

**ALL INDIA HOMŒOPATHIC CONGRESS, DELHI**  
**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

**DR. S. K. DAS, B.SC., M.B.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset I must convey my most grateful and warmest thanks to the office bearers and members of the All India Institute of Homœopathy for the very high honour they have thought fit to bestow upon my humble self by kindly asking me to preside over their deliberations.

I am fully conscious of my insignificance and also of my responsibilities and it is therefore much against my will that I have accepted the chair.

It will not be out of place for me to say a few words about the history and activities of the Institute, so that the progress achieved so far may be realised. This Institute was established in 1945 with the object of (i) organising qualified Homœopaths into one single body, (ii) to produce such practitioners in large numbers required for serving the mass of people, (iii) to propagate the cause of Homœopathy and (iv) to safeguard the interest of such practitioners through Government recognition and legislation. The Institute has its branches in U.P., Delhi and Punjab. I understand from the office-bearers that the Bengal Homœopathic Institute has also expressed its willingness to affiliate itself with the All India Institute. There are more than two hundred members all over India. The General Secretary has toured all over the provinces of Punjab, U.P., Behar and Bengal and has met with encouraging support from the members of the Homœopathic profession.

In 1946, the Institute sent a deputation of nine members under the leadership of Dr. Dewan Jaichand to the then Health Minister, Mr. Gazanfar Ali Khan, who asked them to submit concrete proposals before the Government

regarding recognition of Homœopathy. The said proposals were submitted to the National Government in 1947, but the attitude of the Government towards the proposals was not understood, and the Institute had to move the matter again in the legislature. Sri Satis Chandra Samanta moved a resolution requesting the Government to recognise Homœopathy and form a Central Homœopathic Faculty. The said resolution was amended by the Hon'ble Sri Mohan Lal Saxena, the then Secretary of the Congress Assembly Party, which was supported by the Congress members including the President Dr. Pattavi Sitaramiya and was accepted by the Health Minister in the Parliament, and she promised to appoint a Homœopathic Enquiry Committee to give effect to the resolution. The personnel of the committee was announced six months later which included many of the members of this institute. The Homœopathic Committee toured all over the Provinces and States of India, and submitted its report and recommendations which was published by the Ministry of Health, Government of India.

With regard to the recommendations of the Enquiry Committee, I have not the slightest hesitation to state that these recommendations are just and alive to the problems of the Homœopathic practice in India as it is to-day and I appeal to the Government of India to accept the majority report of the Committee without delay.

#### SYNTHESIS OF MEDICINE

Of late, a section of the medical profession and scientists are very keen on "Synthesis of Medicine". Apart from the merits and demerits of this question with regard to the other schools, I can emphatically state that Homœopathic system of therapeutics cannot under any circumstances be brought under the above theory.

An attempt at synthesis would mean absorption and destruction of the system which has not up to the present

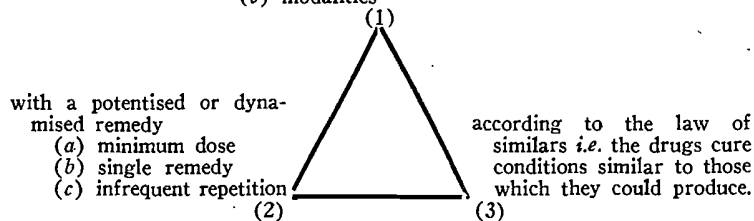
moment been allowed to develop because of the apathy of the State. The predominant system of medicine will agree only to such principles which are suitable to it. That is why it seems to me that a synthesis of different medical schools would be practically an absurdity for us Homœopaths, and it would also mean annihilation of Homœopathy in India.

Homœopathy differs from the regular medicine in its interpretation and application of several fundamental principles of science, and these differences of interpretation and practice give Homœopathy its individuality. The (a) "Law of Similars," (b) "Minimum dose" and (c) "Single Remedy" are diametrically opposed to the other school of thought.

#### THE TRIANGLE OF HOMŒOPATHY

##### Treat the person

- (a) his mental symptoms
- (b) general and particular symptoms, and
- (c) modalities



The crux of Hahnemann's philosophy is:—

A. LAW OF SIMILARS—The Homœopath contends that the above law is universally applicable and that it affords the best method thus far known to medicine for the selection of the remedy for the cure of the sick.

(i) *Vaccines* are in common use for Prophylaxis and cure: the causative agent of the same or a similar disease is used for its cure. This is a tacit admission of Homœopathic Principle and a widespread example of its application.

(ii) A second group of Pathogenic agents applied homœopathically are the substances in common use for the

cure of Asthma, Hay fever and other diseases of foreign protein origin. The Homœopathist has been treating diseases of sensitization for nearly one and a half centuries, individualising the manifestations of the patient in quite a different, yet in as seemingly an accurate way. Every set of cutaneous sensitization tests contains common oat (*Avena Sativa*), yellow dock (*Rumex*), Plantain (*Plantago major*), Ragweed (*Ambrosia*), Sage (*Salvia off.*), Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), Elder (*Samb-Nig*), Burr-flower (*Hydrophyllum*), Spikenard (*Aralia Racemosa*) etc., etc. All were known to produce either hay fever or asthma symptoms in sensitive individuals long before the laboratory was capable of demonstrating their power as antigens.

(iii) A third group regarded as specifics e.g. Mercury for Syphilis, Quinine in Malaria, Gelsemium in Influenza, Cal. Phos. or Phosphoric acid in Rickets and so forth. The parasiticidal effect is no longer believed to account for the results obtained. These seem rather to depend upon the stimulation of the diseased tissues to a normal reaction. In this connection it may be mentioned that drugs are capable of acting as antigens and that the stimulation obtained to Homœotherapy is actually comparable to antigen—antibody reactions of immunologic processes. For example, Waters has shown that calcium sulphide increases the opsonic Index to Staphylococci. Mellon has demonstrated group agglutinin for Typhoid and Paratyphoid bacilli as a result of Baptisia administration. He has also shown that Verat-Viride increases the opsonic index to Pneumococci. Wheeler has produced heightened opsonic index to tubercle bacilli by giving Phosphorus to human beings. Hooker has brought about elaboration of agglutinins in healthy human beings to the Typhoid-Paratyphoid-Dysentery group of bacilli by the use of either Phosphoric acid or Arsenious anhydride or Mercuric chloride.

Precisely this nicety of stimulation is the entire purpose of homœopathy for it aims to administer in disease

agent which has a selective action upon the affected tissues and functions.

(iv) We have also in our armamentum certain remedial agents which serve as vitamins. For Vit. A (Anti-xerophthalmia) deficiency—

(a) *In children*—we use Borax, Calc. C., Cal. P., Cham., Kreosote, and Mag. Carb.

(b) *In adults*—we use Cal. C., Cal. P., Phos, Puls., Ricinus Com., Silic. and Bar. Carb.

For Vit. C. (anti-scorbutic) deficiency—we use Cal. P., Carb. Veg., Iod., Mercur, Kreosote and Nit. Acid.

For Vit. D. (anti-Rachitic) deficiency—we use Calc., Natrum., Lyc., Bell., Cal. P., Phos.

For Vit. B<sub>1</sub> (anti-Neuritic) deficiency—we use Nux. V., Ars. Alb., Rhus Tox.

For Vit. B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin) (Vit. g) deficiency—we use Condurango, Ant. Crud., Arum Triphyllum, Graphitis and Petrol.

For Nicotinic acid (anti-Pallagra factor) deficiency—we use Ars. Alb., Borax, Hep. Sul. and Mercurius.

For Vit. E (anti-Sterility) deficiency—we use Alteris Farinosa, Cimicifuga, Sec. Cor., Vib. Op., Agnus Castus and Borax.

For Vit. K. (anti-Hæmorrhagic) deficiency—we have Arn., Am. Carb., Cal. C., Kali Carb., Phos. and Lach.

(v) Endocrine gland—products—we are now using nearly all the gland products in potentised form, of course not in combination but singly, e.g., Mammary gland in potency is very efficacious in dysmenorrhoea.

The above mentioned groups of medicinal agents give us some conception of the wide spread application of homœopathy and its general use by all practitioners of the healing art.

B. INDIVIDUALISATION—A key note in Homœopathy. In addition to the proper diagnosis of a disease, Master

Hahnemann has emphasized the necessity for a special study of the peculiar and particular factors that differentiate two cases of the same disease from one another. No two individuals are alike in form, functional response, mental or physical make up, psychologic behaviour etc. A Homœopath bases his prescription at least in part upon the constitutional differences that occur and tries to evaluate these before administering a medicinal agent. This is in hearty accord with the comment of Muchs, "The true biological therapeutics of the future will not be based on the stimulus, the cause—but on the organisms through which reaction takes place."

C. THE SINGLE REMEDY—Single remedies alone are used in Homœopathic Prescribing. Of course it goes without saying that a number of substances may be mixed, then given to healthy human beings and experimental animals and the effect of the combination studied; obviously such a combination is in every respect a single remedy, *e.g.*, Merc.-Ars.-Iod., Merc.-Aur.-Iod., Merc.-Aur.-Brom., used in Syphilis and its complications or Cad.-Cal.-flour, Cad.-Fer.-Iod., Cad.-cal.-cyanide etc., etc., are potent single remedies to combat cancer, sarcoma, fibroid tumours etc.

As an illustration I might mention that Codine allays the irritation of coughing by a partly central and partly peripheral action and at the same time decreases the functional capacity of the heart and other paranchymatous organs. What happens when it is combined with a drug like digitalis for instance, which increases the functional capacity of the heart, is not known. Such a combination therefore has no place in Homœopathic prescribing.

D. THE MINIMUM DOSE—The Homœopathist believes in utilising remedy in the smallest possible amount. Just how far the reduction in dosage should go, is sometimes a much-mooted question. Suffice it here to say that the more we individualise the disease and the effect of the remedy to be employed—the smaller the effective dose.

Needless to say, factors such as age, sex, susceptibility environment and temperament are also of importance in determination of dosage.

#### SEPARATE INSTITUTION

With regard to the teaching institutions for Homœopathy, the committee has recommended separate institutions. According to them, this might be of an under-graduate or so-called post-graduate type. To me it seems that the under-graduate type is the most suitable, because we can have this type of institution at a much lesser cost (both capital and recurring) than institutions of the orthodox school. The conception of disease, and our different mode of approach towards therapeutics, can be better taught in separate institutions.

The bicameral institutions teaching both Homœopathy and Allopathy would be so complicated that it would spoil the teaching of both the systems. We find also in the report that one of the health ministers of States has opined that the two systems should be kept separate. It is to our knowledge that that opinion is of the Health Minister of my State, who is the leader in the medical profession of the other systems.

With regard to the control of the profession the Homœopathic Enquiry Committee has discussed in details, why it is necessary. It has also gone at length in discussing the methods of such control. I agree absolutely with their recommendations in this regard. If our Government gives effect to these recommendations simultaneously with the establishment of two or three Homœopathic colleges in India, it would be beneficial to the public at large as also to the Homœopathic profession.

There appears to be some misconception in the mind of the authorities about the scientific basis of Homœopathy which is responsible for the apathy and indifference so long

shown by Government towards the system of Homœopathic treatment. To remove this misunderstanding I, as the spokesman of a minority cause cannot do better than quote a few extracts from the writings of eminent allopaths and add certain observations apart from the explanation given in the Report of the Enquiry Committee.

#### OPINIONS OF SOME EMINENT ALLOPATHS

Professor C. A. Gilman, M.D., of the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons says:—"Nine tenth of disease that flesh is heir to, is due to abuse of allopathic medicine in infancy or childhood."

Sir Osler, M.D., D.Sc., L.L.D., F.R.S., F.R.C.P., the Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Oxford says:—"It is not as if our Homœopathic brethren are asleep, far from it, they are awake to the importance of the scientific study of disease. It is distressing that so many goodmen live isolated in a measure from the great body of the profession. The original grievous mistake was ours—to quarrel with our brothers over infinitesimals—it was a most unwise and stupid thing to do."

In speaking before the Faculty of Medicine in Paris Sir Dyce Duckworth, M.D., L.L.D., F.R.C.P., of London said:—"In short we are drifting into the position of abstract scientist and gradually losing our proper relation to the sick as skilful medical artist."

An extract from the utterance by Dr. C. H. R. Altounyan, M.C., M.D., which appeared in the Lancet on the Philosophy of treatment—"The cause of human disease never has been and never can be found purely within the walls of a Laboratory; there must be at least some association direct or indirect with patients. The therapeutics is a purely experimental Science, and its methods should (but unhappily do not) always correspond."



### SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENTS IN SUPPORT OF HOMŒOPATHY

Dr. Albert Robin of the Faculty of Medicine, Paris, announced that medicines act through dynamism. He has discovered that "almost infinitesimal quantities are endowed with very great activity."

Dr. Huchard of Paris says in writing entitled—"The therapeutics of yesterday and of to-morrow."

"No one person or one school should believe himself or itself the depository of Truth. From whatever source truth may arise and however difficult it may be for us to grasp, we must accept it. Medicines act not only chemically but also specially produce physical effects by their presence. For bringing about these physical effects we must use weak doses, infinitesimal, so reduced that they may correspond to a beginning of atomic dissociation. I am convinced that the law of similars as taught by Hahnemann is the law of cure."

Dr. Von Bhering whose discovery of anti-toxin has done so much to relieve the sufferings of the dread scourge Diphtheria says: "You may call me a homœopath, if you will, but I say to you the efficacy of anti-toxin increases with attenuation." Sir A. E. Wright's opsonic work, for example, is but a confirmation or re-discovery of homœopathy. He says, "I am achieving results along Homœopathic Lines."

Professor Max Verworm has dealt with the physiology of the cells and the results of his laborious investigations are that stimuli of a similar kind acting on the cell augment its response while stimuli of an opposite kind lower it.

Professor Rudolf Arndt has found that weak stimuli bring forth vital action, medium stimuli augment it, strong stimuli impede vital energy and the most powerful neutralize and do away with it.

Professor Schulz agrees with Arndt and writes with emphasis "that where massive doses cripple and kill infinitesimal doses excite, that is not the diseased condition but the re-action of the healthy tissues against it and that disease is cured by the stimulation of the healthy parts of the organism to throw off the diseased."

The sub-division of matter leads to dynamism pure and simple. "After giving the millionth of milligram of tuberculin—says Trudeau and this is assented by Von Pirquet, Wright and others, "let the action of the remedy come to an undisputed conclusion, so long as improvement progressively advances let there be no repetition of the dose."

The above facts and opinions are confirmatory of the law discovered by Hahnemann. It is a display of the homœopathic idea fulfilling itself in many ways.

The adage विषस्य विषमौषधम् which is so common as to be in everybody's mouth, would appear to lend colour to the view that our ancient physicians did recognise this principle as will be seen in the most ancient work on Ayurvedic medicine extant—"Charaka Sanhita."

As it is presumptuous for any one school of medicine to claim that it possesses all that is good in the Healing Art perhaps it is well that separate schools of medicine do exist side by side. It will act as an incentive to a more vigorous pursuit to attain the desired end—to restore health to the sick. Medical practitioners are seen to differ in their therapeutic faith, each rightly claims liberty to practice his profession in accordance with that faith. Let each gladly and sincerely grant to his fellows the liberty he claims for himself. This should be the dominant principle of a physician.

With the eyes of an optimist let us see that "through the ages an increasing purpose runs and the thoughts of men are widening with the process of the Suns."

## HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE

Formerly Germany and America were the two countries from which we received and brought all Homœopathic remedies. Now in the absence of Germany, America is the only country which supplies Homœopathic preparations, but not in adequate quantities.

It has therefore become absolutely necessary for us to prepare Homœopathic drugs in India. I may mention that two or three Homœopathic Laboratories exist in Calcutta. But they are handicapped for want of sufficient alcohol and other necessary things for preparation of drugs. It behoves our Government to give us necessary facilities to start Homœopathic laboratories in the different parts of India. If drugs could be manufactured in quantities commensurate with the vast requirements of our country it would not only increase the wealth of the country but would also save large amount of dollars for other purposes.

In connection with the manufacture in India of Homœopathic drugs I wish to emphasise also the need for manufacturing sugar of milk in India which is now obtained at a heavy cost from foreign countries and which is also largely used by both Allopathic and Homœopathic professions. There is ample raw material available in the country from which it could be prepared at a little cost but the technical knowledge is lacking. We wish our Government to take up the matter and start its manufacture and thereby save lacs of rupees now spent and also our dependence on foreign countries.

Many charitable Allopathic Medical Institutions in India are not flourishing for want of medicines. The treatment with allopathic medicines has become very costly in our country and the poor can scarcely afford to be treated allopathically. If Homœopathic dispensaries, charitable or otherwise are opened and established in various parts including rural tracts of the country, large sums of money will

be saved and the mass will be immensely benefitted leading to the promotion of National Health. It is just the system of medicine which suits the pocket of the average Indian, because it is cheapest in cost, shortest in course, palatable in taste and safest and painless in quality. It seems meet and proper that Government respond to the will of the people and thereby do justice to the poverty problem of the ailing humanity in India. The best saviour of the national wealth is that system of medicine which cost the least and at the same time the efficacious.

Gentlemen, before I bid you good-bye I thank you once more for the honour you have done me which is by no means personal but entirely due to the flag we hold aloft in the name of Homœopathy. Let us not be discouraged at the sight of odds. Truth can work miracles itself and is destined to shine forth automatically with all its brilliance. Only we must be implicit followers of Truth and hold fast to it with all our simplicity and sincerity. May God bless us and inspire us all to carry on the noble mission with which we are all entrusted. "*Satyameba Jayate.*"

BANDE MATARAM

### COUNCIL'S OPINION REGARDING THE HOMŒOPATHIC ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

The General Council and State Faculty of Homœopathic Medicine, West Bengal has much pleasure to endorse the recommendations of the Homœopathic Enquiry Committee as put forth in their unanimous report. This Council appreciates particularly the mode of presenting the report by the said Committee *viz.*, enunciating first, the duties of a State in the matter of medicine and public health and secondly, the conditions to be fulfilled by a system of