

## OVERSEAS TRENDS

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In Germany, homœopathy has developed mostly by the use of low potencies, such as the 3x and 6x prescribed on pathological symptoms. Impressive homœopathic research is being carried out on the pathological effects of homœopathic drugs in low potency on the various systems and organs of the body. This is an aspect which the allopath finds it more easy to understand, but it is a method to which I think it was Hahnemann himself gave the name half-homœopaths.

This method of popularising the use of homœopathic medicines, call it a compromise perhaps, does offer the advantage of appearing more immediately sensible to the allopath, who if he takes to that sort of homœopathy, may or may not be interested to study and become a well versed homœopath eventually.

Our knowledge of homœopathy in Russia is limited, but although apparently in a big way, from what we could understand from those Russian doctors who came to the last London Congress, it is similar to that practised in Germany.

### *French Use of Low Potencies*

In France the homœopath uses poly pharmacy and has developed interesting lines of thought which in practice require the use of many low potencies of various range in practically every case of chronic disease. This system also calls upon the patient to procure relatively large quantities of medicines which can be expensive.

One needs only to take a trip through France to see that much homœopathy is used. Every town, and many villages have a pharmaceutical depot for the distribution of the homœopathic needs. Unfortunately, France developed what she makes of high potencies by the sole use of the Korsakov potentizing machine, a danger to true homœopathy we narrowly escaped in this country.

However, when the French Department of Health recently investigated the potentizing side of homœopathic medicines they laid down certain restrictions as to their manufacture and distribution, but happily allowed and officially recognised centesimal Hahnemann, that is hand made potencies according to the method enunciated by Hahnemann, up to the 9th that is why one often sees to-day the letters c.H. after a potency.

Thus both France and Germany depend mostly on that which we could call the grosser effect of homœopathic drugs, not only because they are proved by low potencies, but also given in low potencies for those which may be described as pathological states. This in sharp contrast to the selection of a drug which has been proved in higher or high potencies such as the 6 c.H., 12 c.H., 30 c.H., or even the 200th c.H., and consequently the finer point such as the modalities and mental symptoms made more apparent for a true Hahnemannian or Kentian prescription.

#### *United States Work and Teaching*

In the United States varying types of homœopathy were developed, but that which will persist for all time is the work and teaching done for high potency homœopathy, much of which has found a permanent home in Britain. One might ask why, when homœopathy had been so successful in the United States did it decline during the past 30 years or so.

I think a possible reason is that doctors there fell into the way of doing their own dispensing. If reliable potencies are to be made in the first place, and no less important secondly, that they shall be maintained in a top conditions of efficacy, it is quite certain to me time has shown homœopathic phar-

macy is a specialty on its own. If this, an integral part of the whole, is not given proper and sufficient encouragement, nor allowed its just professional reward, the balance necessary for continuity is fatally disturbed and homœopathy suffers severely in the long run, as evidenced by the attempt to commercialise specifics.

One of the reasons why homœopathy is so well organised on the Continent may be due to the professional ethic that only the pharmacist shall supply medicine.

*Ready Acceptance in India*

In India homœopathy finds much more ready acceptance in medical thought, but the strange thing to me is that there is so little evidence of China being interested. Perhaps this is because homœopathy is only 150 years or so old. She may presently catch up with it when it becomes more common for other languages to be read on medical subjects.

Italy was once a great country for homœopathy but it declined, and this may have been due to the great vogue there was at one time for a system called electro-homœopathy now largely discredited which made a series of secret composite remedies of relatively low potency, which were applied in a somewhat peculiar way, at any rate completely divergent from the Hahnemannian conception.

It is recovering again on the right lines and is on the upgrade. This year the annual Congress of the International Homœopathic League is to be held in Florence early in September. (1959)

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