

human types. This interest was aroused by the observation that certain men and women when they were ill showed a tendency to develop one set of symptoms, whilst other tended to develop another. It was also noted that patients reached to the same drugs in a very different manner. To the homœopathic doctor, therefore, it became of paramount importance to discover the type of patient with whom he had to deal. He considered it far more necessary to know what sort of man was ill, than what sort of illness he suffered from. Only after the patient's type had been discovered would it be possible to prescribe the appropriate remedy.

"An Allopathic doctor can, if he retains an open mind, learn much from a homœopathist. Founded originally as a protest against the materialism of the nineteenth-century medicine, homœopathy has avoided some of the errors into which the allopathic school of medicine has fallen. It has never made the mistake of losing sight of the patient in the treatment of his disease, of looking at the part, without any reference to the whole. But the homœopathic practitioner's attempts to divide humanity according to its susceptibility to different derangements and its response to different drugs, does not provide a broad enough basis for a science of types. It is a practical device that has been found serviceable in homœopathic medicine, rather than a method for general application."

B. K. S.

### THE COUGH OF ARALIA.

By J. C. B., M.D.

*Aralia Racemosa* or "spikenard", long regarded by country folk as good for coughs, was lifted out of useful empiricism by Dr. Samuel A. Jones on to the scientific basis of Hahnemann's induction, as long ago as 1870.

I happened to read Jones's proving and was much struck with the character of the cough. I fancy the thing that helped to impress it upon my mind was the fact that I had just at that period a patient in my care who was suffering from a cough that came on after lying down at night. I had been working away at this cough and could not cure it, so I blamed the damp house in which the patient was living. Hyoscyamus, digitalis and a number of other remedies were brought into the treatment, but the cough persisted. Need I add that the patient lost faith in her doctor and in his much vaunted pathy and set about healing herself with quack medicines and orthodox sedative cough mixtures?

This made me read up my *Materia Medica* a little more diligently. It was quite evident that the cough was a curable one, for the most careful physical examination failed to detect anything besides a few moist râles that tallied with the very moderate amount of expectoration. Failures are very instructive sometimes!

Just after receiving my *congé* from this patient I came across Dr. Jones's proving of *Aralia Racemosa* in which he says, "At 3 p.m. I took ten drops of the mother tincture in two ounces of water. An interesting book caused me to forget my dose, but the events of the night jogged my memory very effectually." He went on to report that he retired to bed at midnight, feeling as well as ever, but that he had no sooner lain down that he was seized with a fit of asthma.

I said to myself "That's Mrs. N.'s cough; that is just how she does. She lies down and forthwith begins to cough; to get laboured breathing".

A little time elapsed and then the writer was sent for to attend one of this coughing patient's children. The child having been prescribed for I inquired about the cough. "Oh," said Mrs. N. "it is as bad as ever. I have tried everything and do not know what to do". I sat down and wrote, "R. Tc. *Araliæ racemosæ* 2." It cured *cito, et jucunde*,

and that not merely because *Aralia* is good for coughs and has an affinity for the respiratory organs, but because it was capable of causing a cough like the one that was to be cured.

This happened somewhere about six or seven years ago, and the writer has since cured this kind of cough with *Aralia* in from thirty to forty cases.

Another example, with *Tussis Araliæ*, was that of an asthmatic patient of fifty years of age with moderate emphysema of the lungs. At first he was almost always short of breath on exertion and had bad nocturnal attacks of dyspnoea and cough. A long course of constitutional treatment has at last partially cured him, but when he catches a cold he gets an attack of bronchial catarrh with *early nocturnal cough*. It would be tedious to give the treatment of his whole case, but it will suffice to say that it consisted chiefly of anti-psorics and hepatics.

One day this patient said he wished I would give him medicine for *his cough* to have by his bedside at night because otherwise when he caught cold he would go to bed quite well, fall asleep, and presently awake with a violent fit of asthma that would last from one to two hours, more or less; then he would get up a little phlegm and go to sleep again.

I prescribed one-drop powders of *Aralia* 3x *pro re natâ*. The next time I saw him he exclaimed "I thought those powders would have killed me. I took one as you directed and my cough became more violent than I have ever known it, but it soon ceased and has never returned." He keeps some of these powders by his bedside ever since, and has not had an aggravation since the first time of using them.

These cases are examples only, but they teach a useful lesson. It will be seen that *Aralia* can be confidently recommended for early nocturnal cough that occurs either immediately on lying down or more commonly after a first fore-mid-nightly sleep.

## THE "REMEDIIUM PROBATISSIMUM"

Dr. Samuel Jones's cough was immediately after he had lain down, but it will be noted that he did not retire until mid-night, whereas my other patients went to bed before. From a fairly extensive experience of *Aralia* as a cough remedy I have formed the conclusion that it is homœopathic to its cough by reason of its time and the patient's recumbent position.

In my opinion, I believe it is no good in coughs occurring at any time on lying down, neither does it avail in a cough caused by a relaxed uvula. Neither will it, as far as I am aware, cure any lung lesion whatsoever beyond bronchial irritation and catarrh. And most positively it is no good at all in the genuine asthma. In such cases I have given it in vain. But for the previously described variety of cough it is a *remedium probatissimum*. Here, for the thousandth time, we see the exactness of our homœopathic science.

—*Homœopathy, Aug., 1952*

## STREPTOCOCCIN REPORTS

ROYAL E. S. HAYES, M.D.

These brief reports are offered as an attempt to illustrate a few uses *Streptococcin* in the hope that it may repay in kind some of the benefits which the writer has received from others who have presented helpful demonstrations of homœopathic principles and remedy action.

*Streptococcin* is one of the newer additions to our materia medica. So far as I know its literature could hardly be called that. Margaret Tyler, in her *Homœopathic Drug Pictures* characterizes it as "a mighty remedy" but relates it only casually to diagnostic entities such as diphtheria, scarlet fever, vaccination, measles, tonsillitis, chorea, rheumatism,