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| 8. Rauwolfia serpentina | (Ravw. Ser) | B. Sarggandha H. Chota Chand E. Serpent wood(Ind) |
| 9. Vinca Minor | | E. Lesser Periwinkle (f/Ind) |
| 10. Strophanthus-Hispidus | | E. Kombessed (f) |
| 11. Cantharanthus Roseus | | B. Nayantara E. Periwinkle(f/Ind) H. Sadabahar |
| 12. Thèvetia Peruviana | (Nerifolia) | E. Yellow oleander (Ind). |

These carry all the symptoms of some common biological actions on *Cardiovascular, Nervous, Hepato-gastro intestinal, Respiratory, Urino-genital* (especially female) and *Cutaneous* systems. They also act as antipyretic drugs (antiperiodic in intermittent fever etc.) Their respective dynamic actions may differ.

The author has discussed in detail the curative and toxic effects of the above drugs in the various disease groups indicated above.

A reference is also made of the *Anti-Cancer, anti-Leukaemic and Anti-tumour* effects of *Vinca Minor* and *Thev. Nerii*.

(For full details, please correspond with Director, Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy., Navyug Market, GHAZIABAD 201001)

10. The Leguminosae

This is the third largest family of flowering plants after the *Compositae* and the *orchids*, with 12,000 species. Plants belonging to this family may be found in the open grasslands of the plains, in woods, by fresh waters and by the sea, in salt steppes, in hilly and mountain regions; they avoid the cold regions.

Leguminosae plants not only take in nitrogen directly, but also produce and concentrate *protein*, to an extent far beyond what is normal in plants.

Dr. Wilhelm Pelikan (The British Homoeopathic Journal, 68, 93-101) has dealt with the species at length; in main the following species are important:—

10.1 The Mimosaceae or Mimosoieae

which have radiant, effervescent, sun-like yellow flowers, in which the airy element of the stamens is greatly over emphasised. The majority among the acacias are trees, their delicate foliage with leaves often bipinnate, is made for the bright dry air of subtropic steppes, the subfamily includes only few tall jungle trees or tropical herbaceous plants.

10.2 The Caesalpiniaceae :

Incline their flowers to the horizontal bizarre forms and very bright, cheerful, even garish colours are produced.

10.3 The Papilionaceae

Are a sub-family far greater in number of genera and world-wide distribution than the other two. The flowers have strong, characteristic scents, airy and volatile, sweet yearning, wafting away on the wind. In the Papilionaceae and in the leguminosae as a whole, the flowering process is rich and strong involving not only the flowering region, but penetrating deeply into the whole plant, resulting in the creation of scents, resins and balsams, it also causes pigment formation in the leaf and even in the wood. Another consequence of the abnormal penetration with *astral* impulses is that many of the *Leguminosae* produce poisons, for example, alkaloids are found in *Labarnum, Lathyrus*, the *sassy-tree derris bark, calabar beans, Toxic proteins, proteinic poisons* in *Abrus* and others. However, these alkaloids are not narcotic poisons like those of poppy, belladonna and the mescal buttons cactus, their action is more inflammatory and paralysing.

Saponins are also present in the leguminous plants, which have also a powerful tannin process; the tannins possess arsenic like drying and mummifying property.

The process of mucilage and gum formation yields gum-arabic by the tragacanth shrubs and acacia species.

Balsams are another beneficial gifts of the Leguminosae, the most familiar being *balsam of Peru & balsam of Tolu*. The balsams may be regarded as frozen scents which have become rigid and viscous.

10.4 Medicinal Plants Among the Leguminosae

The author has described the following :—

1. CAESALPINIACEAE

(a) *Cassia acutifolia*, senna, Alexandrian senna.

The genus cassia has more than 400 species belonging to the sub-tropical region and includes several

medicinal plants which have for centuries been used as purgatives, important among these being *Cassia acutifolia*, a perennial shrub native to East Africa, Arabia and India, where it is also cultivated. The dried plant has a peculiar aromatic scent, a bit like tobacco. It contains drastic resins, anthraquinones; their action is to encourage the rhythmic element in digestion, greatly stimulating intestinal peristalsis they are also diuretic and stimulate the flow of bile.

(b) *Krameria triandra*, *rhatany*, Peruvian Rhatany. The plant utterly belongs to high altitude regions. A powerful tannin and pigment formation process takes hold of the plant which, as a member of the Leguminosae family is already particularly open to astral influences, and enters strongly into the root region.

Affections of the mouth and pharynx inflamed wounds, gingivitis, periodontosis, sore throat and the pain connected with this are relieved and cured by rhatany root, a drug traditionally used by South American Indians for its tooth preserving properties.

2. Papilionaceae

BALSAM TREES

Typical examples are : *Balsam of peru*

and *balsam of Tolu*, both varieties of *Myroxylon balsamum*. The two balsams are old-established remedies for injuries and both external lichen scabies and also inflammation of the respiratory and urinary tracts.

Balsam copaiva or copaiba is a tree growing upto a height of upto 10 meters in the Amazonian forests with paripinnate, dotted leaves and small flowers reduced to calyces of four parts which turn into leathery pods. Copaiba balsam is used to treat suppurative inflammatory conditions of the mucosa of the urinary and sexual organs, such as chronic gonorrhoea, Vaginal discharges and cystitis and also as a vulnerary and for purulent bronchitis.

11. ABSTRACTS OF RECENT REPORTINGS ON Medicinal Plants and their products in use in Homoeopathy.

The following information which has been collected from different research Journals pertaining to

medicinal plants and their products is expected to prove helpful to the homoeo scientists engaged in the different aspects of research in Homoeopathy.

11.1 *Achyranthes aspera*

Increase in carbohydrate, phenols (total phenols and o-dihydroxy phenols), PPO and PRO activities, and decrease in protein and IAA-oxidase activities have been observed in the gall tissues. Maximal yield of phenols has been recorded in young gall tissues, increased phenols (inhibitors/protectors) and decreased IAAoxidase. Contribute in the gall formation :

(Curr. Sci, 1978, 47 (20) pp 780-781 N.S. Shekhawat, K.G. Ramawat and H.C. Arya)

11.2 *Amoora rohituka*

Effect of *A. rohituka*, an indigenous drug and prednisolone has been studied in the prevention of experimental allergic orchitis in guinea-pigs. Results indicate the efficacy of *rohituka* and prednisolone as effective immunosuppressive drugs in prevention of experimental allergic orchitis.

(Indian J. exp. Biol. 1978, 16(7), PP 758-761)

A. Gupta, R.M. Gupta, I.M. Gupta,
K.N. Udupa and L.M. Singh)

11.3 *Andrographis paniculata*

Alcoholic extract (50 and 100 mg/animal) of the whole plant prolonged the life time of Venom injected albino mice. The extract showed muscarinic activity in dog blood pressure, guineapig ileum and frogs heart *in situ*. Extract was observed to possess *Cholinergic activity* but no *nicotinic activity*. The extract prolongs the life time of cobra victims by a mechanism other than nicotine receptor activity. (Indian J. Pharm Sci, 1978, 40(4) pp 132-133 by S. K. Nazimuddin, S. Ramaswamy & Kameshwara.

3 (a) *Andrographis paniculata* (Kalmegh)

Effect of Kalmegh on the biliary flow, liver weight, and hexobarbitone induced sleeping time has been investigated, and compared with that of phenobarbital. Kalmegh increased biliary flow and liver weight and decreased duration of action of hexobarbital. When compared with phenobarbital it has been found to be less potent at the dose levels employed in the investigation.