

A Veterinary Anecdote

by Miss PHILIPPA RODALE, MVB, MRSVS

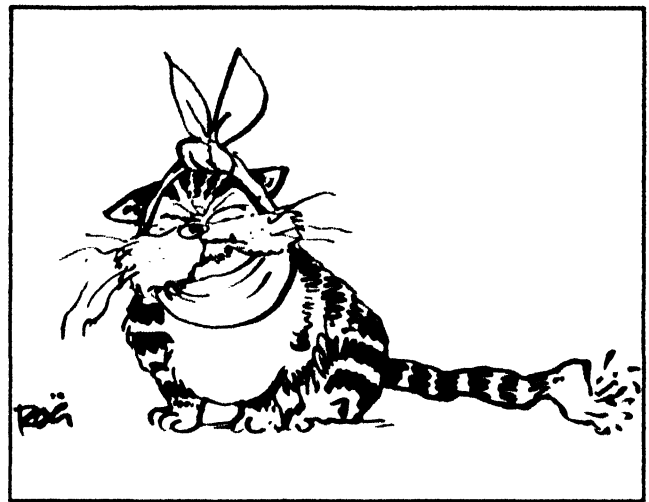
As a homoeopathic veterinary surgeon one has a number of referrals. These animals invariably have had a considerable amount of conventional treatment with the inevitable steroid courses. Usually one tries to withdraw this treatment or clear the effects before commencing homoeopathy, in the belief that it either masks the true picture of symptoms or directly counteracts the efficacy of the homoeopathic remedy.

I always say the Doctors have a much easier time than Veterinary Surgeons and not for the much quoted reason 'They can't tell you what is wrong' (I actually find that to be an advantage!), but because people will put up with an immense amount of discomfort resulting from treatment prescribed by their doctor. However, if their pet is very slightly inconvenienced or made uncomfortable from our administrations the clients are most unhappy and will change their allegiance quite rapidly. This is often the very reason that they are seeking help from a homoeopathic Veterinary Surgeon.

The conventional Vet. has threatened surgery or some other drastic treatment which the owner finds unacceptable and therefore seeks a gentler alternative. In the instance of one particular case I felt that I could not risk any worsening of the symptoms as it was a very special cat, quite old and very ill because the steroid treatment was no longer effective and symptoms were returning at more frequent intervals and with greater severity. The chief sign was loss of voice and the glands around the throat were enlarged. Accompanying this was a general malaise, loss of appetite and thirst causing a state of collapse. The treatment had consisted of large doses of Prednisolone gradually reducing to a maintenance dose. This dose was not controlling the situation and I was called in when once again the high level was being used.

I shall not go into the repertorisation of the case but at first I chose *Baryta Carb.* I gave this at the same time as the Prednisolone and succeeded in reducing that dose to the maintenance level faster than previously and apparently was achieving a reduction of symptoms. However they returned after a longer spell so I thought again. This time with a fuller and more detailed repertorisation I arrived at *Lachesis* as the remedy of choice. After a month the cat was off the steroid treatment and improving steadily without their 'assistance' and has continued to be well since September. The homoeopathic treatment has also been withdrawn. I anticipate having to use it again, but probably less and less frequently and hope the cat will live to its full life expectancy.

So take heart; the steroids can be counteracted. One does not have to put everyone through any nasty withdrawal periods. Dare I say that provided the remedy is correct homoeopathy will prevail.



CLARENCE HOUSE
S.W. 1

17th December 1992

Dear Mr Hensworth,

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has asked me to write and thank you very much for the beautiful Christmas card which Her Majesty was so pleased to receive.

I am to tell you how touched Queen Elizabeth was by your message of greetings and I am to convey the Patron's warm good wishes to you and to the Chairman, Officers, Council, Staff and members of The British Homoeopathic Association for Christmas and the year ahead.

Yours sincerely
Ralph Hensworth

Treasurer to
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother