

even in the unconscious state. The whole picture was of congestion, violence, sensitiveness and intermittence. My prescription was a meagre one in this case. It was neither a big remedy, nor a big diagnosis that I gave. I advised to discontinue the ice and prescribed six doses of *Belladonna* 30., twice daily, which cleared up the case marvellously in three days, when the yelling stopped, the temperature came down almost to normal, the patient gained consciousness and behaved rationally. One dose of *Sulphur* 200., as a complementary, was given later to remove a low temperature and hasten convalescence. *Belladonna* is an ill-advised remedy for typhoid per se. Dr. Kent strongly denounces its application in such cases.

But I remembered Dr. H. C. Allen's immortal lines :
"But the law of cure, as enunciated by Hahnemann, knows no such narrow restrictions, and is not bound by the Ipse Dixit of individual opinion." (*The Therapeutics of Fevers*, p. 102).

HOMŒOPATHY'S DILEMMA

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The Health Minister of India refuses to give recognition to Homœopathy as it abounds with quacks, i.e. practitioners who have not had an institutional training in the basic medical subjects and in homœo-therapeutics, and also because homœopathy has not been able, at least in her opinion, to establish its worth by scientific research and investigation. Unfortunately both the grievances cannot be removed without some measure of state backing, because properly qualified homœopaths cannot be produced in the country without reasonably good educational institutions, and no scientific research and investigations can be carried on without research centres and suitable men to carry on the work. And thus it has become a vicious circle.

It is hoped that one thing is clear to the Hon'ble Health Minister of India. Unless Homœopathy had shown quick and effective results in healing the sick, it could not have captured the fancy of the people and the profession both of whom are zealously clamouring for the extension by the State of facilities for making the homœopathic treatment available to the public on a large scale. There cannot be a greater proof in support of this contention than that the State Governments of Bengal, Bombay, U.P., M.P. and Bihar have already recognised it by passing the necessary legislation. It becomes the duty of a welfare state to make available to the people facilities for the commonly prevalent systems of treatment and on this score homœopathy has a right to claim the Central Government's attention. For the present the Hon'ble Health Minister of India may content herself with the clinical and research work being done in other advanced countries of the world, as well as with the practical results and the clinical experience gathered in our own country. She can secure official information about the valuable research work being done in England by the laboratories owned and administered by the Boyd Medical Research Trust. Research is being conducted, among other branches of work, on the effects of homœopathic potencies in relation to Bacteriology and Immunology, thus relating the works of Hahnemann and Pasteur, by demonstrating the relationship between drug, disease and the germs. As early as 1941, Homœopathic scientists had been able to show "that an immunity to Diphtheria of a degree indicated by a negative Schick test could be produced by the administration of (homœopathic) potency made from alum-precipitated toxin and from Diphtheria membrane."

It is high time that the Central Government should extend its official recognition to homœopathy and break the vicious circle by establishing at least one decent institution for the education and research in Homœopathy. The Government of India must enable and encourage pro-

perly qualified students, at least such graduates of modern medicine as are interested in Homœopathy, to take post-graduate education and training in the subject at educational and research centres in England and U.S.A., and assure them of absorption in the State Services on return to India, considering the post-graduate diploma in homœopathy at par as regards value with the other allopathic post-graduate diplomas.

Mere condemnation of homœopathy and the denial even of step-motherly treatment towards it is not enough. Some concrete steps must be taken to assure the homœopathy-minded public that the Government is keen enough to encourage the science.

SOMETHING CONCERNING CHOLERA

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Cholera is endemic with more or less virulence in our country and under the pressure of emergency, the subject of its prevention and cure deserves our attention. In the beginning of an epidemic of cholera we find that nothing favours the spread of it more than the fear of it. The first duty, therefore, that must be effected by sanitary and police regulations is to remove everything which might cause fear and anxiety. Cholera is a disease which appears, as a rule, very suddenly and brings the patient down quickly. Dr. Clarke says, "it is better to treat patients at their own homes if at all possible, as the very fact of moving a patient into a hospital may make the difference between death and recovery." At the approach of an epidemic of cholera, we would, therefore, earnestly advise people to avoid everything which might tend to develop fear, terror and anxiety. The other causes are erroneous diet and mode of living, bad hygienic surroundings, intemperence, derangement of