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MONTREAL

Homœopathic Record

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF HOMŒOPATHY AND OF THE MONTREAL
HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

VOL. VIII. No. 6.

MONTREAL, JUNE, 1908.

25 CTS. A YEAR.

Montreal Homœopathic Record

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THE GREATEST DELUSION OF MODERN TIMES.

The agency of mind in transmuting primitive ideas and concepts into essential facts by means of such natural forces as experience and evolution, is about the most interesting thing in life. At the same time, it is a process much exposed to disease, because of the unbalanced relation and fluidity of the factors involved.

Most minds contain more belief, credulity, prejudice, fanatic energy, than critical capacity, judgment or perceptive power. Hence, errors and delusions are clung to, defended and propagated with enthusiasm worthy of a better cause.

Delusions are common in the history of mental evolution. The history of theology and medicine is full of them. Men have sacrificed their all and died for them.

The great promise of science is that it makes for sanity of judgment, putting us into possession of unwavering standards drawn from the study of laws and facts. Nowhere is positive certainty, the blessed reality of ascer-

tained truth, more needed or desired than in medicine and religion.

But there is a great deal of confusion as to what really constitutes science. Many delusions, fallacies and mushroom growths of the mind have masqueraded under the name of science and invoked the primitive qualities of mind — native credulity, belief, prejudice and enthusiasm—to support them.

Serum therapy, as represented by anti-toxin, is the most dangerous of delusions—dangerous because of the adventitious truth in the shape of the carbolic acid it contains, and because, also, in its very nature it can not be submitted to a genuine scientific test.

The only way to test the real therapeutic value of antitoxin would be to inject serum, free from antiseptics; and putrescible organic matter can not be introduced into the system without the protection of antiseptics.

On the other hand, however, the therapeutic value of the carbolic acid, per se, can be and has been, thoroughly tested, and found to be precisely that attributed to the serum. Hence, the scientific mind, free from prejudice, can not choose but reject the hypothesis, conjecture and surmises, which attempt to clothe antitoxin with the warrant of science by the simple device of borrowing the virtues of carbolic acid.

Many people have a mania for being regular, for going with the majority, which makes them unwilling to investigate a question upon its merits. This spirit is well enough so long as we tread the highway of well-established commonplaces, but when we branch off into an untried wilderness, then a

critical, challenging attitude, followed by individual experiments, is needed with every fresh discovery. Here authority ranks no higher than opinion—it serves only as introduction or recommendation.

Antitoxin is absolutely without the pale of science. It ranks with gross superstitions like the King's touch, exorcism for devils, the use of various animal excrements, etc., for therapeutic ends.

A doctor uses antitoxin in a few cases; his patients improve and get well. He forthwith declares antitoxin a wonderful remedy. He ignores the fact that another doctor has used plain carbolic acid in his diphtheria cases with equally good results. He goes on to quote statistics of favorable mortality, when he knows, if he stops to think of it, that they are the natural results of mild epidemics, represent cases of every kind of throat disease, and many who were injected merely for immunizing purposes.

Partisan feeling has played a most strenuous part in helping antitoxin along. It has drawn to its support all professors of bacteriology, the combined efforts of serum manufacturers and health boards to whom it has furnished political capital.

But the true scientific spirit of inquiry is at last awake in the mass of the profession and will follow antitoxin to its tomb.—Medical Brief.

The acknowledgment of the therapeutic value of carbolic acid in diphtheria, is at this late day a glowing tribute to the genius of Hahnemann and Homœopathy; also another illustration of the "regular" school's appropriation of century old Homœopathic knowledge and advocacy thereof under the guise of "new discoveries" in the healing art.

Nitro-glycerine has a wonderful effect in postpartum hemorrhage, says the Medical Summary.

AN EXPERIENCE WITH COFFEEA CRUDA.

BY JOHN HOWARD McVAY, M.D.,
TOLEDO, O.

For several years I believed that in order to produce sleep in people who were suffering from insomnia it was necessary to give drugs which affect that result by their physiological action. That the reverse is true is a fact which came to me through a heavy fog of scepticism.

Psychological force and hygienic measures play a very important part in most of those cases. It was with more confidence in the effect on the patient's imagination than loyalty to the laws of similars that led me to find some truth that was worth knowing.

I often met instances where it was necessary to give the patient something to "make her sleep." When those requests are made it quite as often seems necessary to withhold any measures or drugs which would produce depression or secondary effects. From a psychological standpoint a powder of Sac lac fills the bill exactly, but it does not always work. Neither does anything else always work. However, if a dynamic force can only be added to the psychological the sword is two-edged.

With this hope in view, I cast about for an inter-current remedy whose three-legged stool indications would fill the requirements on which to base the prescription.

The patients to which I refer were nervous creatures obviously. Nervous by temperament, nervous by mode of living. They were strung up to high tension—high pressure. The safety valve would not let go, while every external impression only acted as a riddle bow to keep the vibrations singing.

One such person was a young woman of about twenty-three, born of nervous parents, who lived a daily life of hurry and excitement. She consulted me because, she said, she had "flat-irons in her stomach and could not sleep." I found that the flat-irons took up their abode in her stomach only after she had been at some social function, or after some experience which to her was an excitement. She could not sleep because she "could not stop thinking." Every noise, every odor seemed exaggerated. During the search for symptoms I asked her if she could "hear cocks crowing and clocks striking in the distance?" While she naturally took that symptom as a joke, I found that all of her senses were over-active. A cup of coffee taken in the evening would keep her awake all night. She was apt to have a nervous cough at any time.

I gave her some powders of Coffea cruda 6x to take each night on retiring. They passed my fondest hopes in effectiveness. During the past three years she always has kept a supply on hand, and they do not fail her when she gets into one of those nervous states.

A lady of about sixty had gotten into a state of nervous prostration, largely because she had nothing to do except to fret and stew over everybody and everything at the hotel in which she lived. Along with her other troubles she became sleepless. Drinking coffee was like taking poison for her. Her mind was active constantly. It was full of imaginary fancies. Her pains seemed insupportable.

I gave her a powder of Coffea 6x, to be taken at night to help her to sleep, assuring her that it was nothing harmful, but would only quiet her nerves. In the morning she asked me if I was trying to kill her. She said that she at once felt the powder as a load in the pit of her stomach, and soon after a terrible dizziness and confusion in her head, especially at the back. She had been a patron of the allopathic school during most of her life, and I ascribed the symptoms which she recited as resulting from the powder to a vivid imagination.

However, the following night I gave Coffea 30x. In the morning she reported a restful night. That might have been purely a coincidence, but during the weeks which followed, as occasion demanded I gave powders of Coffea 30x, with always the same result. Several times also I went back to the 6x unknown to her, and invariably she complained of the dizziness and confusion following its use.—Med. Century.

An exclusive pork diet tends infallibly to pessimism. Beef, if persevered in for months, makes a man strong, energetic and audacious. A mutton diet, continued for any length of time, tends to melancholia, while veal eaters gradually lose energy and gaiety. The free use of eggs and milk tend to make women healthy and vivacious. Butter used in excess renders its users phlegmatic and lazy. Apples are excellent for brain workers, and everybody who has much intellectual work to do should eat them freely. Potatoes, on the contrary, render one dull, invidious and lazy, when eaten constantly and in excess. To preserve the memory, even to an advanced age, nothing is better than mustard.—Pearson's Weekly.

THE PERUNA HABIT.

In view of the assurance displayed by the full page, illustrated (?) advertisements appearing in our daily press, the following item is of interest:

"The Peruna habit and other forms of alcoholism should be looked into by its religious and newspaper sponsors. We are indebted to Mrs. Martha M. Allen, the energetic worker of the W. C. T. U., for having asked the Massachusetts State Board of Health to analyze Peruna. In an advertisement of this nostrum a statement was made that Peruna has among its friends many of the leading temperance workers in this country, who give it unstinted praise, and do not hesitate to endorse it by the use of the most extravagant language." The chemist found it contained 23.46 per cent. by weight of alcohol. We know of one patient, a young lady, who has been taking large doses of this compound, and who has found it so exhilarating that she has made herself a sort of walking advertisement for the enterprising manufacturers. She would have been indignant if asked to take a "cocktail" or a drink of whiskey, containing less alcohol than her prized and secret tippie. The Massachusetts Board found 15.33 per cent. of alcohol in Vinol; 16.77 per cent. in Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; 5.87 per cent. in Swamp Root. In Orangeine there were found acetanilid, caffeine and sodium bicarbonate. Concerning acetanilid, Dr. Abbott, secretary of the board, says that it should be taken with much caution, lest its frequent use degenerates into a confirmed habit. The proprietors of White Ribbon Remedy were not going to be trapped in one way—there was no alcohol in the drug, but only milk, sugar and ammonium chlorid. It is "as likely," adds Mrs. Allen, "to cure drunkenness as would a blast of east wind." We have entire sympathy with the efforts of the W. C. T. U., to expose the meanest hypocrisy of the worst of liquor sellers, the patent medicine manufacturers.—American Med."

Moral—If you want whiskey, go to dealers therein, and get a better article at less cost.

The superintendent of the public schools of Kokomo, Ind., reports that out of 1,500 boys 400 smoke cigarettes, and are consequently two years behind the non-smokers in their studies.

CALCAREA CARBONICA.

Frank Kraft, droll, epigrammatic and audacious, has pictured the Calcarea patient in *The Medical Century*, and we like his vivid portrait, yet cannot understand why he should say "I have tried for some time to picture to myself a grown-up man to be a Calcarea carbonica patient. But I have failed." We cannot believe that it is mainly women and children who fall within the special scope and influence of this remedy. How about the "rheumatisms" and "gastric disorders" in men, which we so often find indicate Calcarea, and not Rhus "nor Nux" nor Puls, after all. Dr. Kraft says: "The Calcarea carb. patient is a chronic sufferer; he is one of that unfortunate class who are endowed with a heritage of sin and corruption. There are but few of the most commonly known ailments dipping into heredity, like consumption, like cancer, scrofula, and the like, that do not, at some point along the line of degeneracy, find their similar in Calcarea. As children they are cold and clammy; illy nourished, usually bottle babies, and most frequently condensed milk bottle babies. They are slow in everything; slow in teething, in walking, in talking. They may be mamma's big, bouncing, fat and chubby girl, weighing thus and ever so much, but the blight of limelessness is over it all. Although fat and fluffy and unwieldy, it lacks life; its cheeks are never red; its eyes are dull and fishy, and often sore; it is prone to snuffles, to sore ears, to bowel troubles; in short, to all the effects of malnutrition. It is a poor feeder; that is, it eats ravenously at times, but its stomach lacks assimilative power. The little or the large abdomen is turned up like the bottom of a saucer, and filled with gases. It is not a crying baby, but rather a peevish, fretful child. When its teeth do come, they early show signs of decay and deformity. There is much sweat about the head and feet. This child has large eyes, large nose, large ears, large hands and feet, large fingers and large joints. Its skin is the color of pie crust. It is the direct opposite of the Phosphorus child, which is fine and refined, delicate, and as smooth as silk. The grown-up woman Calcarea patient has that cellary dank, damp basement-like odor about the hair that is very noticeable.

In connection with this resume of the Calcarea patient, the author narrates a most interesting case of a scrofulous child, which rather tends to prove how much homoeopathy can sometimes do towards removing the handicap placed by heredity upon those infantile wrecks.—O. S. Haines, M.D.

HINTS.

"The great power of sulphur in curing appropriate chronic diseases and the great variety of cases to which it is applicable are facts well known to practitioners of the homoeopathic art; not so well known is the fact that a single impression upon the system—a single dose may be, and often is, sufficient to effect as complete a cure in chronic disease, unaided by any extraneous hygienic means whatsoever."—Kling.

Conium 3 has cured "lumps in the female breasts."

If you are troubled with "uric acid" Lycopodium may be your remedy. Use the 30th potency.

Flatulence, constipation, cold extremities. Lycopodium.

Thirst before and during chill, but more during fever, is an indication for Natrum mur.

Gangrene and blood poisoning, Lachesis.

Fat people, full of phlegm, may find relief in Kali bichromicum.—Hom. Envoy.

THE OLD, OLD STORY.—"The delight with which tetanus antitoxin was welcomed has given way to bitter disappointment, for the reports now coming in are decidedly detrimental to the use of the serum. The mortality rate is proving as high or higher under its use than under the old methods of treatment."—Medical Summary.

I heard a story of an Irishman who visited an undertaker with the request that he get the coffin ready for Sullivan:

"Blessed glory!" exclaimed O'Rourke, the undertaker. "Ts poor Sullivan dead?"

"Not yet," replied Pat, "but the doctor says he will die to-night, and I think he knows what he gave him."



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THE COUNTRY DOCTOR.

I've heerd of doctors smart as lightnin'
 In the colleges and schools;
 I've seen 'em wearin' hats like stove-
 pipes
 An' a-actin' like dam' fools;
 But I never seen 'em mount to nuthin'
 When the crib was wet with tears
 Of'n anxious mother, bent an' weepin'
 Fer the babe that blessed her years.

Ye kin talk of science all you min' to,
 Of the progress science makes,
 Of how them city doodlet-doctors
 Do things, but I 'low it takes
 A little more than stovepipe headgear,
 Clo'es an' canes, an' hot air talk,
 To cure the fever ager, or to
 Make the rhu-ma-tick to walk.

I've seen 'em thumpin' on the chest like
 Monkeys on a hive o' bees,
 A-listnin' thro' some tube er other
 Like a preacher on his knees;
 I've heerd 'em talk of microbes nestin'
 In the apex of the lung,
 Of stickin' serum in the backbone,
 Seen 'em peekin' at the tongue;

But when our Sairy Ann was taken
 With a sharp pain in her chest,
 An' all run down with hackin' coughin',
 Breakin' of her sleep an' rest—
 I notice she warn't helped by science
 Of that hifalutin doc
 That tended her, more'n flannel wrap-
 pin's
 Or her neck tied with a sock.

An' so I've come to this conclusion—
 Jes' as hones' as could be—
 The good ol'-fashioned country doctor,
 He is good enough fer me!
 We may be wrong—but my ol' woman,
 She agrees with me in that
 Mos' all the science high-toned doctors
 Have, they carry in their hat.—Ex.

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NOTES.

Nurses De La Ronde and McLeay are away on their holidays, the former, owing to ill-health, will be absent for a month, and the latter the usual two weeks.

Miss E. Trench, "'02," was on special duty in the hospital during the latter part of May. On June 1st Miss Trench entered on her duties as acting Lady Superintendent during Miss Lorenz' absence in June and July.

Nurse G. Trench, who has been on probation for the past month, has been capped.

Nurse Warner, who graduated with the class of "'02," will leave the hospital to take up private work, at the end of this month.

Miss Richards, of London, Ont., has entered the Training School on probation.

Misses Ryan and Duval, "'99," are still in New York doing post graduate work. Miss Goring, "'99," is in Philadelphia, assistant superintendent of the Woman's Hospital.

Invitations have been received to the graduating exercises of the Berlin and Waterloo Hospital Training School class of 1903. This is the first class to graduate under the superintendency of Miss I. McLagan, of our "'99" class. The exercises were to be held June 9th, and the class motto reads:

"Trifles make perfection.
 But perfection is no trifle."

The result of the May examinations are: 3rd year—Nurse Routhier, 433 (possible 500), average 86½ per cent. Nurse Scott, 428, average 85½ per cent.

2nd year—Nurse Haines, 1005 (possible 1,200), average 84 per cent. Nurse Drysdale, 961, average 80 per cent. Nurse De La Ronde, 900, average 75 per cent. Nurse Brown, 861, average 72 per cent. An average of 75 per cent. is necessary to pass.

Professor Lorenz, referring to American nurses, said:—"Never till I came to this country have I known what a woman could be in the way of a nurse. In Austria they are women of any class, of any sort. They are women of little education. Here in America they are ladies—ladies. Never have I been so amazed. They are in aprons and caps, but they are educated, they are refined, they are charming. Never have I seen such a thing—never. You are so far ahead of us in this that I am lost in wonderment."

HOSPITAL NOTES.

THE NEW hardwood floors have been laid in the diet kitchens.

REMEMBER the Governors meeting on Thursday, June 25th. The half-yearly meeting.

WE ARE glad to welcome the visits of the Flower Mission Workers again this year.

YOU WILL probably note the omission of list of "subscriptions and cash donations," reason, there were none to report.

OUR FRIENDS who take such interest in charitable work and public patients, will have difficulty in figuring out how much public work we could do on our last month's receipts from subscriptions.

A LETTER has been received from Dr. Geo. B. Maxwell, formerly of our hospital staff and now of Chicopee Falls, Mass., inquiring about the welfare and working of the hospital. Dr. Maxwell had to spend a winter in Cuba in search of health and has not yet fully recovered from the complete prostration of his late serious illness.

DR. WM. McHARRIE, one of our former attending physicians, writes from Seattle, Wash., reporting a very flourishing state of affairs in his own line, and sending congratulations on the showing made by our hospital, which still holds a warm corner in his heart. The doctor is confining his practice to the specialty of nose and throat.

BEFORE you leave for your summer vacation drop in to see the hospital, note the changes made, and let us have any suggestions that occur to you leading to increasing the efficiency of the institution. Better to do this now than criticize afterwards.

THE FOLLOWING item appeared in the June 3rd issue of a local paper:— "Miss E. Rose Lorenz, lady superintendent of the Montreal Homoeopathic Hospital, sails by the Lake Champlain to-morrow on a two months' leave of absence for a trip to Europe. One of the objects of Miss Lorenz's visit will be the study of the principal private and smaller hospitals of Great Britain and the Continent, with the view of utilization of such of their methods at the Montreal Homoeopathic as may be new and desirable. Incidentally, Miss Lorenz will visit friends in England and Germany and enjoy a much-needed and well deserved rest from ordinary routine duties.

THE NEW linen closet on the ground floor, for the Woman's Auxilliary, is now completed, ready for inspection and reception of goods. It looks as if it would take a car load of stuff to fill it. Better lend a hand to help in the initial filling. Anything in the way of bed linen, towelling, blankets, cottons, etc., will be very acceptable in any quantity, great or small.

THE REGULAR monthly meeting of the committee of management was held May 25th. Owing to the day being a holiday, and the street car strike in force, the attendance was not as large as usual. After reading of minutes the routine business was transacted. Reports of progress were presented from sub-committees on the coal question, and the matter of the Callow legacy. The Woman's Auxilliary desired the opening of an account in the books of the hospital treasurer in order to show the value in money of goods, etc., purchased by the Auxilliary for the hospital; the matter was arranged for by the treasurer. A letter was read from the Lady Superintendent, thanking the committee for the holiday granted her.

The report of the Lady Superintendent showed a fairly active month for the season of year, there being 17 patients remaining in the hospital to date. Ten operations were performed, and a number of very sick cases were being cared for. The laundry help question was still giving considerable trouble; other domestic departments were running smoothly. Nurses vacations were in progress. The new house doctor arrived on May 15th and was proving a valuable acquisition to the staff. The Lady Superintendent was to sail for England on June 4th, and Miss E. Trench, who will have charge during the summer, was already on duty, familiarizing herself with details of the work. A new laundry stove was to be provided, and a new ice safe was being erected in the basement, work on the diet kitchens, which was suspended during the carpenters' strike, had not been resumed; the finishing touches required, did not interfere with the use of the kitchens.

The question of improving the light in the hospital basement was discussed, and action deferred to next meeting, when estimates of cost will be furnished. An electric call bell was ordered to be placed in the house doctor's room. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. The next meeting of the committee will be held on Monday, June 22nd.

IF YOU miss the "Hospital Wants" notice in this issue, don't imagine it is omitted for the same reason that the "Subscriptions and Cash Donations" notice is. Not at all. The "Wants" are with us always, but we thought you might like to send in money and let us purchase the articles needed. We hope we will not have to leave out two such important items from future issues. Kindly remember that the hospital has to be kept running while you are away on your vacation, and at a season of the year when revenue producing patients are not usually plentiful.

DONATIONS IN MAY.

The Lady Superintendent acknowledges with thanks the following:

Miss M. Robertson, 6 tumblers, old linen.

Misses Trench and Spence, 1 dozen cups, saucers, plates, 2 large plates, 1 bowl, 1 jug.

Mrs. A. H. Thomson, medicine vials.

A Friend, oranges for nurses.

Miss Dow, 3 doz. bunches rhubarb, 5 lbs. sugar.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF WOMAN'S AUXILIARY FROM APRIL 15th TO MAY 15th, 1903.

RECEIPTS.

April—	
Mrs. W. T. Rodden (fee)	\$ 2.00
Miss M. Robertson (fee)	2.00
Candy Table	1.00
Doll Table (bazaar)	1.00
May—	
Mrs. R. G. Reid (subs)	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$16.00

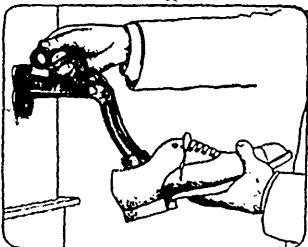
DISBURSEMENTS.

April:—	
Mrs. J. T. Hagar (for purchases)	\$25.00
Martel, Stewart Co., (account) ..	15.67
A. O. Galarneau (account)	3.95
	<hr/>
	\$44.62

HOSPITAL REPORT FOR MAY.

Number of patients in hospital	
May 1.....	17
Admitted—	
Private patients.....	8
Semi-private patients.....	3
Public patients.....	3
Maternity	4
	<hr/>
	40
Discharged—	
Private patients.....	10
Semi-private patients.....	11
Public patients.....	1
Maternity	2
	<hr/>
	24
Died	
	1
Operations	12
Number of days private nursing outside	7
Number of days private nursing in hospital	13
Remaining in hospital June 1.....	16
viz:—	
Private patients.....	4
Semi-private patients.....	5
Public patients.....	5
Maternity	2
	<hr/>
	16

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THE MAJORITY.

There is a widespread belief among the American people that the "majority" in the long run is sure to be in the right, but whether this idea is correct is a very open question. Take, for instance, the popular conviction that competition among railroads is something that makes for the public good. As a matter of fact there is nothing so hurtful to business or so fruitful of cases of absolute monopoly. The Standard Oil Company was built up in the days of the fiercest competition and because of it. When "cutting" begins the big shippers get the quiet rebate and the little ones go out of business. Given any railroad rate open to all, and there will be no monopolies built up.

The majority of doctors laugh at Homœopathy. They know nothing about it, refuse to investigate a system that has stood the test of a century, and which has cured tens of thousands of cases which they had given up as incurable.

To base your opinion on the majority or on the "consensus of opinion" is a very unsubstantial foundation. Look into matters for yourself. If your doctor says that Homœopathy is a delusion, remember that he knows nothing about it, or else he would not make so false a statement. Look into the question for yourself.—Hom. Envoy.

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 with a careful nurse, handled
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THE MONTREAL TOILET SUPPLY CO., Ltd.
 290 GUY ST., MONTREAL.

**LAUNDRY
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TELEPHONES:

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