LITERARY RESEARCH & CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN HOMOEOPATHY

V.M. Nagpaul*

Introduction

The study of literature and its revival is an important background material for scientific research programme. The collection, compilation and dissemination thereof is an essential part of scientific activity. Equally important is revision and updating of available literature for its optimum and timely utilisation. During the last two centuries since the dawn of Homoeopathy, there has been huge store of data which is scattered at many places and which needs to be scanned, classified and compiled. Some of the classified literature in the form of books is either difficult to be obtained or needs to be updated keeping in view the availability of fresh additional data.

Kent's Repertory is regarded to be the most comprehensive of all the repertories. The first edition of this repertory was published in the year 1897 in America containing 1349 pages and the last edition was published in 1916 which contains references to 591 drugs. Since then a large number of new drugs have been proved and their pathogenesis clinically verified. Therefore, with a view to improve and enlarge the scope of Kent's Repertory—a project entitled "Review and Revision of Kent's Repertory in Relation to Other Works" was undertaken in 1972. To begin with work on Additions from Boericke's Repertory and later on "Additions from Boger Boenninghausen's Repertory" was also undertaken.

Objectives

The objective of the study was to incorporate additions from Boericke's Repertory and Boger's Boenninghausen's Repertory to Kent's Repertory thereby improving and enlarging the scope of Kent's monumental work and making it available to the profession at large for its utilisation for the noble cuase of serving the suffering humanity.

Material

1. Pocket Manual of Homoeopathic Materia Medica—William Boericke & Repertory by Oscar E. Boericke—9th Edition.
2. Boenninghausen's Characteristics and Repertory—C.M. Boger.
3. Repertory of Homoeopathic Materia Medica—J.T. Kent
4. Encyclopaedia of Pure Materia Medica—T.F. Allen.
5. Allen's Key Notes—H.C. Allen.
6. Hand book of Materia Medica & Homoeopathic Therapeutics—T.F. Allen.
7. A Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica—J.H. Clarke.
8. The Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica—C. Hering.
9. Materia Medica Pura—Samuel Hahnemann.
10. Nosodes with the Proving of the X-Rays—H.C. Allen.
11. Chronic Diseases—S. Hahnemann.
12. Clinical Materia Medica—E.A. Farrington.
13. Materia Medica of New Homoeopathic Remedies—O.A. Julian.
14. Repertory of Hering's Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica—C.B. Knerr.
15. Kent's Repertorium Generale—J. Kunzli.
16. Materia Medica & Repertory—James Stephenson.
17. Clinical Therapeutics—Temple S. Hoyne.
18. Synthetic Repertory—Barthel.
19. New Remedies—Hale's.
20. Synoptic Key of Materia Medica—C.M. Boger.

Methodology

(1) A thorough comparative study of three repertories

* Assistant Director (Hqr.), Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, B-1/6, Community Centre, Janakpuri, New Delhi

chapter-wise/rubric-wise is undertaken and addition of new rubrics/sub-rubrics/drugs are recommended for inclusion in Kent's Repertory wherever found necessary on the basis of the study undertaken and keeping in view Kent's Philosophical framework.

(2) Additions are recommended after confirmation from any one of the sources as mentioned above under the head "Material"

Additions from Boericke's Repertory

Generalised rubrics in Boericke's Repertory were split up according to Kent's method and then recommended for addition.

"Rubrics having vague expressions or which were found too much generalised in Boericke's Repertory were not considered for addition" for example:

(i) Dentition—with weakness, pallor, fretfulness, must be carried rapidly.

(ii) Dentition—with sour smell of body, pale face, irritability.

Additions from Boger Boenninghausen's Repertory

(i) The opening rubric of each chapter which is usually a general rubric and lists the medicines which have special affinity to the part, organ or system covered under the chapters are not worked out. For example, rubrics such as "Mind – in general", "Head – in general" etc. enlists drugs indicating their general affinity, and such rubrics are not taken by Kent in his repertory.

(ii) Rubrics/remedies which are listed in Boger's Boenninghausen's Repertory and not in Kent's Repertory are taken for addition after verification from any of the sources as mentioned above under the head "Material".

(iii) As for modalities only specific modalities are taken and the rest left out.

3. The recommendations of the team of research workers were finally subjected to thorough scrutiny and approval of the Working Group on Literary Research of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy which consists of experts in the field of repertory.

4. In the case of additional rubrics/drugs mentioned in Boericke's Repertory and Boger Boenninghausen's Repertory which could not be found verified from the known source books but the Working Group still felt that on the basis of clinical experience these rubrics/drugs are required to be included, the same, have been added on the basis of the authority of the Working Group. Additions of such drugs have been made under the lowest grade unless otherwise pointed out by Working Group and a note to this effect is inserted at the time of publication. While depicting drugs for addition in Kent's Repertory from William Boericke's Repertory the grades of Boericke's Repertory as they are, are mentioned in the publications.

Achievements

The research workers in this study have so far completed work on 12 chapters. The recommendations made by the research workers on the project Additions from Boericke's Repertory to Kent's repertory on chapters Teeth, Taste, Mouth, Gums & Tongue have already been approved by the Working Group. The work on chapter **Teeth & Mouth** has already been published in the form of booklets.

The work relating to chapters Mind, Eye & Respiratory System are currently under scrutiny of the Working Group.

So far as the project-Additions from Boger Boenninghausen's Repertory is concerned, work on chapter Mind is currently in progress and has been completed upto rubric Anger—repressed in Boenninghausen's Repertory pg. 192.

Some of the new drugs which did not find any place in Kent's Repertory earlier and have now been recommended for inclusion are Diphtherinum, Kalagua, Kali telluricum, Natrum telluricum, Medusa, Justicia, Sulfonal, Thiosinum under the chapter 'Mouth'.

Few additional rubrics recommended for addition under the chapter 'Teeth' and 'Mouth' are:

Teeth

1. Pain, bathing from
2. Teeth-pain decay due to
3. Pain-root of teeth in

Mouth

1. Mouth-Anaesthesia, tongue
2. Mouth-bleeding-Gums, morning
3. Mouth-Tongue, discolouration grayish white
4. Mouth-Glued up sensation, lips at
5. Mouth-Glued up sensation, lips together
6. Mouth-Taste, delicate.