

Report: 2006 LIGA [LMHI] 61st Congress Lucerne, Switzerland

Reported by Richard Hiltner, MD, NVP for the USA

Keywords: 61st LIGA Congress 2006 (Lucerne, Switzerland)

Lucerne, Switzerland is indeed a picturesque and heartwarming setting, with a stunning lake and majestic mountains. It was an ideal place to celebrate on October 11-14 2006 the 61st Congress of the Liga Medicorum Homeopathica Internationalis (the LIGA), and it was also a wonderful privilege help commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Swiss Association of Homeopathic Physicians [SAHOP].

In 1827 homeopathy began in Switzerland with a Dr. Josef Siegrist in Basel. In the first half of the 19th Century, Switzerland was lagging behind much of the world in its knowledge of homeopathy. Drs. Zopy, Bruckner and Karl Krieger thus decided to begin the Swiss Association of Homeopathic Physicians in 1856; it grew to 32 members by 1860. The number stayed fairly constant until 1988 when it rose to 106 and continued to increase until today there are approximately 412 members.

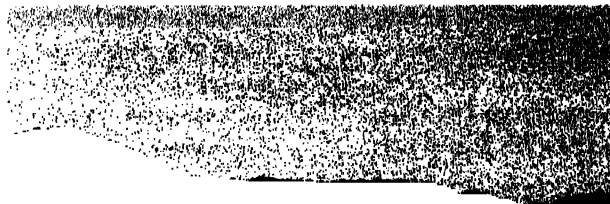
It is of note that Geneva homeopath Dr. Pierre Schmidt [1894-1987] initiated a "new" SAHOP in 1927 which united German and French-speaking physicians and was also crucial in founding the LIGA and very influential in the USA. Dr. Jost Künzli [1915-1992] started his lectures on the writings of Hahnemann at the University Hospital in Zurich in 1977 which produced many of the current exponents in the SAHOP. Dr. Antoine Nebel [1870-1954] was a physician and researcher, especially in cancer and tuberculosis. Dr. Adolf Voegeli [1888-1993] did not care for a long time about medicines, but preferred

diet, spa, etc.. However, after being acquainted with Dr. Leon Vanier of France, he found that homeopathy was effective. He started teaching in Germany in 1950 to not only physicians, but also non-medical

practitioners which exposed him to criticism.

The first LIGA Congress in Switzerland was in Geneva in 1931. The next was in Lucerne in 1939; then in Lausanne in 1951; and then in Montreux in 1960.

The umbrella organization for the entire Swiss medical profession is called the FMH [Foederatio Medicorum



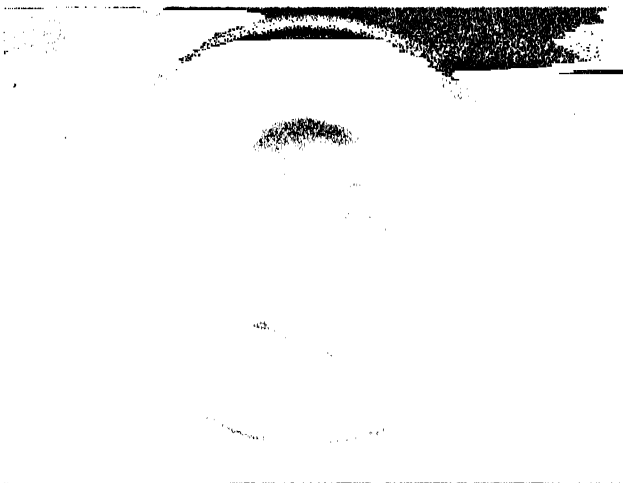
LAKE LUCERN – SWITZERLAND

Helveticorum (Federation of Swiss Physicians)]. The President of the FMH is Dr. Jacques de Haller, who gave a warm welcome at the opening ceremonies on October 11th. He stated that the central concern of a physician is the health of the patient. "Obviously there are various routes towards achieving that goal. Homeopathy is one of these ways and many choose it; they deserve the same support as those who regard other ways as good and right for themselves."

The Executive Council Meeting was held on Monday, October 9th at the Grand Hotel Palace

The International Council Meeting
Tuesday October 10th at the Grand Hotel Palace

A more crisp, clear invigorating morning would



PLAQUE OF HAHNEMANN

be hard to imagine. It was great to see again my colleagues in this attractive hotel. The Council was called to order by the President Corrado Bruno, who welcomed all to this wonderful Congress. Approval of the minutes from the 60th LIGA 2005 Council in Köthen, Germany was unanimously approved.

Highlights of the Reports from the National Vice-Presidents [NVP] for each Country

[There is not enough space to list all details. A more thorough coverage will be in the next LIGA Newsletter with each country's NVP report].

Switzerland: Clemens Dietrich gave a heartfelt welcome to all and emphasized that this LIGA coincided with the 150th Anniversary of the Swiss Association of Homeopathic Physicians [SAHOP]. Mention was made of the *Lancet* article [Egger Study] and he was happy that the people in general were very supportive of homeopathy. On Friday afternoon, October 13th, he stated that there would be an extensive Research and Evidence-Based Studies Panel on the effectiveness of homeopathy. However, he was not happy that homeopathy was excluded from the basic health insurance since 2002. He highlighted the "Open Liga Forum" as an innovative approach to this LIGA Congress and hoped we all would enjoy it.

Mexico: Antonio Caballero was happy to announce the next 62nd LIGA Congress would be in Pueblo, Mexico on August 7-11, 2007. Pueblo is in the middle of Mexico and has a rich view of prehispanic [Mayan, Aztecs, *et al.* with one of the largest pyramids in the world], colonial and contemporary culture. The government-supported University of the Occident

commenced this year with the specialty of homeopathy. Dr. Ortega's National Academy of Hahnemannian Homeopaths continues certification of physicians. There is some concern about non-physician homeopaths which are supported by two states.

Belgium: Michel von Wasserhoven is hard at work promoting his "Evidence Based Homeopathy" [EBH]. This is especially being emphasized in the upcoming 63rd LIGA Congress in Oostende, Belgium from May 20-25, 2008. It is important to note that a primarily French homeopathic organization, OMHI, has offered to participate in the 63rd Congress. This would be very helpful for world homeopathic unification and strength. The law on the Scientific Framework of General Practice was adapted with homeopathy included in 2006.

Germany: Bertold Fleig stated that the DZVhÄ [the German Central Association for Homeopathic Physicians] went before the Federal House for a Press Conference in Berlin on November 11th 2005 to discuss whether homeopathy is able to scientifically aid illnesses. This was another example of the "fall out" from the *Lancet* article. A number of research studies were mentioned including the 2005 Vienna *Kali Bichromicum* research which statistically showed improvement with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. The DZVhÄ Research Foundation and In-Hom are both five years-old and have joined forces for more scientific documentation of homeopathy. Both have their headquarters in Köthen. Bertold also revealed that this would be the final year of his being NVP for Germany. All were sad to hear this; however, the new NVP should be very well qualified. All to the best to you, Bertold. We will miss you.

Japan: Ronko Itamura related that the Japanese Phy-



QUARTET AT BEGINNING OF CONGRESS

*CORRADO BRUNO, PRESIDENT OF LMHI, AND
CLEMENS DIETRICH, CONGRESS PRESIDENT*

sicians Society for Homeopathy [JPSH] has now been in existence since 2000 and has an impressive 374 members. It has been greatly aided by the United Kingdom in its three-year course. She stated that about 76% of the Japanese population spends 1,300 Euros per year on Complementary/Alternative Medicines [CAM]. Traditional Chinese Medicine [TCM] is the only CAM that is available on health insurance. The Japanese Government does not legally recognize homeopathic practitioners because it feels that homeopathic medicines are "health food." Thus, lay practitioners may use homeopathy.

United Kingdom: Raymond Sevar was keen to point out that the *Lancet* article had a definite negative effect, but the people in general know that homeopathy can be effective. Therefore, it was thought to be as "a cloud passing over." He was surprised that *Lancet* would so blatantly state that this was the end of homeopathy when there is so much positive research and clinical data along with general public approval. The Royal London Homeopathic Hospital has had approximately 24 million pounds given by the government for its restoration. However, in spite of that, it continues not to have any "in-beds." The Glasgow Homeopathic Hospital was to have its in-beds removed; however, after an uproar, they were allowed to remain.

Austria: Katrin Strauch informed us that there are 432 medical doctors with diplomas in homeopathy in Austria. There are no homeopathic hospitals, but homeopathic treatment is available in various hospital clinics, including the University of Vienna. There are now twelve hospitals where homeopathic treatment is offered in special departments. The *Lancet* article had a mild effect in Austria. As a matter of fact, in the spring of 2006, a Chief Court of Justice

certified the scientific soundness of homeopathy.

Czech Republic: Ivan Vondrich stated that his country has 250 members and will be having its Congress with the Slovak Homeopathic Association in Prague in November 2006. Its keynote speaker will be Luc de Schepper. It has its own pharmacy and four homeopathic magazines. The political situation has been unstable since June 2006 and homeopathy is not high on the government's list for legal recognition.

Romania: Atena Antonescu spoke of the great loss this year of Prof. Dr. Gheorghe Bungetzianu, the President of Honor and founding member of the Romanian Homeopathic Society, at age 90. Apropos to the Luzern Congress, she has translated into Romanian a brochure on the treatment of cancer written by Pierre Schmidt quoting Hahnemann's *Organon* and commenting on the relationship of the miasms. There is also a concise repertory listing in the back. Homeopathy in Romania has been legal since 1981. Only medical doctors can practice after completing a three-year program sponsored by the Ministry of Health.

Bulgaria: Dora Pachova reported that there will be big changes for Bulgaria and homeopathy when Bulgaria enters into the European Union on 1/1/2007. The effect of the new Health Law enacted in January 2005 which declares that homeopathy can only be practiced by physicians and dentists is having its toll on non-physician homeopathic practitioners. Dr. Milka Mihaylova is an assistant professor in the Medical University in Pleven and has been conducting homeopathic courses for medical students.

The Netherlands: Hein van Berkel was happy



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DARIO SPINEDI, SANJAY
AND YOGESH SEHGAL

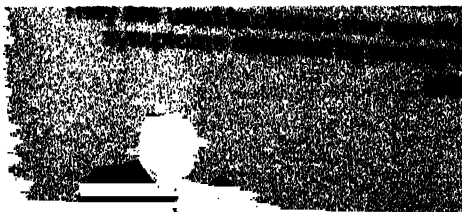
to report that the new healthcare insurance is functioning now and it appears that homeopathic consultations are being funded fairly well. There also will be more dialogue with the conventional national medical association [KNMG] in a second congress being arranged in 2007 between KNMG and complementary medical organizations. In the future there will probably be pressure put on homeopathic physicians to take more conventional continuing education requirements to retain the "arts" title for physician. This is presently not certain.

Hungary: Eszter Kalman relays that there have been some bureaucratic problems with the Hungarian authorities on obtaining acceptance of its 2005-06 homeopathic examinations. This was originally accepted by the Medical University in 2000 for physicians and pharmacists. This exam has already been approved by the European Committee for Homeopathy [ECH]. Nonetheless, the Hungarian Homeopathic Medical Association is continuing its courses. There is also a third postgraduate homeopathic veterinary course occurring at Szent Istvan University in Budapest.

France: Phillip Servais revealed an important new problem in France: - more physicians are being attacked by legal and medical authorities because of their allowing patients to utilize homeopathy instead of chemotherapy for cancer. This development probably will cause homeopathic physicians to hesitate to treat other serious illnesses for fear of encountering legal difficulties. Nonetheless, homeopathy is doing well in France. The European Committee for Homeopathy [ECH] has approved a homeopathic school INHF for its diploma. Since there is so much diversity of homeopathy, there has been more dialogue between different philosophies such as occurred in September 2005 where the INHF had a congress with seven speakers of various homeopathic opinions.

Ecuador: Edgar Godoy elaborated on much of the good work being done in his country. Homeopathy has been approved by the health ministry since 1983 and has been considered a specialty by the national conventional Ecuadorian Medical Federation since

1998. The Ecuadorian government has even donated a house for the Ecuadorian Homeopathic Medical Society. There is also a Samuel Hahnemann Foundation to give financial aid to those in need for education. Ecuador has also made formal application for a LIGA Congress in 2013 which was approved latter on this day by the International Council.



MICHEL VAN WASSERHOVEN

India: Vijay Chand gave his usual optimistic report on homeopathy in India. It is quite officially approved with numerous hospitals, medical schools and thousands of homeopathic practitioners. There is continuous homeopathic research being conducted both privately and by the government. India is indeed a shining light in homeopathy and very deserving of the admiration it receives.

Italy: Renzo Galassi commented on the continual bureaucratic difficulties with the government about the legal status of homeopathy. Homeopathy is still not officially accepted by the government in spite of many physicians and patients having employed it with good results.

Latvia: Marina Afanasieva reported that an important document which lowers the costs for homeopathic patients with national insurance has been completed, namely the "Medical Technology of Homeopathy." There was some debate in the Latvian Homeopathic Association [LHA] on this manuscript; namely, whether the LHA would allow the use of classical as well as pluralistic prescribing in this document. It resolved finally on permitting both approaches. Latvia has already made arrangements for the 64th LIGA Congress to be in its capital city, Riga on August 16-21, 2011.

Ukraine: Oleksandr Ivaniv delivered an incredibly detailed report on his country's progress in homeopathy. It is very strange that the government of a country with so many homeopathic associations [16], pharmacies and numbers of practitioners still does not recognize homeopathy officially. The political situation being presently confused certainly does not help matters. The general tendency in Ukraine favors the use of complex remedies, but a number of teachers are certainly classically oriented. Overall, this report sounded optimistic in the

long run for homeopathy in Ukraine.

United States of America: Richard Hiltner stated that the over one hundred year-old monument to Hahnemann in Washington, D.C. is well on its way to being fully restored after receiving \$30,000 from private contributions, mainly through the work of Sandra Chase. It has also received \$78,000 from the National Park Service. The USA also has a number of homeopathic organizations, and it is of note that seven came together at a joint conference in San Jose, California in April 2006 to learn and strengthen homeopathy. The conference had a internationally-known keynote speaker, Peter Fischer, from the United Kingdom. There was much interest in the research that was discussed, especially in the context of the *Lancet* report. The USA was also one of five countries supporting the "Avian Flu Homeopathic Conference" in Paris, France on November 11, 2005.

Armenia: Mariam Gharabaghtzyan related that Armenia really started officially using homeopathy in 1993 and now has been admitted to the LIGA this year. There has been a steady rise of interest. Much of the teaching is coming from Germany, but other parts of Europe are helping. Armenia also has the frequently occurring problem with registration of homeopathic medicines.

Estonia: Saima Tisler informed us that homeopathy continues to grow with approximately 500 physicians using homeopathic medicines. There is an ongoing set of lectures and continuing homeopathic medical education in that country.

Reports from the Executive Council

Report of the Secretary of the Newsletter, Sandra Chase

Sandra Chase proposed that some changes were necessary for a timely and more economical manner of producing and sending the *LIGA Letter*; namely, the *LIGA Letter* would be prepared, printed and posted from Bucharest, Romania with the help of the Secretary of Public Relations, Carmen Sturza.

It would continue to be prepared at her office in the USA.

Report of the Secretary of the Prime General Secretary, Jose Mantuk Kanan

Jose Mantuk hoped that much of the correspondence between the Executive Committee [EC] and National Vice-Presidents [NVP] could be done by e-mail to save on expenses. Changes in the Vice-Presidents have been updated as quickly as possible. He has generously this year again, as many past years, prepared an updated 2006 Directory of the Executive and International Councils as well as handed out many wonderful pictures he has taken of the EC and NVPs. The new Secretary for Veterinary Medicine is John Saxton. Through the assistance of the Secretary of Research, Matheus



FRANK NAGER

Marin, and also Sandra Chase, there was an addition to the LIGA Web Site as a reply to the infamous *Lancet* article. Two new countries have been added to the LIGA - Bolivia and Armenia. An additional two countries have applied for membership - Turkey and Croatia. Jose Mantuk wanted to emphasize that he would be happy to assist the coordinators of any future LIGA Congresses. And finally he continues to aid the Secretary of the Archives, Fernando Francois-Flores, in the digitalization of past LIGA Congresses.

Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Thomas Peinbauer

Thomas Peinbauer gave a more optimistic treasury report this year. Assets were up from 2005 compared to 2004. Total Equity and Liabilities were for 2005 CHF 291.235,31 and for 2004, 226.593,46. Unfortunately, only 24 out of 68 LIGA members paid their dues in 2005. It was, therefore, voted upon by the International Council to not allow the NVPs for those countries to vote if, after sincere attempts to contact the country, they fail in paying their dues. There was a reimbursement of CHF 12.092 of the advance court and lawyer fees for the Gutman legacy. The results of an Austrian pilot project on how the Austrian LIGA members would respond to seven questions in the *LIGA Letter* were tabulated. 45 questionnaires were returned [10%] with the fol-



LILIANA SZABO

lowing answers: 84% knew of the *LIGA letter*, 74% have read it, 80% would like to read it in the future: by Postm 15%; as a download, 27%; as pdf-document sent by e-mail, 31%; by e-mail or download, 9%; and without statement, 18%.

Report of the Secretary of Public Relations, Carmen Maria Sturza

Carmen Sturza graciously presented for the LMHI to the Swiss Homeopathic Physicians' Association a large metal plaque of Samuel Hahnemann which was created by a Romanian artist through *Ars Medica*. She has also developed a new CD called the "LMHI 81st Anniversary Album." It has seven different categories, including: a Dedication; Executive Committee 2006; Honorary members; International National Vice-Presidents 2006; Honorary Members of the LMHI; and Presidents of Honor of the LMHI. This CD serves as a record of not only the names, but pictures, memorabilia, thoughts and aspirations of these people in the LIGA; it is on-going and a beautiful gesture for all concerned and reveals to the public some of the heart and soul of the LIGA.

Report of the Secretary of Veterinary Medicine, John Saxton

John Saxton is the new Secretary of Veterinary Medicine and wanted emphasize the upcoming October 12-13 Congress dates for lectures and workshops in homeopathy. He also noted that there would be a 20th Anniversary of the International Association of Veterinary Homeopathy on October 2.

Report of the Secretary of Dentistry, Gloria Andre Feighelstein

Gloria Feighelstein is an energetic dentist with

tremendous enthusiasm for homeopathy. She has been involved in many dental clinics, symposia and government agencies to promote her passion for homeopathic dentistry. Presently she is engaged in ongoing discussions with the Brazilian Federal Council to include homeopathy. The Brazilian Health State Department is supporting the National Health Program which wants to add homeopathy and other complementary therapies, such as acupuncture, anthroposophic and phytotherapeutic medical disciplines. She had a questionnaire filled out by some of the NVPs in Berlin 2005 on what was happening with homeopathic dentistry in their countries; such as, do their dental public health plans include homeopathy? how many dentist and national organizations exist, etc? These ideas were discussed and a desire for more information was expressed.

Report from the Prime Vice-President, Ulrich Fischer

Regarding the relationship between the LMHI and WHO [World Health Organization], there has been frequent communication between the LMHI and WHO's representative, Dr. Zhang, concerning the development of "Evidence-Based Homeopathy." All of the information for accreditation of the LMHI has been given to WHO and the application will be considered by the Executive Board in January 2007. The accreditation will confer the following privileges on LMHI [a nongovernmental organization]:

- 1) To appoint a representative to participate, without a right to vote, in Executive Board sessions and Health Assemblies as well as in committees and conferences convened under their authority.
- 2) To make statements of an expository nature at such meetings on agenda items of relevance to



END OF CONGRESS AWARDS AND GIFTS

the nongovernmental organization at the invitation of the chairman.

- 3) To submit a written statement pertaining to such meetings, the nature and scope of distribution of which shall be determined by the Director-General.

Report of the Secretary of the Archives, Fernando Francois-Flores

Fernando Francois-Flores has added eight more LMHI Congress proceedings. Please see the *LIGA Letter* for details. His report includes: a summary of the decisions that had been taken by the Executive Committee and the International Council since 1985; a complementary list of the index of homeopathic journals in the world offered in the last report with 16 other magazines and 7 collections of homeopathic journals [153 magazines] donated to the LMHI archives. Thanks to the collaboration of NVPs, we have information about the history of homeopathy in five countries: Japan, Romania, The Netherlands, Switzerland, South Africa and Serbia. Dr Jose Mantuk, General Secretary, offered as a donation his digitalization of 31 proceedings [14,325 pages] for the LMHI Archives and website.

Report of the Immediate Past President, Carles Amengual

Carles Amengual, along with the present Secretary of Education, Leopold Drexler, worked for three years on an important document for the international qualifications of physicians, veterinarians, dentist and pharmacists in homeopathic medicine. This document was ratified at Köthen 2005. This is especially of interest in respect to the World Health Organization [WHO] and the LMHI application for accreditation with the WHO. He also related

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: URS STEINER,
JAN SCHOLTEN, CLEMENS DIETRICH

that another of his projects finished several years ago needed to be updated; namely, "World Homeopathy," a 500 page document on the legal situation of homeopathy in 48 countries. This will be sent to each NVP for consideration.

Report of the Secretary of Education, Leopold Drexler

Again, Leopold Drexler along with Carles Amengual helped to finish the final document, "The Guidelines on Basic Training and Safety in Homeopathy—Medical Homeopathic Educational Standards." These were ratified at Köthen 2005. There were no requests on the "LIGA Book Project." In Köthen, 27 of the NVPs filled out a questionnaire about homeopathic education in their country. It would take too much space to go into the details. Please look at the more thorough report in the *LIGA Letter*. Summing up, however, Leopold concluded that there were large differences in the systems of universities, insurance, medical boards, governments and homeopathic societies.

Report on the International LMHI Homeo- pathic Library of Samuel Hahnemann in Cordoba, Argentina by Cesar Cremonini

Cesar Cremonini has been diligently working on the International LMHI Samuel Hahnemann Library in Cordoba, Argentina. There are currently 266 books dealing with a great variety of subjects; most are directly associated with homeopathy and others indirectly so. All NVPs received a copy of the listing of these books. He emphasized that more books are needed and looked forward to any comments or suggestions.

END OF CONGRESS AWARDS AND GIFTS

Report of the Secretary of the Pharmacy, Amariyls de Toledo Cesar, along with past Liga President Jacques Imberechts

There is a need for a museum bank for homeopathic medicines which are rarely used. It is not economical for various homeopathic pharmacies to retain remedies of little demand. Therefore, as time goes by, these medicines may be completely discarded. Also with some of the stricter rules on registering homeopathic medicines, it will cost the pharmacist too much money to store such remedies. It is important to note that in certain countries there is a requirement that each remedy be remanufactured every five years. This is not only expensive, but opens the way to many errors in preparation. The homeopathic community must act politically to have laws enacted that reflect the exigencies of homeopathic medicine and not other therapeutic systems.

Report of the President, Corrado Bruno

Dr. Bruno has used his enthusiasm for homeopathy to stimulate the spirit of the LIGA by implementing modern communication to strengthen the bond of the Executive Committee. He, along with the Secretary of Research, Matheus Marin, increased the effort with WHO to accept the "Guidelines on Quality Control and Safety of Homeopathic Medicines." There were also efforts to clarify the "Review Analyses of Reports and Controlled Clinical Trials" projects. In his home country of Brazil there was much political discussion of implementing homeopathic treatment in the national public health system. Also, he and the LMHI have been active in the regulation of homeopathic pharmaceutical activities. The membership of LIGA worldwide is 7,205.

The Opening of the 61st LIGA Congress
Wednesday October 11th 2006

[Regretably, space does not permit more than a mention of Congress highlights.]

The beginning of the 61st LMHI Congress started on another sunny, crisp day in the Culture and Congress

Center overlooking the beautiful lake. There was a harmonious four piece string quartet to elevate the mood. The Congress President [also the NVP to the LIGA], Clemens Dietrich, radiated a "dream come true" ambience to an audience of approximately 700 registrants. There are few people who can display the axiom that "true strength is reflected in gentleness" like Clemens Dietrich. He introduced the first speaker of the Congress, Dr. Jacques de Haller, the President of the FMH, the umbrella organization for the entire Swiss medical profession. He stated that the central concern of a physician is the health of the patient. *"Obviously there are various routes towards achieving that goal. Homeopathy is one of these ways and many choose it; they deserve the same*

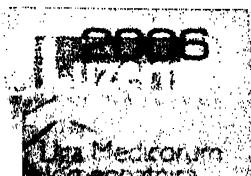
support as those who regard other ways as good and right for themselves."

The next speaker, Mr. Magyar, was in many ways quite unique. He is a professional organizer for various business concerns and in this case, more specifically, racing boats or yachts. The essence of his dramatic pictorial presentation was "Teamwork." It was indeed exciting to see everyone working together in body and soul. Yes, this was a good way to present an old subject in

a vivacious way - the need of a common goal with tolerance, but an eye to one's principles. Unity in Diversity.

Clemens Dietrich next explored a new approach at a LIGA Congress called "Open LIGA Forum" [OLF]. This process actually started in other conferences in the 1980s. The value of this process is the ability to have informal discussions in small groups on topics of interest. The main conference hall was divided into about five groups and there were five individual rooms also set aside. Anyone could write on a bulletin board their subject of interest and lead that discussion until people stopped coming. Then another person could start. I, of course, could not go to all, but did find those I attended very stimulating. At the end of the day, a summary was given to everyone. The mornings would otherwise start with two keynote speakers and then the OLF and a moderately-sized lecture room for more formal presentations.

Dario Spinedi [Switzerland] was the next speaker; he elaborated on Anamnesis [case analysis]. He is a strong classical homeopathic teacher with thorough



JAN SCHOLTEN

clinical experience.

Sanjay and Yogesh Sehgal gave an excellent presentation emphasizing the importance of understanding the essence and meaning of what a patient is trying to say. I decided to stay with these two doctors in the OLF to investigate in more detail their approach. It was indeed a journey into the emotions and language of the patient in order to reach the true picture. For instance, *Hyoscyamus* has at its essence the sense of betrayal, whereas an "indifference to suffering or pain" characterizes *Opium*, *Stramonium* and *Helleborus*.

There were also two workshops that afternoon: one on toxicology and the other on the dynamization of a medicine, specifically, *Natrum muriaticum* to a 1C potency. Unfortunately, these were only in German.

Rene Torres [Mexico] gave a wonderful tribute to his mentor Proceso Sanchez Ortega and his dedication to the original philosophy of Hahnemann.

That evening all were invited to a short boat cruise to an IMAX film on the spectacular colors of coral reefs throughout the world revealing also the endangerment of these reefs from pollution. Afterward there was a dinner at the Lucerne Transport Museum. The atmosphere was enhanced by some traditional Swiss instruments (including a 7 foot horn) and lively singing by ladies who knew how to yodel.

Thursday October 12th 2006
[10 speakers + OLF]

Urs Steiner [Switzerland] elaborated on the Bönninghausen method emphasizing the location, sensation, modality, concomitants, polarity and concordants. He later gave a workshop on Friday, but again all workshops were only in German.

Jan Scholten [Netherlands] discussed the Themes, Groups and Families in Concepts of Remedies. He is well-known for his investigation of the periodic table. He especially lately has pursued the *Lanthanides* and gave a couple of cases where they were indicated. Rajan Sankaran has also incorporated these ideas into his teaching.

There was a workshop in German which explored the ideas and groups associated with the medicines,

The morning session examined: *Castanea vesca*, *Quercus robur*, *Natrum muriaticum*, *Sepia*, *Lycopodium*, *Drosera*, *Mandragora*, *Heder helix*, *Phosphorus* and *Taxus baccata*.

Phillip Servais [France] gave two beautiful cases of women with sterility and chronic depression. In many ways they were similar, but with close examination, one was *Palladium* and the other was *Adamas*.

Nicolas Steeling [Switzerland] is a dentist who uses a variety of advanced technological apparatus, including Kirlian photography, toxicological and more classical homeopathy to find the appropriate homeopathic medicine. He definitely explored areas of research that may be very practical for all dentists.

Dietmar Payruber [Austria] examined the pathological data to see the more hidden aspects of a patient's illness.

Monique Altenbach [Switzerland] looked at *Cantharis* from a variety of angles which go beyond the classical dysuria. The burning aspect was examined more fully.

Roberto Petrucci [Italy] gave a humorous account of the possible approaches one takes to discovering the remedy behind the surface. He has a real ability to see more deeply into his patients and pursues various teaching and training

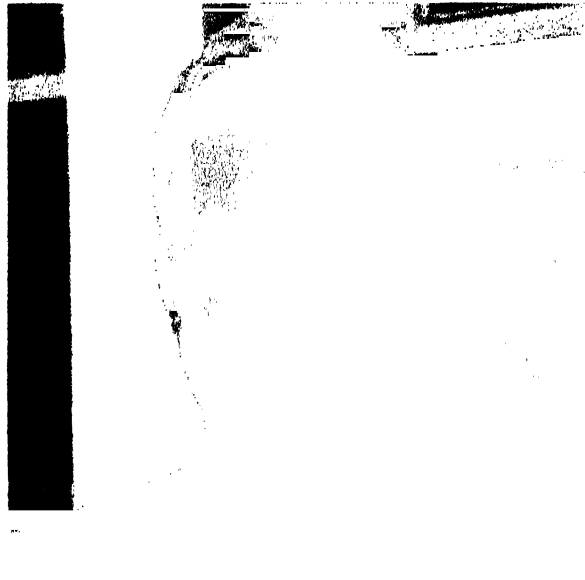
courses in homeopathy.

Antonella Ronchi [Italy] talked about posology. This controversial subject allows many individual techniques. The proper homeopathic medicine must also be given in the right dosage and frequency.

Veterinary Medicine

Thursday October 12th 2006
[7 speakers + OLF]

I was not able to attend these sessions. There were a variety of subjects including case studies involving emergency prescriptions with certain restrictions. Speakers were from six countries and included John Saxton [UK], Stefan Kohlrausch [Germany], Andrea Brancalion [Italy], Marc Brunson [Belgium], Jacques Millemann [France]. There was a 20-year anniversary party that evening for the International Association for Veterinary Homeopathy.



RICHARD PITCAIRN, DVM

That evening presented an excellent opportunity to hear the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra from London. It was well worthwhile.

Friday October 13th 2006
[10 speakers + OLF]

Frank Nager [Switzerland] emphasized a truly holistic approach to medicine encompassing the four psychological functions of C.G. Jung: Thinking, Feeling, Sensation and Intuition. It is good to look at the physical person and pursue appropriate tests, examinations, research, etc., but there is knowledge to be gleaned beyond the physical and logical world which is called intuition. As one learns to know the limitations of certain techniques and explores that deeper sense of truth, a true art is discovered.

Michel von Wasserhoven [Belgium] has been enthusiastically working for Evidence-Based Homeopathy. He has compiled many statistics in this area. The LIGA Congress in 2008 will be dedicated to this subject.

A morning workshop in German only was conducted on variations of hypotheses on *Natrum muriaticum* associated with thoughts of Scholten, Coulter, Whitmont, Sankaran, Masi and Vithoulkas.

An afternoon workshop in German only explored more detail on the Bönninghausen method.

Sunit Shangloo [India] gave three cases of fibroids cured by homeopathy. The remedies varied from *Pulsatilla*, *Carcinosum*, *Palladium*, *Tuberculinum*, depending on the symptom picture.

Vangelis Zafriou [Greece] discovered a series of characteristic responses to a correct homeopathic remedy that he felt have been overlooked since the beginning of homeopathy. There are five sets of symptoms he sees when a patient has gotten the right homeopathic medicine (no one has all of these, usually only 1-3): 1) Increased sleep; 2) fatigue; 3) increased appetite; 4) decreased libido; 5) decrease in menstrual periods. The rationale behind these responses seems to be a conservation of energy so that the diseased areas can recover.

Rao Srinivasulu [India] felt that a variety of medical disciplines have provided some evidence of a correlation between emotional and mental functioning and certain bodily organs. For instance, in Traditional Chinese Medicine one sees emotional/mental relationships to various senses and organs. The kidney can be associated with fear and especially with hearing and the ears. Ayurvedic medicine also has its Tridoshas (three faults) with similar

relationships.

Panel Discussion on Research in Homeopathy [Afternoon]

Panel Participants :Miek Jong [Aldmaar,NL] , Claudia Witt [Berlin, Germany] Peter Mattmann [Kriens, [Switzerland], Marco Righetti [Zurich, Switzerland], Klaus von Ammon [Bern, Switzerland] and Michel von Wasserhoven [Belgium].

Many subjects were discussed that would be beyond the space of this report. Needless to say, more unified and structured research is always needed. More cooperation and publication of reports are essential.

Veterinary Medicine

Friday October 13th 2006

[7 speakers +OLF]

Richard Pitcairn [USA] is well-known in the USA for his books and lectures on homeopathic veterinary medicine. He spoke on when to use which repertory [Kent, Bönninghausen, Jahr, etc.]. He also spoke on vaccinations and the complication associated with over-vaccination. Some other speakers Wendelin Gisler [Switzerland] speaking on treating large animals. Nicole Herout [Austria] also spoke about treating large animals, especially on the first visit. Alfons Knusel [Switzerland] did some double-blind studies with cattle using classical homeopathy. Regina Motta [Brazil] showed a number of photos and asked whether you could see the remedy. Christopher Notz [Switzerland] pursued a workshop on gathering information on farm animals.

That evening there was a Gala Dinner and Dance.

Saturday October 14th 2006

[5 speakers + OLF]

Hedwig Pötters [Germany] gave a very interesting presentation on the original substance used by Hahnemann for *Petroleum*. It is now really rare to find. This indicates that this remedy, as well as others, may well not be the original of Hahnemann.

Ilya Tiraspol'skiy [Russia] spoke on the "Algorithm of Modern Scientific Conceptions Used in Hierarchy of Symptoms in Classical Homeopathy".

Liliana Szabo [Argentina] gave her usual clear advice for dealing with children. Her cases were certainly of a severe nature; for example, one child had serious hereditary disease which precluded the ability to walk; however, with Dr. Szabo's treatment, she did fairly well after a few years.

Gabrielle Barben [Switzerland] related a common question asked about the original substance proven and the challenge of producing reliable

homeopathic medicines. This is not a easy problem to solve. One must try to be as accurate as possible with these procedures.

Julia Dionova [Switzerland] is from Swiss Medic, which is part of the government system that regulates the registration of homeopathic medicines. She emphasized that they have changed the rules as of October 1st 2006 to allow most homeopathic medicine to use a less expensive, fast track in order to lessen the criticism and burden on the homeopathic pharmacies. Especially when remedies are beyond 12C or 30X and have a safe track record, the speed of registration and expense should be much more appropriate. Nonetheless, many critical questions were asked on this most sensitive subject. As one questioner stated, it seemed that Julia Dionova had walked into the lion's den.

This final lecture was followed by farewell gifts to all of the many who participated and helped in this truly outstanding Congress. Much thanks to all and especially to Clemens Dietrich, who was the epitome

of the sophisticated, sincere and perfect host. Clemens gave a gift of a Swiss watch to Antonio Caballero as a token of good will and with best wishes for the next LIGA Congress in Puebla, Mexico. Corrado Bruno, President of the LMHI, congratulated all on a LIGA Congress of very high quality and spirit. He officially closed the Congress. A farewell party followed with sad but optimistic goodbyes in a variety of languages --Auf Wiedersehen; Au Revoir, Hasta la Vista ...

About the author: Richard Hiltner, MD, currently serves as President of the California Homeopathic Medical Society (CHMS). He is also editor of the CHMS Newsletter (NEWS) and is the National Vice-President for the USA to the LMHI-International Homeopathic Physicians' League (LIGA). He is a graduate of the Santa Barbara College of Oriental Medicine and the International Institute of Iridology. He has a private practice in Ojai, California. ATH

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