

HOMOEOPATHY AND PAEDIATRICS

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THERE are many ways in which homoeopathy can be of service in the treatment of children; the subject is a very large one and it is possible only to touch on some aspects of it. An understanding of the place of homoeopathy in paediatrics as in other branches of medicine, can best be achieved by an appreciation of its meaning. The enquirer must free himself from preconceived ideas and detach himself from accustomed trends of thought. Otherwise, theoretical objections usually prevent the ultimate test of any method of therapy—to try it out and see if it works. The majority of doctors who practice homoeopathy were led to it by some chance personal experience. Although it is not necessary to practice homoeopathy using small doses of drugs, the use of drugs in potency is so integral a part of homoeopathic practice, that it is advisable to review the steps which led Hahnemann to advocate the use of potentized remedies. Such remedies do not act by suggestion nor do they simply appear to achieve success by protecting the patient against treatment which, in Hahnemann's day, might have been worse than the disease.

The Discovery of Homoeopathy

It has been believed for over two thousand years that like remedies could cure disease, that is to say, that *Belladonna* which produces poisoning symptoms closely similar to an attack of scarlet fever, could cure that illness. Century after century such treatment had its advocates, but it was not always successful. In 1790, Hahnemann tested out on himself the action of Cinchona bark (Crude Quinine) to ascertain its pure effects. He developed symptoms closely resembling a paroxysm of malaria. Here was a remedy which was capable of producing in health a clinical picture identical to the disease for which it was almost a specific remedy. After many other experiments on himself and friends with Cinchona bark and other drugs,

Hahnemann confirmed that there was a relationship between the therapeutic application of a drug and its effect in health and that by testing or proving drugs on healthy human beings, this could be used as a reliable guide to their effect in disease.⁽¹⁾ Hahnemann did more than merely give confirmation to an ancient belief which was only partly true, he discovered why like remedies sometimes worked and at other times failed. Perhaps the best way to explain this is to take primary pneumonia and consider the matching of a like remedy. There are always two groups of symptoms in pneumonia, firstly, those such as cough, pain in the chest, dyspnoea and cyanosis, which can be explained by the presence of an inflamed mass of lung tissue; secondly, there is a group of symptoms which are largely disregarded outside of homoeopathic practice, as they are of little or no importance when chemotherapy is used. The second group of symptoms varies from patient to patient, although there is a tendency to follow a limited number of patterns. One child for example is irritable, thirsty and likes to be left undisturbed, another likes the nurse to hold her hand, wants cold milk to drink and is afraid of the dark and of being left alone. These symptoms have appeared since the onset of the pneumonia and disappear when the patient is recovering, yet they are not the direct result of the pneumonic process. It is reasonable to suppose that these symptoms represent in some way, just as fever does, the patient's response, the attempt to get well. It is *these* symptoms which are matched in homoeopathic prescribing by a drug which could call forth a similar reaction in health. In other words the pattern of response is observed and an antigenic stimulus given, specific to the individual. *Bryonia* is the homoeopathic prescription for the first case and *Phosphorus* for the second. If the disease were measles or typhoid fever and these responses were observed, the same remedies would be given in homoeopathic practice. *Belladonna* is the correct homoeopathic treatment for scarlet fever when there is a close similarity between the individual clinical picture and *Belladonna* effects. It is not the remedy if the patient exhibits a different clinical picture. *Sulphur* is more frequently indicated today. The prescription, however, is based on the individual clinical picture and will only be successful when it covers the individual expression of the disease.

The "Homoeopathic Dose"

Hahnemann noted that sometimes, especially in chronic disease, the administration of the like remedy was followed by a sharp aggravation of the illness before amelioration began. He made experiments to determine the optimal dose which would influence the patient beneficially without causing an aggravation.⁽²⁾ He prepared his remedies by succussion in order to ensure an even distribution of the drug in the diluting medium, and to his surprise found that the remedies had an enhanced effect when given in minute quantities prepared in that way. It must be clearly understood that this only applies to remedies chosen for the patient as a whole, in the way just described. This does not mean that drugs used for their chemical, physiological or physical effects, as used in the ordinary way, are given in inadequate doses. When a patient is treated by chemotherapy for instance, the usual doses must be given. It is difficult to understand the real meaning of the often ridiculed "homoeopathic dose" especially for the medically trained mind because the use of drugs to influence the patient as a whole is foreign to modern medical thought and the amazing effect of correctly chosen drugs for this purpose in suitable cases has to be seen or experienced to be believed. Homoeopathy does not imply the use of small or infinitesimal doses of drugs for purposes which require material doses, such as, for example, the maintenance of sufficient concentration of a drug in the tissues to kill bacteria. Homoeopathic remedies must act in some way as a stimulus to which the patient is sensitive only when the remedy is accurately chosen.

The lower animals respond to drugs in potency even better than human beings. Thousands of puppies, for instance, have been protected against distemper by the oral administration of *Distem-perinum* 200 (a potentized distemper vaccine). Many thousands of animals are treated annually by homoeopathy through the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals and in private veterinary practice. Recently, Dr. Boyd of Glasgow has demonstrated in the laboratory, biological effects of *Strophanthus* in what amounts to the 30th centesimal potency.⁽³⁾

Homoeopathy and Chemotherapy

Homoeopathic treatment helps the patient to overcome infection by raising resistance; chemotherapy by damaging the pathogenic micro-organism. Both therapeutic measures can be given together, but it is better to avoid the disadvantages of chemotherapy immediate and remote if this can be done. By the raising of resistance, complications and sequelae are minimal. One of the advantages of homoeopathic treatment in dealing with infections is that, the nature of the infection is, generally speaking, of no importance, virus diseases yield as readily as bacterial diseases. Poliomyelitis, non-specific diarrhoea and measles can be as effectively treated as bacterial infections. There is no problem of natural or acquired insensitivity to chemotherapeutic agents. In overwhelming infections or where the indications for a homoeopathic remedy are not clear, or an apparently well indicated remedy does not work, or in some surgical conditions when an internal antiseptic is required, chemotherapy may be invaluable. It is customary in homoeopathic hospitals to test for drug sensitivity in all severe infections and chemotherapy is kept in reserve. When such treatment is given it is usual to treat homoeopathically as well, because chemotherapy has no effect on the patient except sometimes an adverse one. Homoeopathic prescribing will raise resistance. In the Children's Ward of The Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital a record is being kept of all admissions of acute bronchitis and pneumonia. The record starts in 1948 and of the first 50 cases under the age of two, there were no deaths. Only 9 of these cases received chemotherapy. Between 1948 and early 1953 there were 92 cases of pneumonia admitted to the ward and of these 64 received nothing but homoeopathic treatment. There was one death, a boy of 5 years who suffered from muscular dystrophy and was admitted in a moribund state during his third attack of pneumonia. There were 74 cases of acute bronchitis of which 62 received only homoeopathic treatment. There were no deaths. Oxygen was administered by tent in all cases when indicated. In 1911 Dr. Roberson Day compiled a record of 400 cases of pneumonia treated in the hospital between 1900 and 1910. The mortality rate was about 50 per cent of the average mortality rate in a number of children's hospitals. In the under two group, the figures were considerably more in favour of homoeopathic treatment. Lack of resistance to infection in the neo-natal period and

in the under twos is an important pediatric problem which the application of homoeopathy could help to solve.

Homoeopathy in Traumatic Conditions

Injury, including birth trauma, plays a significant part in disablement and death in infancy and childhood. Dr. C. V. Pink, who has had 30 years experience of obstetrics, considers that *Arnica* 30 or 200 given to mother and child after parturition, sometimes with *Hypericum* in the same potency, is of service in helping mother and child to overcome the effects of trauma. The effects of *Arnica* in preventing puerperal sepsis as well as overcoming the effect of injury is well known to homoeopaths who have used it for this purpose for generations. Gross cerebral haemorrhage kills, and minor shock requires no treatment, but there is a considerable margin of cases in between in which, to say the least, it is possible that the shock and after effects of injury can be minimized. In head injury, if there are no specific indications for *Nat. sulph.*, *Cicuta* or *Nat. mur.* it is worthwhile to consider *Helleborus*, the symptomatology of which is closely similar to the after effects of head injury and which has clinically been found to be a near specific.

Homoeopathy as an Adjunct to Surgery

Arnica is the routine pre-operative treatment for children undergoing operation. Children having tonsils and adenoids removed are given *Arnica* 30 VI. 4-hourly and post-operatively *Rhus tox.* 30 VI. 4-hourly, or as required. *Staphisagria* is valuable when the operation wound is painful. Pain in a cut wound is a strong indication for *Staphisagria*. *Silica* is useful when wounds continue to discharge, especially when the pus is thin and serous. *Pyrogen* may be invaluable in any condition in which there is a septic focus and toxaemia or septicaemia, whether after tooth extraction or in peritonitis, skin or urinary infection. Toxaemia plus a discrepancy between pulse and temperature is a very reliable guide to *Pyrogen*. Other symptoms may be present, such as restlessness, because the part laid on feels sore (the bed feels hard) and offensive odours. An alternative to *Pyrogen* which appears to act well in

osteomyelitis or any condition, in which there is a profuse discharge from a wound, is to take a bead of pus with aseptic precautions and place it in distilled water or alcohol and have it potentized to the 30th potency. It is then given in the same way as any other remedy, say t.d.s. for 3 days followed by b.d. for 3 days. In some recent cases of osteomyelitis and otorrhoea with "threatened mastoid" this treatment appeared to be extremely helpful in addition to chemotherapy. The use of vaccines for such conditions is, of course, well known, a method which has perhaps been to some extent neglected since the advent of chemotherapy. Dr Charles Wheeler believed that the indication for an autogenous potency was a profuse discharge. The powerful effects of homoeopathy in severely toxic states is surprising. I have seen cases in which the white blood count was up as high as 50,000, even in older children, respond rapidly to *Pyrogen* alone. These are but a few of the ways in which homoeopathy can be of use in surgical cases.

Homoeopathy in the Children's Ward

Most children settle down quickly in the ward, but the very timid or the very tense, or desperately homesick child can usually be given a homoeopathic remedy which will restore him to happiness. *Phosphorus* is the most commonly indicated remedy for the very frightened child. The *Phosphorus* child is responsive, loves affection and gives it out. *Pulsatilla* loves affection but is not so responsive. *Calc.phos.* is another drug with sometimes a craving for affection. Responsiveness, fear and hyperactivity of the senses are a triad of symptoms found in the Phosphorus child. The child often shrinks away when you go to examine her or asks "What are you going to do to me?" *Phosphorus* 200 or 10m is the routine prescription for pre-operative anxiety. Sometimes *Pulsatilla* or *Ignatia* are required. The latter is occasionally invaluable when a very young child is separated from his parents and experiences acute grief because to him he has "lost" his parents forever. The terribly tense child settles down on *Dysentery co.* 200. *Capsicum* 200 is the first remedy to think of in homesickness. Sometimes a child reacts to the new situation of being in the ward by developing dirty habits and *Sulph.* 200 is almost always followed by a dramatic change

for the better. The ward Sister sometimes asks "Can we give this child *Sulphur*?" for obvious reasons.

Acute Manifestations of Psychosomatic Disease

In the treatment of a child suffering from an attack of asthma, acidosis or other acute psychosomatic disorder, the approach is similar to the treatment of injury or acute infection, to observe the pattern of individual reaction and match this with a remedy, known from its provings and/or therapeutic record to be capable of dealing with it. In asthma, if no unusual pattern is followed, such as relief from lying down (*Psorinum*) or relief when kneeling in the knee-elbow position (*Medorrhinum*) *Arsenicum iodatum* 6 VI 1-hourly or 2-hourly is a useful routine prescription. In attacks of cyclical vomiting or other manifestation of the periodic syndrome, *Dysentery co.* 30 or 200 VI. 2-hourly is useful in the mentally tense child who gets sick on excitement such as when preparing to go to a party, and for others *Senna* 6 VI. 2-hourly as recommended by Dr. Vannier of Paris. *Phosphorus* and *Lycopodium* are sometimes indicated in the attack. The treatment of these diseases is, however, essentially constitutional and this shall be discussed later on. Homoeopathy is of service in the treatment of many other acute conditions, such as rheumatic fever and acute nephritis, but sufficient has been said to suggest other applications of this thoroughly tested empirical therapeutic law. To sum up, the homoeopathic approach in acute diseases is to give the patient a drug, the effects of which in health closely correspond with the pattern of symptoms reflecting the patient's attempt to get well and thereby enhancing the natural tendency to recovery.

Chronic Disease

The place of homoeopathy in the treatment of chronic disease is best appreciated by an understanding of the homeopathic approach. There is some considerable divergence of opinion among homoeopathic physicians on this subject, including the interpretation of Hahnemann's theory of chronic disease. There is, however, general agreement on this point, that it is the patient who should be treated, rather than

directly the disease. ⁽⁴⁾ Constitutional treatment of chronic disease is not easy to explain, especially as there is no counterpart in modern medicine. In acute illness the patient's changes from normal are taken into account in prescribing. In chronic illness the patient's mental and physical make-up are studied and considered against a background of a theoretically average normal child (or adult, as the case may be). We note the salient features in which the child under consideration differs from this theoretical norm, and whether his disease were asthma or recurrent colds, or an anxiety state, the homoeopathic prescription is a drug which could cause a similar deviation from health when given to healthy people. Constitutional treatment is best given in between acute episodes.

The normal for children differs from age to age. For instance, destructive tendencies at the age of twelve years is outside the normal pattern of behaviour, whereas it is within the normal pattern at the age of four.

To use a drug to raise the general level of health, to make the patient more resistant to infection, or a less allergic subject or less liable to attacks of acidosis is foreign to modern medical thought. That is nevertheless the aim of constitutional treatment. Perhaps the word "constitutional" is not the best one, but it conveys the intended meaning that the patient's constitution can be altered. Change of environment can alter a patient for the better and it is not impossible that a drug may do it also. Genetic qualities probably cannot be altered, but environmental influences come into play immediately after conception. There is a large group of disorders in which genetic qualities may lie dormant till environmental influences come into play. Such conditions, including most psychosomatic diseases respond on the whole well to homeopathic treatment.

Pathology and Prognosis

In assessing the possible value of homoeopathy in any chronic condition, a knowledge of the pathological state is, of course, required, but this in itself may not enable an accurate prognosis to be made. For instance, vitamin-resistant ricketts can respond to homoeopathic treatment. That there is a constitutional factor in ricketts is

apparent because when ricketts was common, one child in an institution might develop the disease and others in the same environment and having the same diet did not. Without change of diet or extra vitamin D many of us have seen children suffering from ricketts lose their night sweats and improve remarkably—after a high potency of *Calc. carb.*, *Phosphorus*, *Medorrhinum*, or other indicated remedy. The very fact that vitamin-resistant ricketts exists is evidence that there is some other factor than the generally accepted pathology. On the other hand, idiopathic epilepsy does not as a rule seem to be influenced by homoeopathy, although there may be no obvious pathological changes. To take another example, bronchiectasis is incurable, but constitutional treatment can raise resistance to infection to such an extent that the patient's outlook is appreciably improved—something of obvious value when the disease is widespread. Such a child who had lobectomy performed, but was too ill for further surgery, used to get pneumonia with every cold. Constitutional treatment (with *Bacillinum* mainly) was followed by a gain in weight of a stone in eighteen months and colds could be easily thrown off. Homoeopathy has a potential therapeutic value whenever raising of resistance is a problem.

Prescribing in Chronic Disease

Having decided that homoeopathy can play a part in treatment the psychosomatic pattern of the patient is obtained by observation and questioning the parents. Hereditary tendencies and the personal history of illnesses are also considered in constitutional prescribing. It would be out of place to deal in detail with this large subject here. There is a remarkable resemblance between the effects of drugs and human personality which makes constitutional treatment possible. The like remedy is chosen because of its likeness to the patient. If the child is of what we term the *Pulsatilla* type, gentle, weepy, craving affection, changeable, having an aversion to fat and a strong desire for open air, *Pulsatilla* is the homoeopathic prescription no matter whether the disease be poor resistance to colds, an anxiety state or asthma. The *Arsenicum alb.* child is chilly, anxious and restless, may be naturally extremely tidy, putting his toys in neat rows, and worries especially about school or whenever anything is expected of him. He may complain of weakness which is out of proportion

to the nature of the disease and cannot be readily explained. In such a child *Arsenicum alb.* would be the prescription, no matter what the nature of the disease. These are simple examples of constitutional prescribing. This does not mean that other aspects of treatment, general management, rest, exercise, diet, etc., even at times the use of drugs for their orthodox purposes, are neglected. Dr. Tyler's Drug Pictures ⁽⁵⁾ is a useful guide to psychosomatic drug relationship. Dr. Borland's pamphlet on Children's Types is a valuable introduction to this aspect of prescribing in children. ⁽⁶⁾

Gestation

The period of gestation is regarded in homoeopathic practice as a time specially suitable for constitutional treatment of the mother. During pregnancy there may be an outcropping of constitutional symptoms not in evidence at other times. This includes craving for or aversion to articles of diet. Hahnemann recommended *Sulphur* to be given to the pregnant mother to beneficially influence adverse hereditary tendencies when there were no indications for anything else.

Infant Feeding

An infant's chance of survival is enhanced by breast feeding. In premature infants the chance of survival is doubled in breast fed as compared with the artificially fed. Homoeopathy has a great deal to offer in conjunction with other measures such as pre-natal preparation by pulling out the nipples advocated by Waller to enable the infant to bite beyond the tender tip. The use of *Calendula* compresses for tender nipples (a drachm of the tincture to a pint of water) sometimes enables breast feeding to be maintained when sore nipples could be a cause for weaning. *Phytolacca* 6 or higher is valuable when there is pain radiating from the nipple and there are many other local and constitutional remedies to abort breast abscess (such as *Bryonia*, *Belladonna* and *Pyrogen*) and other remedies to help effectively in maintaining lactation, including *Pulsatilla*, *Calc. carb.*, *Zincum*, *Ignatia* and many others. Here is a field for research, because if our clinical impressions are correct, homoeopathy could here also provide means for a major advance in paediatrics. In dealing with feeding mismanagement, having considered

the diet and feeding technique, *Carbo veg.* and *Lycopodium* are commonly indicated when there is excessive flatulence or flatus.

Case Taking in Infancy

Constitutional treatment of infants and very young children presents some problems in case-taking. Hints may be obtained from (1) the family history and consideration of the "hereditary nosodes", *Tuberculinum*, *Carcinosin*, *Medorrhinum*, *Lueticum* and *Psorinum*. Sometimes the infant bears a striking resemblance to one or other of the parents and a reliable hint can be obtained by studying the constitutional make-up of the parent: (2) Occasionally an emotional upset or acute illness in pregnancy is significant. *Influenzinum* or *Aconite* or other remedy may be suggested in this way—just occasionally. A boy of four suffering from cerebral diplegia resulting from a birth injury improved after receiving homoeopathic treatment, then appeared to come to a standstill. He could walk with some difficulty, but the chief trouble was that he was terribly frightened of falling and this prevented further progress. On retaking the history it was discovered that the mother had a severe fright during pregnancy. She said that she felt as if worms were wriggling all over her after the episode (a dog had jumped out on her suddenly and unexpectedly). The boy was given *Lac Caninum* 200 and the following day he began to walk without fear. (3) Birth injury suggested by the history, especially by slowness in initiating feeding calls to mind the head injury remedies {*Nat. sulph.*, *Nat. mur.*, *Cicuta* and *Helleborus*). Among the symptoms useful for prescribing purposes which may be obtained from a normally observant mother or nurse are (4) craving for affection *Puls.*, *Phos.*, *Calc. phos.* (5) Position in sleeping preferred or adopted. Knee-elbow position is found in *Medorrhinum*, *Carcinosin*, *Tuberculinum*, *Phosphorus*, *Calc. phos.*, *Lycopodium* and *Sepia*. (6) Wrinkling of forehead is of practical value, if present, in narrowing down the choice of remedies: (7) Desire for relatively warm or cold feeds, if bottle fed. Some infants refuse the feed if it is the least bit cool. Others wait till it is cool. If there is a definite preference of this sort, it is a reliable symptom. (8) Modalities: The time of day or night at which the infant is most "grizzly" e.g. 4 to 8 p.m. *Lycopodium*, etc. allowing for hunger and tiredness, may

be useful. Less often there may be obvious aggravation from downward movement, sensitivity to noise or other aspects of the environment. In babies the tendency to start at noise is of course normally well marked and to be outside the average pattern must be very marked. The infant must almost "jump out of its skin" at sudden noises if this symptom is to be taken for prescribing purposes. (9) Excessive flatulence or flatus after consideration of diet and feeding technique; (10) Perspiration if excessive, its distribution, nature and modalities, e.g. coming on during sleep and any other skin conditions. Such a scheme can be expanded.

Tonsils and Adenoids

A common problem in children is frequent colds often associated with chronically infected tonsils and adenoids, or the latter with sinusitis and otitis media. Perhaps the main indications for operation are evidence of a septic focus which, especially when flared up, has a serious effect on the child's health such as might be accompanied by loss of weight and/or persistent obstruction of the nose. In a great many cases the indication for operation may not be clear. Constitutional treatment is well worthwhile even if operation is done later, as it raises the general level of health. It is seldom that dramatic results are obtained in such cases if there is a septic focus, but when after operation improvement is not apparent, constitutional treatment is usually successful, and the impression is that if such treatment has been given before operation the after effects of surgery are better. There are many remedies which may be indicated in such cases. Kent advocated *Tuberculinum* for chronically infected tonsils and adenoids, and a strong indication for *Tub. bov.* is very large tonsillar or other cervical glands such as might make one think of tubercular cervical adenitis.

Constitutional Treatment of Psychosomatic Conditions

Purely spasmodic asthma responds relatively easily to treatment. (It is said that it should respond to psychotherapy alone.) When there is lung damage progress is slower and sometimes incomplete. When there is also eczema, there may be even more difficulty, but in all these conditions homoeopathy can play an effective part in treatment, a wide range of drugs may be required. *Medorrhinum* is a remedy which is not infrequently indicated in asthma when the child has fewer or no attacks when at the seaside and adopts the knee-elbow position in an attack. Homoeopathy is a really valuable therapeutic agent in asthma.

Epilepsy and petit mal are sometimes classified as psychosomatic disorders. As already mentioned these conditions do not respond as a rule well to homoeopathic treatment. The spasmodic remedies when indicated are worth special consideration. A case of petit mal in a child of eight diagnosed at a Children's Hospital to be the result of encephalitis accompanying whooping cough cleared up completely on *Drosera* 30, 200, 1*m.* but such is the exception rather than the rule. Over two years have elapsed since this prescription and there has been no recurrence.

Migraine responds well to constitutional treatment in adults and even more readily in children. It is not very common before puberty. Cyclical vomiting and other manifestations of the periodic syndrome which can be regarded as the equivalent of migraine respond well to homoeopathic treatment, both in an attack and in preventing recurrences. Treatment of the attack has been already mentioned. Commonly indicated constitutional remedies are *Phosphorus*, *Tuberculinum*, *Calc. phos.*, *Carcinosin* and *Dysentery co.*

Enuresis calls for a careful examination and a full investigation of psychological and environmental factors. The over-stern father or the big brother reading at night keeping the small brother awake until he falls into too deep a sleep, for example, must be dealt with. In addition to all other measures homoeopathy can play a very definite part in treatment which should be constitutional, but local applications of *Hypericum* ointment or lotion if there is local rawness, is sometimes useful. When *Tuberculinum* is indicated. *Bacillinum testium* is reputed to be the best preparation. When all other measures have been exhausted, as is sometimes the case.

Polyvalent Bowel Vaccine may help. The effect of treatment in a condition which tends to cure itself is difficult to assess.

Chronic Indigestion

Chronic indigestion in one form or another is a problem which takes up a considerable amount of the paediatrician's time in Outpatients. Constitutional treatment can play a very useful part in this condition. Here I should like to mention the adverse effects of aluminium cooking utensils in undermining the health of a minority of children. It has special importance in alimentary disorders and allergic diseases. Common symptoms are irritability,, touchiness about the least thing, slowness in eating accompanied by a sensation as if food lodged behind the sternum and itching of the eyes, especially the inner canthi. A specially important feature of aluminium is weakness of the rectal muscles so that straining is necessary for the evacuation of a stool of normal consistency. Dryness of mucous membranes and skin along with a tendency to cracking of the skin may also be present. A girl of eleven years of age came to the hospital with the complaint of diarrhoea alternating with constipation since the age of eighteen months. She had almost constant headaches and a leucorrhoeal discharge for six years. All the aluminium symptoms mentioned were present. The cooking utensils were replaced by enamelware and the girl given a 200th potency of *Alumina*. Within a month all symptoms including the leucorrhoea had disappeared and the irritable disposition vanished also. Incidentally, many migraine sufferers are extremely sensitive to aluminium, and it is advisable to make sure that the kettle is replaced as well as the pans.

Disorders of Personality

Stammering is, in my experience, difficult to treat by homoeopathy. Tics, anxiety states, and the nervous child respond well. *Silica* is the most commonly indicated remedy for children who cannot hold their own with the other children. Phosphorus probably comes next. The excessively obstinate child often responds to *Tub. bov.*

Backward and Mentally Defective Children

It is very well worthwhile to consider homoeopathic treatment in the case of backward children and the fairly high-grade mentally defective. Obviously the prognosis ultimately depends on the pathology. Mongols cannot be altered basically but constitutional treatment, apart from a minority who presumably have a primitive brain formation, enables the mongol to accept some education. Nearly all mongols benefit definitely, physically and mentally, by receiving constitutional homoeopathic treatment. *Medorrhinum* is a near specific, *Carcinosin*, *Sepia*, *Baryta carb.* and other remedies may be required.

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