

there is the least chance or the development of Eclampsia, or any other disease of pregnancy.

3. *Mole*—is of sycotic origin.

4. *Abortion*—An important cause is Syphilis. Other causes, toxæmia, uterine cause, trauma etc.

5. *Placenta Prævia*.

The constitutional treatment helps placenta to remain in normal position. At the time of occurrence, if surgical interference is needed, we should resort to it.

6. *Puerperal Sepsis*.

A Judicial constitutional treatment since the beginning of pregnancy can help to prevent puerperal sepsis. In these cases, we should prescribe anti-psoric, anti-sycotic and anti-syphilitic remedies.

HOMŒOPATHY IN VETERINARY PRACTICE

DR. MISS M. FUSSELL, M.R.C.V.S.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am most honoured to be asked by you to come here tonight and give this paper on Homœopathy as Applied to Veterinary Practice. Perhaps I have come by this privilege, through being one of the few veterinary surgeons who was born with the aid of, and brought up by, Homœopathy. Indeed, I have never, in all my life, suffered the pain of an injection or vaccination except in the dentist's chair. I feel very humble, not to say a little nervous, to talk in front of you, knowing how many of you are masters of the art of homœopathic prescribing; and we, as a Veterinary Section, are relatively beginners, feeling our way and trying to overcome obstacles which are many and peculiar to our calling.

Our patients in health, and particularly in sickness, are almost daily surrounded by strong disinfectants; the cow-sheds, kennels and stables, even the household pet in sickness.

Secondly, we cannot be sure that the hands of the cowman, stableman, etc., will be clean at the time of dosing: perhaps he is in the middle of "mucking out". On the less modern farms, soap and water may be quite a distance away. Thirdly, the medicine may have to be added to the food or drinking water in the case of wild or difficult animals, and definitely so when dealing with a flock of sheep or chickens, and can easily be contaminated before it reaches the patient.

Fourthly, a good few of your patients are able to watch the clock themselves and take a dose of medicine at the correct time, for, indeed, they have nothing else to do but think of themselves as they lie in bed; but ours, unfortunately, cannot, and are dependent on their owners. In acute and serious cases this is a very important factor which is often overlooked. Some of the animals remind their owners by looking up to the mantelpiece where the medicine is kept, or by making a noise when their pains come on again, as they have connected the relief by the pill or powder.

Our other great problem is the choice of remedy: here we meet with a few more difficulties, I believe, than you doctors do, except, of course, when you are dealing with babies. Our patients cannot say in actual words exactly how they feel. We have to rely on our observations and that of their owners, which in a lot of cases are contradictory or nil.

Therefore, the "general" and the "mental" symptoms are very much closer together, and harder to separate, in veterinary practice, and it may take up to half an hour or longer to spot these, especially if you do not know the animal in health. Just as a dog with pneumonia will have all the common symptoms, but by watching you can see if it is restless, and moving about from place to place, and anxious about itself, by going to the owner for comfort, and the aggravation time is worse at night; *Arsenicum* will be the remedy. Or the patient that keeps one leg tight

against the side of the chest, is partially lying on it and is afraid to move, and possibly a little irritable, which is not usual to it: choice, *Bryonia*. The "particular" symptoms are fairly easy to find by palpation and touch, watching the expression and change of muscular reaction under the touch, and of course by comparison.

"Modalities"—again it's a case of observation and questioning the owner. The *strange, rare and peculiar symptoms* are, if present, very striking. For instance, I was called to see a cat with temperature 105°, and gave *Belladonna*, as the only symptom I could find was dilatation of the pupils and a very hot head. I ignored the growls, as most cats do that while their temperature is taken. I called back again in the evening and found the temperature 108°. Then by chance the owner approached the cat to stroke her, and she growled. I noticed that she was lying on a drawing-board, not the customary soft chair, so I took a chance, gave her *Arnica cm*, and by the morning her temperature was down.

I depend on the climatic and seasonal conditions to help decide which remedy to give for the little bouts of chills, diarrhoea and fever, if there is no specific reason for them, such as food, etc.; for example, in the sudden change from dry warm weather to cold dry, as we get in September, *Arsenicum* usually is the remedy. In fever, if my patient looks like *Gelsemium*, with drooping eyelids, and the weather is cold and damp, not muggy and damp, I find *Nux vom.* will be the remedy. Again, I find the snake venoms have their seasons; is it dependent on the season of the venoms' activity, or the bacteria themselves, or the electric and magnetic vibrations of the universe at that particular time?

In fever we cannot see if the cheeks are flushed or the face pale, but we can see the expression on the face, which tells a lot—anxious, drawn, bloated, or tired—and the mucous membranes of the eyes and mouth; we know by them if it is a flushed fever or a pale fever. The pupils

help also, and somehow you get a feeling about it all and the remedy becomes clear. We take the temperature, not only to find the body temperature, but to find out the state of the bowels; by look and smell they help a lot—a musty, sour, white or yellow or blood—all of which will help in the choice of remedy. We may not be correct always with our first choice, but are we always correct with orthodox treatment first go? I think not. I find that when *Camphor* is indicated it is best given by the hypodermic method, as cats and dogs will not tolerate it by the mouth.

The other great snag in veterinary practice is this psychological age of penicillin and the needle (which I am pleased to say is slowly dying out), but I do find that penicillin agrees with homœopathic remedies, but this is not true of the more toxic antibiotics like streptomycin. The other stumbling block we have is the type which just doesn't respond to its drug picture. Dr. McCrae says they are in the rare groups; well, until we have an emanometer for use to meet our pockets, such animals will have to be treated by the orthodox methods until they change their group.

Another difficulty we have in large animal practice, is the size of our dose of medicine, as the non-homœopathic farmer is so used to giving pints of this and that, night and morning, whereas in acute cases homœopathic medicine must be given more frequently—as animals appear to use up the remedies much quicker than a human. As Dr. Fergie Woods explained, their metabolism is quicker. This point must be borne in mind when using deep acting constitutional remedies, and so we have yet to work out the length of duration of such remedies in the different types of animals, which may depend on their average length of life. For instance, high potencies of *Calc. carb.* may have to be repeated from 36 to 48 days, and not 60, as in man.

If our disadvantages are many, so are our advantages. Our patients generally like their medicine and will

take it readily, but if they won't, it can easily be disguised in the food or drink. Secondly, it is less bulky and easier to handle; we do not require buckets and stomach pumps, and we avoid the risk of choking, which is very important in chest complaints. We obtain a quicker recovery in acute cases with less convalescence, due to deep acting remedies. We can often complete a cure or improve cases when orthodox treatment leaves off.

I wonder how many more animals survive serious accidents with the use of Homœopathy? In giving *Arnica* and *Crotalus hor.* for hæmorrhage and shock, (I know I have many a time pronounced in my mind the death warrant of several animals) I have been amazed at their speedy recovery. While on the subject of the hæmostatic powers, I should like to mention what a help *Arnica* is surgically, particularly when dealing with severed arteries in cut paws, etc., and ear operations and castrations. It not only prevents the excessive hæmorrhage better than Adrenaline, but at the same time prevents shock, helps healing by removing the bruising immediately, and what a boon it is in teeth extractions. Have the orthodox such a treasure as *Hypericum* which will soon stop the trembling and excessive salivation in animals after a local or general anæsthetic has been given? or *Strontia carb.*, the surgeon's *Carbo veg.*, which will often restore the failing breathing and circulation in post-operative collapse, when Coramine and such stimulants have failed. I should like to see every racing animal having an occasional dose of *Arnica* after a strenuous race, to help their hearts.

In septicæmia we have an advantage, for have we not the use of the venoms and other priceless remedies as well as the antibiotics? *Lachesis*, *Crotalus hor.*, *Theridion*, *Bothrops*, *Ledum*, *Pyrogen* and *Echinacea*, etc. Many a time I have balanced one against the other, and Homœopathy has won, or the combination of the two, in severe and dangerous cases.....

This brings me to another point in veterinary prac-

tice and Homœopathy. Here I may be speaking more for myself, but I tend to group certain remedies to certain complaints and types of animals and colours, so that I have three or four remedies as specific for certain complaints, which I know, strictly speaking, is not correct. As time goes on these groups become bigger, and so, for instance, for leptospirosis canicula I find *Lachesis* and *Sepia*, yet on the symptoms I might give *Phos.*, *Nux vom.*, *Bryonia*, *Ars.*, none of which have helped me in the acute cases. Grouping the types helps a lot in constitutional cases, and for this I have "cribbed" from Dr. Borland's "Children Types": the flat, flabby Spaniel puppy, or Dalmatian, etc., which is lazy and eats chalk, coal, etc., the typical picture of the *Calc. carb.* child, and then the puppy which is not so flabby and has a slightly stronger fibre and colour running through it—*Calc. phos.* puppy; and the *Silica* one—lacking in "grit", etc.

What remedies can the orthodox substitute for *Calc. carb.*, *Chamomilla*, *Belladonna*, *Cuprum met.* and *Zinc met.*, etc., for teething fits and upsets in puppies?

In prophylactics we have a wide field open to us, yet to be fully explored. We have at present *Distemper nel.* in distemper, *Belladonna* and *Influenzinum* in cat 'flu, and possibly *Nat. mur.* in foot and mouth disease—I say possibly, as we have not had sufficient opportunity to prove it on a large scale. And then the nosodes, *Tuberculin bovine* in pre-tuberculous cows, *Bacillinum* for ringworm, and *Psorinum* in skin disease. One single dose of *Bacillinum* will clear the cow of ringworm. Think what a saving of time and dressings, and in cats, too, which have often been condemned with such a complaint. The difference a single dose of these nosodes makes is remarkable, which makes one think, are the bacteria really different? Or is it that the vibrations of man and beast are similar?

With the aid of Homœopathy we can do so much more for skins and glandular unbalance by treating from the inside. I have grown a new coat on a terrier which

was bald for three years, where orthodox treatment had failed.

In interdigital cyst and chronic illnesses in dogs—nephritis, diabetes and liver complaints, etc., Homœopathy gives great relief.

Surgical cases can often be averted or aided by removing stones in bladders, or prevented from recurring with *Berberis*, and small tumours with *Conium*, *Silica*, *Phytolacca*, etc.

A lot of good work is being done in psychological cases when a good clear picture can be obtained—such as in the dog which is jealous, cannot bear the approach of hands or feet, impatient for its food, attacking the person who is preparing it: a few doses of *Lycopodium* will often remove such irritation. In chronic cases, and contrary to the human, the doses must be repeated in increasing potency, one after the other, in a matter of a few days, not weeks.

We have yet to work out what remedies have to be used with great caution on certain animals; for example, the cat is very sensitive to *silica* and a fatal aggravation is easily obtained by overdosing.

In having such a vast *Materia Medica* to choose from, when new and fatal illnesses come along, we may, after a number of cases, read the correct drug picture, and get a cure, before a serum or vaccine has been suitably made, i.e. black comb in chickens. Here I should like to ask a question. Are *Crotalus hor.* and *Lachesis* really antidotal as Clarke's *Materia Medica* says, or are they complementary? The only case of rubarthe disease which I know I have cured, was by using both, alternating at frequent intervals, followed by other remedies. Other cases, when positive symptoms had been reached, always relapsed by using just one of the venoms above.

I see my time is up, but in conclusion I would like to say how grateful and indebted we are to Dr. Fergie Woods for the untiring patience and influence he has had

on the development of Homœopathy as applied to domestic animals, and I personally wish to add my thanks to Dr. Mazel as well, who has helped me often.

DISCUSSION

THE PRESIDENT said that the name of the medicine for the treatment of eyes was *Vanadium*. He asked Major Hancock to open the discussion.

Major HANCOCK, M.R.C.V.S., said that this was a rather historic occasion, since it was the first time his profession had had the honour of appearing before the Faculty of Homœopathy in this manner, and he was very grateful to Miss Fussell for starting the ball rolling. He hoped that this would not be the last of these meetings. Miss Fussell had done admirably. Perhaps he might be allowed to deal with a few points which occurred to him since he first read the paper.

Disinfectants were, theoretically, a great handicap to the Homœopath, particularly in the byre. Milking sheds, yards and udders always reeked of chlorine disinfectant. He liked to get the cow patient into the ordinary old-fashioned barn with plenty of straw bedding, and cut out the chlorine and coal tar disinfectant.

He was always running up against the textbook remark that *Arsenic* was the remedy for the horse, *Antimony* for the pig and *Pulsatilla* for the sheep. He could accept that possibly for the horse and the pig, but he still wondered why the sheep had been related to *Pulsatilla*. He could not see any particular connection between the sheep and *Pulsatilla*. Was it the wayward gambolling of the lambs? *Drosera*, the whooping-cough remedy, was claimed to cause chronic cough in grazing sheep, but the chronic cough on marshes was caused by worm and fluke infestation. The plant was not the cause, and it was time this bad natural history went out of the textbooks.

He thought the differing frequency of repeating high potencies in animals to which Miss Fussell referred was

related to the differing rate of metabolism in animals compared with men. One day in a dog's life was the same as a week in a human life, and if one thought along those lines, in thinking of metabolism in a tortoise one had to think of 200 years as against three score years and ten. A shrew mouse or a mole lived for only a few weeks or months, and the metabolism was enormously speeded up. One had to take that into account when repeating the high potency.

With regard to *Nat. mur.* in foot and mouth disease, he did not think that it was necessarily the only specific prophylactic, but he had used it in odd cases where the farmer had asked whether there was anything he could do when there was foot and mouth disease only a mile or so away. He was the adviser at the experimental farm of the Soil Association at Haughley in Suffolk. This farm was divided into three portions: one where nothing but organic manure was used, the second where the standard technique of muck and chemical stimulants was used, and the third where chemical nutrients only were used, this latter being common practice in the Eastern Counties. There was recently a very severe outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the area: it started at the Artificial Insemination Centre at Beccles, whence the spread was very rapid all round the countryside. At Haughley village, half a mile away, there were three or four outbreaks: there was a virtual ring of outbreaks round this experimental farm. He gave all the stock *Nat. mur.* 200 twice a week and the farm escaped, he believed the only farm in the vicinity to do so. That was the strongest empirical evidence he had had of the benefit which might accrue from preventive dosing of animals with *Nat. mur.* at a time when the farmer anticipated certain invasion by foot and mouth disease.

He could confirm Miss Fussell's remarks about *Arnica*: he had had some experience of it with horses, and he deemed it the horse's locomotory remedy. He remembered

eighteen months ago a friend of his daughter who after homœopathic treatment was again able to hunt with a half-bred hunter which previously after breaking down had been treated by three of the foremost horse veterinary surgeons in the country. After firing, blistering, and all the classic rigmarole, she was told she would have to have the horse destroyed. It was suggested that he might be able to help with Homœopathy. The case looked hopeless, the animal was knuckled over at the fetlocks and lame all round, but as he looked at it he said to himself "Silica". It had a *Silica* tablet every day, and three weeks later he suggested she should exercise the horse at a walk only for an hour a day on grass for a month. At the end of the season she was able to hunt him again. The alteration in the joints was phenomenal. He believed he used *Arnica* ointment on one of the fetlock joints which was very much deformed.

Calendula he often used in the hæmolytic streptococcus abscesses which fighting cats gave each other. If he saw pus forming under the skin he gave *Calendula* and a hot *Calendula* fomentation and the trouble would sometimes disperse overnight. He knew of no other remedy which would achieve that.

Very early he found the great value of *Mercury sol.* in the interstitial nephritis of the aged dog that followed on leptospiral jaundice of early life and from any acute youthful disease, such as distemper, as a result of which a proportion of affected dogs developed white contracted kidneys (interstitial nephritis) and it was remarkable how well they did on *Mercury sol.* A dog which looked moribund even would recover rapidly and live for many years afterwards. He always put such animals on to a raw beef diet in conjunction with the *Mercury sol.*

A form of recurrent abscess between the digits of dogs, that dodged from claw to claw and foot to foot, and defied treatment by orthodox means, often yielded in a spectacular manner to *Graphites*. This particularly applied to

cysts in patients that had a seborrhœic tendency with "sweaty" ears and skins and a mousy odour about the body.

He could go on for a long time because this was such an important topic, but he would end by expressing the hope that something more concrete would arise as a result of this meeting. He remembered 25 or 30 years ago Sir Frederick Hobday telling him that the veterinary profession was linking up with the medical profession for the first time when Sir Frederick started the Section of Comparative Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine, and he would like to see something on these lines arising between the Faculty of Homœopathy and the veterinary profession. If they could from time to time meet jointly as they were that evening, a great deal could be done to advance Homœopathy not only in the veterinary profession but among the medical profession.

Sir John Weir said that this had been a most enjoyable afternoon, and he congratulated Miss Fussell and Major Hancock on their efforts. Miss Fussell said "you feel your remedy, it comes to you", but that only happened if one knew the *Materia Medica*; one did "feel" with children and animals.

His first homœopathic prescription was for a dog suffering from sickness and diarrhœa in a collapsed state; the veterinary surgeon had given up all hope of its recovery. *Arsenic alb.* 30 was given every hour for four doses, with no relief, so *Veratrum alb.* 30 was tried, with such marvellous effect that very shortly afterwards the dog was outside playing with the other dogs. A dog which was paralysed in the hind quarters as the result of falling into an ice-cold lake was given *Rhus tox.* 200, and within a few days regained its activity.

Dr. Tyler was very fond of animals, and he had never forgotten three cases she related which impressed him. A cow had given birth to a calf and the placenta would not come away despite physical measures, so Dr. Tyler gave

the animal *Sepia* 200 (single dose) and the placenta came away by itself. A mare killed every foal which was born to her; Dr. Tyler went by the symptom "indifference to loved ones" and gave *Sepia* 200, and the next foal which was born was well looked after. Dr. Tyler's father bought a valuable horse for a few pounds, which was covered with warts. It was given *Thuja* 30 and soon all the warts dropped off.

After the 1914-1918 war there were many tired horses for sale, and a man Sir John knew bought them, gave them *Arsenic* in homœopathic preparation, and sold them again at a profit. Another patient who played polo at Hurlingham always gave his horses *Arnica* 200 on a piece of loaf sugar, and they were quite fresh at the end of the game. A friend who was fond of birds was advised to give *Opium* 200 in their drinking water when they got egg-bound, and they recovered. Another lady asked for help with her canary, the others were pecking at it; it was given *Pulsatilla*, with the result that it became the boss.

One got a lot of fun looking after animals; they were very grateful and thankful for what was done for them.

Miss Fussell said that if the man with the birds had tried *Zinc met.* instead of *Opium* for the egg-bound birds it would have taken an hour instead of a day.

Dr. D. M. Foubister thanked Miss Fussell and asked if Homœopathy had provided an answer to hard pad in dogs. Also he would like to know if anything had been done in the way of a potentized vaccine of foot and mouth disease virus to prevent the spread of that disease.

Miss Fussell had mentioned *Arnica* for the after-effects of operation and there was no doubt of its efficacy in most cases of trauma. Dr. Foubister wondered if Miss Fussell had any experience of the use of *Staphisagria* which was valuable in relieving pain in cut wounds. The human patients for whom it was indicated tended to "bottle things up" mentally or had a sense of injustice. Dogs certainly

looked at times as if they felt they had been unfairly treated!

Miss Fussell said that in patients suffering from hard pad it was difficult to give any clear-cut remedies because the symptoms were so varied, it was not just one symptom. There were many different forms of hard pad and there were ten or more remedies. The Mercuries were very useful, and *Stannum met.*: one treated according to the symptomatology. She had used nearly everything within the usual range. As a prophylactic she found that *Belladonna* was one of the best and the three Mercuries together. If Dr. Foubister had a particular case in mind she could probably help him....

As for foot and mouth disease, one was not allowed to do any experimental work in England for any of the notifiable diseases, and it would be a very long time before one could get round this unless someone was fortunate enough to be able to do as was now being done in Denmark, find an island where research could be carried out. She had not used *Staphisagria*, but would certainly try it after operations.

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THROW AWAY YOUR GLASSES

DR. R. S. AGARWAL, PONDICHERRY

I had an occasion to meet five girl students, all wearing glasses fitted in beautiful golden frames. They complained of headache and eye strain in reading, sewing or any other near work and the trouble continued inspite of using the glasses. Two of them had almost normal vision and the number of glasses was nominal. Two others were hypermetropic while one was having slight myopic astigmatism. After examining their eyes on the Snellen eye card and Reading test type, and in the dark room with the retinos-