right side. Pain extends from lower back to left hip and toes. Jerking during sleep.

Aggravated lying.

Aggravated standing.

Aggravated evening.

Ameliorated heat.

Ameliorated sitting with feet propped up.

Ameliorated belching.

Rx. *Lyc.* 1M, 5 doses.

November 16—Much improved. Tires too quickly. Good appetite but food does not satisfy. Eight years ago he had a coronary which laid him up for two years.

January 4, 1949—Rx. *Lyc.* 1M, 3 doses.

January 24—Cough from irritation in stomach. Copious phlegm. Weak legs when standing. Constipation. Stool dry and hard. No sciatica. Rx. *Nux.* 30, 7 doses.

CASE 3.—Mr. William M., aged 42, January 6, 1949.

Right sciatica since last summer. Pain extends from sacrum to right leg.

Aggravated wet weather.

Aggravated lifting.

Rx. *Rhus tox.*, 1M, 3 doses.

February 10—Rx. *Rhus tox.*, 10M, 3 doses.

March 22—Better. Rx. *Rhus tox.*, 10M, 3 doses.

April 22—Rx. *Rhus tox.*, 10M, 3 doses.

CASE 4.—Mr. L. M., aged 28, May 10, 1941.

Excruciating pain of the nerves about the rectum off

the coccygeal plexus. Osteopathic treatment, salicylate saturation and morphine failed to give relief.

Aggravated lying on right side.

Aggravated going to stool.

Five minutes after one dose of *Merc.*, 1M was given, patient fell asleep. Complete relief followed. Five years later I saw him on the street and he never had to have any more medicine.

DISCUSSION

Dr. Harvey Farrington (Chicago, Illinois): I would like to ask the doctor why he gave *Mercurius* for the general aggravation lying on the right side, and I would also like to warn him not to prescribe so accurately and get such quick action from a remedy because not long ago a good homoeopathic family discharged a physician because he had done the same thing and they were so sure he had given morphine that they wouldn't have him again. (*Laughter*)

Dr. Allan D. Sutherland (Brattleboro, Vermont): I think that in cases of sciatica and other types of back pain we ought to bear in mind the possibility that the pain is caused mechanically through a subluxation of one of the vertebrae.

In cases where I suspect that to be the fact, if a remedy doesn't relieve within twenty-four hours, I send them to an osteopathic physician who does the work that the remedy can't do. You can't set a broken arm with a remedy nor can you replace a subluxated vertebra with a remedy.

I think we will waste a lot of time sometimes fiddling around with homoeopathy when something else is needed.

Dr. Edward C. Whitmont (New York City): I have compared notes with some chiropractors on this very issue and in several instances had a chance to treat cases that they had seen and found such a subluxated vertebra. I think almost invariably they responded to the remedy, the subluxation after the remedy. This does not contradict Dr. Sutherland on the mechanical point, but we must con-

sider that even the osteopaths, as far as I know, have, if they think a little bit about it, abandoned the idea of a slipping of a bone causing distortion.

They themselves hold now to muscular constriction or nervous irritation. In other words, the displacement is not the cause but the spasm is the cause or rather, if I fall back into my language of this morning's discussion, displacement and constriction are manifestations of the same trouble and you can approach it with a remedy; of course, this is not the case where you have, due to mechanical reasons like an accident, this condition; but I believe a great majority of the sciaticas will not fall into this category. And I think homoeopathy does better for them.

Dr. A. H. Grimmer (Chicago, Illinois): There are some cases, however, doctor, of ankylosis and intervertebral disks that impinge on nerves, and they are undoubtedly mechanical in nature.

Dr. A. Dwight Smith (Glendale, California): I would like to suggest that in these sciaticas, especially with the modalities of *Rhus tox.*, one keeps *Indium* in mind. I think in 1933 you gave a paper on *Indium* in Chicago. I have had a lot of cases that did not respond where I thought *Rhus tox.* was indicated.

Dr. Whitmont: And with the same modalities as *Rhus tox.*

Dr. Smith: Yes, and I cured a great many cases; some of them I never saw, but the family told me about them. I have cured more cases of sciatica with *Indium* than with any other remedy.

Dr. Elizabeth Wright Hubbard (New York City): I would just like to say three things. In the first place, apropos of the value of osteopathy or the homoeopathic remedy, I have had any number of sacroiliacs so diagnosed, and some of them demonstrated with x-ray in which an osteopath or chiropractor could put it back, and it would be very nice for a few hours or a few days, and they would do something and it would go out of place again. In other

words, I figure that the physiology was looseness of the fibrous tissues around that little joint and our homoeopathic similar remedy will tighten up the issues, in the same way that Dr. Roger Schmidt's prolapses are tightened up, and prevent recurrence.

Secondly, I would like to suggest that our good old friend *Tellurium* be used for some of the sciaticas. I had two this winter in which they expressed that every time they coughed or sneezed they nearly died of pain, which of course is characteristic of *Tellurium*; in both cases, it fixed them quickly. In one of them, which was a left-sided one, I had been giving *Rhus tox.* and wondering why it didn't do any better.

Dr. Thomas K. Moore (Akron, Ohio): Margaret Tyler had some very strong ideas about these so-called dislocations. She had education along the line—I don't know where she got it—of this bone doctoring, as they call it over there, and she advised doing nothing about that sort of thing homoeopathically because it could be taken care of so easily by their method and she gave a number of examples. I am very glad to hear what Dr. Hubbard has to say about taking care of these things homoeopathically.

I think sometimes there is a disadvantage in being close students of pathology because we will see something which is so definitely incurable by our methods that we won't try, whereas we want to try, and whereas, not seeing these things, we go in and cure it by Homoeopathy. I have seen a fine demonstration of that already where the lesion would say it couldn't be done, and then Homoeopathy would go in and do it.

Dr. Sutherland: I agree with Dr. Hubbard that homoeopathic remedy will correct the underlying difficulty. My contention is, where the actual mechanical trouble is acting, it is an obstacle to the action of the homoeopathic remedy. If the mechanical difficulty can first be corrected, then Homoeopathy can take up from there and prevent further recurrence.

A man of about thirty came in to see me one day complaining of severe pain in his left arm and in his back. The symptoms were those of *Rhus tox.*, which did absolutely nothing. I sent him to an osteopathic physician. We learned that this man had been using one of these jack hammers to drill with. He had five vertebrae slipped in his back. When those were replaced, his pain left, and he never had any recurrence. Homoeopathy could't have done that.

Dr. Roger Schmidt (San Francisco, California): I want to confirm what Dr. Hubbard said. In fact, she took the wind out of my sails. I was just going to mention *Tellurium* which is so typically aggravated by cough or sneeze, but also by laughing.

I had a case of sciatica who, every time she would laugh, produced terrible pain and, of course, *Tellurium* cured that.

I think that those cases of sciatica and back ache are very satisfactory to see because most of them we cure much quicker than even osteopathically, because it doesn't recur so fast.

Dr. Charles A. Dixon (Akron, Ohio): I didn't know about *Tellurium* having that pain—or I presume I did know it once but I forget so much. But this past winter I had a case that complained of a pain in the hip when she coughed. It happened to be a *Causticum* case and I cured her with *Causticum*—it was pain in the hip and the left toe.

Dr. Elizabeth Wright Hubbard (New York City): May I speak once again? I had a terrific sacro-iliac case recently which I thought should have responded to *Rhus* but it didn't. I thought it should have responded to *Tellurium* but it didn't. It was in a young woman of twenty-six. Finally I got mad and I thought, "I am going to give her a chronic constitutional remedy," which she had never had, "and see what that will do to this thing."

I repertorized her and she came out to *Pulsatilla*, very, very *Pulsatilla*, and before giving it I looked it up and you

would be surprised what symptoms of sciatica *Pulsatilla* has. I didn't know it. I gave her *Pulsatilla* 10M and, whereas she had been bed-ridden for nearly a week, inside of an hour she was up cleaning house, and she is so much better in other ways that it isn't funny. So think of our friend *Pulsatilla*!

Dr. Donald Gladish (Glenview, Illinois) : That reminds me of a case of sciatica that troubled me for quite a while. A woman of about forty, I think whom I had doctored for quite a while—*Pulsatilla* had been her remedy for most everything she had. She came in with the sciatica. She had already taken *Rhus tox.* for a couple of days. That hadn't fazed it. I gave her *Pulsatilla* and thought sure it would fix her up. She came back just as bad.

I gave her other remedies. Finally, I had to give her *Zincum valerianum*, before she got over the sciatica. She has recurrence every two years and I have to give her zinc valerinate.

Dr. Bond (*Closing*) : I am interested to hear all of these very unusual remedies for sciatica. It is certainly worth coming a long way to get them. We all know that sciatica is certainly a mighty stubborn thing in the hands of the old school man. Many of the old school patients come to you with complaints that have never been cured. They may even drag on for eighteen months or six years if they do not get the right remedy. In fact, this first case came to me from Dayton, Ohio.

He had this sciatica for eighteen months. It is not an uncommon thing to sit out in a little crossroads country town and draw these cases even from town as large as Dayton or even Indianapolis. That is one of the thrills I get out of the practice of Homoeopathy—not so much the remuneration many times, but the satisfaction of knowing that you can do something that the other fellow can't do.

The people many times in your own home town are less appreciative and think you can do less than the people who are strangers who live away from your town. I had

a girl right around the street corner from me who developed a sciatica. I prescribed two or three times and she didn't get a magical improvement. I saw they were getting restless and disturbed and they wanted shots and all kinds of dope. I told them I couldn't do anything more for them and turned them loose.

The last I heard—it has been about eight months now—she is still struggling with that darned sciatica. If she had been a little bit more patient for me, I think perhaps I would have waked up and found a remedy for her. People just aren't built to be patient sometimes.

I stress again the stubbornness of sciatica; unless you work hard and try to get the right remedy, you are going to have a chronic invalid on your hands for many months to come.

About the sacro-iliac conditions and the displaced disks, I have had one or two cases that came in with that diagnosis who got well on the remedy.

In fact, they wanted to operate on them and they came to me thinking maybe I could find a remedy for them, and they were much harder. I had to struggle a longer period of time with them, but I finally got them well and they were supposed to have a displaced disk. You can draw your own conclusions from that.

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SULPHUR IN SCIATICA

DR. S. K. GHOSH, 24-Parganas.

I am giving some symptoms that I got from the reporter. I never saw the patient personally.

The report came of a man of 60, of short structure, but otherwise healthy and strong. Temperament mild, bashful and weak-minded. Black in complexion. No miasmatic history could be traced. Only I got the history of a serious fall