

RESULTS WITH UNUSUAL REMEDIES*

Elizabeth Wright Hubbard, M.D.

Case I. Insomnia. Elderly lady with nervous prostration, unable to get to sleep until seven o'clock in the morning, week in, week out ; restless, sensitive to noise, mentally over excited, lively and gay during the night with occasional twitchings, has tried all sorts of sedatives without success. I compared *Scutellaria*, *Valerian* and *Cypripedium* and gave the latter 1M., one dose, and *placebo* each night. The patient slept ten hours the first night, only a very occasional night until two A.M. for six weeks, then return of insomnia. Repeated *Cypripedium* 1M., one dose ; sleeping well since.

Case II. Headache. Violent headaches, as if the patient would go crazy, with loquacity, sensation as if the temples were in a vise, and as if the skull opened and shut, or as if waves in the head changing to penetrating pain on motion, numbness of the vertex. *Carboneum sulphuratum* 2C., one dose, with almost immediate relief. This patient's chronic remedy was *Sulphur*. Return of similar headache again yielded to *Carbo. sulph.* and has not returned since.

Case III. Heart trouble. Frail, delicate, exquisite lady of 60 with a weak heart. Electrocardiograph showed branch-bundle block. Apprehensive, drowsy, sensation as if the heart stopped with faintness, relief in the cold air and from lying. Sore feeling in the abdomen with heart distress. *Convallaria* 10M., one dose. Relief of symptoms and gradual increase of strength. This prescription was almost an intuitional one, *Crataegus* and *China*

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sulph. having been given before without marked improvement. She resembled lily of the valley (*Convallaria*).

Case IV. Facial neuralgia. Acute swelling and redness of one side of the face with swollen gland under the chin, pain and tightness of the occiput and neck, worse putting the head back, extreme sensitiveness of the bones of the nose to touch, dryness of the mouth and throat, no sweat. *Cinnabaris* 1M., one dose. Face normal in a couple of hours and relief of all symptoms, which had been severe several days, by night.

Case V. Varicose ulcer. Stout German woman with a varicose ulcer over the lower right shin, shallow, black, offensive, her one complaint "terrible burning". *Anthracinum* 50M., one dose. Burning relieved within the hour and ulcer healed in a few days and did not return, although she had had it months and even had a small haemorrhage from it. Her chronic case came out to *Graphites*, which has since been given her, and she has lost twenty pounds and walks miles and stands all day at her work without recurrence.

Case VI. Acute sinus trouble Young woman with a history of pneumonia and pleurisy came for sudden obstructive coryza, constant blowing of the nose but nothing comes, pain at the nose root with stuffed feeling, dry, harassing night cough, sensation as if floating in the air. *Sticta pulm.* 10M., one dose. Patient reported next morning first good night's sleep in a week and nose almost cleared.

Case VII. Mammary tumor. Middle-aged woman with almond-sized tumor in her right breast near the nipple, stitching pains shooting inward, chill after stool, burning vesicles on the right side of the tongue. *Phellandrium aquaticum* 10M., one dose. Symptoms swiftly cleared and lump gone in three weeks. No return in two years.

Case VIII. Heart trouble. Middle-aged man, hypochondriac, palpitation on first lying down, choking sensation in morning, heart troubles him whenever he thinks about it, excessive weakness, must lie down, feeling as if the heart were

temporarily paralyzed, burning sensation in the lower throat. *Oxalic acid* 10M., one dose. Relief of heart symptoms and extreme prostration, more cheerful outlook.

The range of remedies a prescriber uses is sometimes singularly hackneyed, but especially in acute prescribing repertorization of three or four symptoms of a more or less peculiar or keynote character will bring you to a relatively unusual remedy which will fit the case. Go over your prescriptions for the last year or for any month and see what the gamut is and what remedies are frequently repeated. Undoubtedly not only the *genus epidemicus* but the meteorological conditions influence the remedies indicated. I have often noticed that a certain remedy or group of remedies will be called for on the same day. Constant study of the less familiar remedies will widen the scope of our usefulness.

New York, N.Y.

DISCUSSION

Dr. Grace Stevens : I am very much interested in what you said about finding indications for the same remedy several times in succession. I have noticed that a number of times and I have heard other people speak of it, and I am sure, as you say, it isn't necessarily because you have the remedy in mind ; perhaps it is because there is something in the atmospheric conditions, or other conditions, that it is likely to be needed for several cases within a short time.

Dr. Grimmer : There are three more of us who have confirmed the observation that has been mentioned, that many days we prescribe the same remedy, on cases which occur close together.

Dr. Hubbard : Do you three wise men in the back row give any reason for that, or do you have it and don't give it ?

Dr. Grimmer : Well, I have a theory. You may accept it for what it is worth, but I believe the astrological conditions that

prevail at that time bring people together with similar complaints, to the doctor at that time. That is all.

Dr. Underhill, Jr. : Several times I have had the experience of having two or three or more new patients come in within a day or so with essentially similar complaints and perhaps requiring the same remedy. I can corroborate the statement of Dr. Grimmer and Dr. Stevens.

Dr. Green : It is all similar to the observation that we often make that if we meet something new, some new idea on one day, we are likely to find something to corroborate it within the next day or two, or three, or, if we meet some person, some friend we haven't seen for a long time, we will meet that same person or someone who knows that person, within a few days.

Dr. Hubbard : That is almost like the fact that if you have one puncture, you are sure to have three.

Dr. Hayes : There is another way of expressing the same thing. The widest sphere of observation we have, I think, is the procession of the equinoxes. Everything goes round in a spiral, ascending or descending, but in a spiral, at least, and everything within that circle will also go round in spirals, and we have it clear down to the finest point of observation that we can attain to.

There is one lesson in that paper which I think should not be forgotten or overlooked, and that is that a little repertorization of peculiar and unusual symptoms, rare symptoms, many of them, will turn up the unusual remedy.

Dr. Hubbard : I am glad you brought that out because when one uses the expression "keynote remedies", I felt a little worried lest I gave it because of the keynote, which I practically never do, but to use some of the keynotes as a basis for repertorization with a few symptoms, is perhaps fair.

Dr. Dixon : I, too, have had the same experience—all of us, I guess, who have prescribed for years, have noticed this sequence

of events, but I rise to my feet with a confession that often times when I am studying a remedy have the book on my desk to refer to frequently, I will catch myself finding symptoms of that remedy—often. I have to guard against it.

You know I had a paper here on *Bovista*. I had books referring to *Bovista* on my desk and along my chair and in handy places, picking out the high lights of the remedy, and it was surprising how many *Bovista* cases I saw during that time, so there may be a little angle of psychology there.

Dr. Harry B. Baker : Speaking of that case treated with *Stictapulmonaria*, about ten years ago we had a run of influenza cases, with that heavy feeling at the root of the nose. I haven't seen it since then at all. One thing I have noticed is that the cases in epidemics especially seem to call for different remedies in different parts of the country, even parts more or less in the same latitude.

In the epidemic of 1918 I remember seeing some of the men use *Arsenicum* and some of those remedies. In the fall of 1918, I believe we gave but one remedy and that was *Gelsemium*. We didn't have to give anything else.

I had been laid off for a year and up in the country recovering from an operation and I was called down and reached Richmond the first of October, 1918, for there were hardly any doctors left. About the only one still on his feet told me *Gelsemium* was the remedy, and for a month at least we hardly had to give another remedy.

Dr. Underhill, Jr. : There is such a thing as intuition, which we all possess latently and which is developed in some people. Many consider intuition is something we should rise above, but it is really a higher attribute of mind, perhaps, than ordinary reasoning. Some of the most brilliant prescriptions I have ever made have come about this way ; chronic cases which have been extremely puzzling in which I failed to achieve success for a considerable time—I have gotten right down and plugged on them and still didn't see in daylight. Then, after having worked

on it and almost given it up in despair, I have seen the patient and perhaps I have just touched the patient, or listened to the heart, or touched the pulse, and the remedy would pop into my mind right out of the blue. It is nearly always correct if I go through that particular sequence, but if I haven't worked on it, it doesn't amount to anything.

I have always noted that women have more intuition than men. They are more sensitive.

Here is a point in regard to the use of serums and vaccines that I have observed in the reactions of men and women to this problem : Men are more susceptible to the opinions of men and to the opinions of authority and they will defer to that sooner than women will. When a question arises whether or not a child should be vaccinated or immunized against some disease, I can usually win the mother much easier than I can win the father.

I have in mind a family where the mother was a trained nurse and had served for a number of years in the University hospital, University of Pennsylvania. The father is a lawyer and he comes in contact with a great many professional and scientific people and physicians. The father was practically sold on the idea of immunization, and the mother had been brought up in that general atmosphere ; nevertheless, in explaining the situation and advising against immunization, I had no trouble in winning the mother, but could never win the father ; however, what the mother said went in that case, fortunately.

Dr. Baker : Speaking of that intuition, my old preceptor, George A. Tabor, of Richmond, who was an Ann Arbor man, used to say very often, "That looks to me like a *Lycopodium* patient". He didn't always have a reason for it and often couldn't prove it on the symptoms.

Dr. Underhill, Jr. : The word "intuition" means "teaching from within", and when you consider that meaning, it deserves more dignity than we usually apply to it.

Dr. Hubbard : I should like to ask a question about the intuitional business. I had a case this past winter I was particularly anxious to cure. Those are always the ones I have trouble with. I repertorized her with the utmost faithful care and never in the repertory study (and I restudied her three times) did she come anywhere near the remedy I was itching to give her, and I have never given her the remedy I was itching to give her, which is *Aurum*, and why I wanted to give her *Aurum* I can hardly even tell you except to me she has been *Aurum*.

She has not done well on the many I felt justified in giving her, but I could not give her *Aurum* on just a hunch, do you think ?

Dr. Underhill : I would think so.

Dr. Hubbard : But it doesn't come out, even eighth or ninth.

Dr. Grimmer : Are any of the mentals present at all ?

Dr. Hubbard : She won't admit to them at all, and I think now they are not present, but she is a Russian and I feel that somewhere in her background they were definitely there.

Dr. Grimmer : I wouldn't hesitate to give it to her with those antecedents.

Dr. Moore : I think some of us practise by intuition without knowing it. I had done a cataract extraction on a trance medium, and I was doing a dressing and she said, "Someone comes in with you every day". I asked for a description and she gave an excellent description of an uncle of mine who was a surgeon, gone a while before, and I said, "What does that man do ?"

She said, "He tells you what to do".

So, in the practice of medicine, all I have to do is be there. Somebody tells me what to do. It is easy.

Dr. Powers : I have had the experience of being in doubt about two remedies, as to which one to give, one or the other, and I have decided on one. I have gone to my drawer,

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He passed the examination with great credit though he was having some impediment for the same.

In 1958, when the Bombay Homoeopathic Medical College was established, he was appointed an Hon. Lecturer and he continued to give his very learned lectures till 1978. In 1965, he went to England to attend the International Homoeopathic Congress where he was elected on the Research Committee of the International Homoeopathic League. From London, he proceeded to States to attend the Post-Graduate Course there and the Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Elizabeth Hubbard Wright, was so much impressed that he was given an Hon. Diploma in Homoeo Therapeutics. After returned to India, he once more got busy teaching the students, editing the magazine, and writing several small books and pamphlets which were found very useful and educative to the Homoeopathic Medical Professors. He was nominated as a Member of several Homoeopathic Committees at Bombay and Delhi. I think the load of work was too heavy for his frail constitution.

He expired on 20th Jan., 1979.

The best of all, he was a loving husband, devoted father, a beautiful son, and a sincere friend to hundreds like me. His life was very simple and his motto was 'high thinking'. Today, it is a great loss to his family in particular and friends in general. He has a young intelligent son, who is studying Homoeopathy and we wish that he shines out and keeps the glorious prestige of his father. May his soul rest in peace.

—S.R.W.

