

The GLEANER

(A Publication of the Lloyd Laboratory)

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DEVOTED TO THE THERAPY AND PHARMACY OF REMEDIAL
PLANTS AND THEIR PRODUCTS, BOTH NEW AND OLD



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THE GLEANER

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Number 39

EDITORIAL

A. F. STEPHENS, M.D.

In these days we hear much about medical science. But is medicine a science? I confess I am in doubt. Naming the three main professions, it seems to me that religion is a philosophy; medicine an art, made up of some facts and much fiction; while law may be, perhaps, a pseudo-science of social relations. However, let us discuss medicine in the light of present-day needs.

Whatever there is of scientific medicine is based mainly upon experimental discoveries of empiricists. The successful practice of medicine likewise depends mainly upon the empiricists' knowledge of remedial agents' influence on disease conditions, balanced by experienced judgment in the application of remedial measures for relief.

In this direction (curative) there is no room for antagonism bred by creeds or cults. The people need help, be it from old-school physicians, homeopathic, Eclectic, or others, intent on curing humanity's ills. But, wishing all seekers good, my responsibility is serving in the cause of Eclecticism.

For nearly a hundred years bed-side study has been an all-important feature of the teachings of Eclecticism. The Eclectic physician has gone on his way contentedly in this ideal, doing good, relieving the sick by means of processes and medicines made as nearly perfect as may be by pharmaceutical skill.

Modern specialization (an innovation in too many directions) has depleted the ranks of general practitioners of all schools. The specialist is but the "fragment" of a physician. The country to-day needs real physicians. "Scientific medicine," so called, seems not to make physicians. Rather would it be defined as making technicians, machine specialists, "mechanical doctors," attempting to fit their processes into this mechanical age.

Medical colleges are now too often not training their graduates to understand the materia medica in order to practice medicine, but yet they continue to confer the title M.D. The need, therefore, for real physicians has become urgent.

The country needs physicians grounded in the essentials of medical practice, physicians acquainted with remedies whose virtues have been established. For example, the real physician would not substitute aspirin for either gelsemium, aconite, bryonia, or euphrasia, nor use any of the bromides, hoping thereby to parallel the action of pulsatilla.

In order to furnish the information needed, there must, or should be, teaching institutions where such instruction may be obtained. As a consequence of the demand, the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, has decided to again enter the field as of old. aiming to the extent of its opportunity, to meet the growing demand for physicians who can practice medicine according to past teachings and present needs, and successfully meet present-day conditions.

But in it all there is no feeling of antagonism against any physician, school, or ideal. The country is big enough for all graduates of every college. The Eclectic desires, and purposes, only to teach and practice in his own field, wishing success to all others.

* * * * *

Reluctantly does THE GLEANER bid farewell to our associate, Professor B. H. Nellans, M.D., who has so ably answered the professional queries of the circle of GLEANER readers. But his usefulness is not lost. To his editorial service in the Eclectic Medical Journal has been added the management of the Eclectic Medical College, which institution has opened this, its fall session, with an exceptionally promising class of freshmen, to the limit of the capacity of the college.

Either of these responsibilities is sufficient for anyone man's care, but the two offices dovetail together in such a way as to make them practically one.

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The place of Dr. Nellans will, in THE GLEANER, be taken by Professor Cloyce Wilson, M.D., whose ripe experience with the American materia medica is second to that of few practitioners. The replies to correspondents in this number of THE GLEANER are evidences of the fact stated.

FROM THE LABORATORY STAFF

This is the beginning of the season that creates a special demand for remedial agents that serve in the direction of throat and lung ailments. Among the most serviceable may be named the compound devised by Professor Finley Ellingwood, M.D., for external application, which has been found to be of exceptional service in incipient pneumonia.

It may be argued that this field is not a part of the laboratory, and that to enter it is an inexcusable intrusion. This the writer will concede, so far as the ultra-professional phase of the subject is concerned, but he proposes to claim the right to speak by self-experience.

In his opinion, had it not been for Libradol, applied immediately on call over his entire chest by his physician, Dr. R. L. Thomas, this editorial could never have been written.

If Dr. Thomas had not had Libradol at his immediate command. if he had been compelled to wait the receipt of the preparation by mail or express, there would have been no use for it-with this writer.

Concede that there was a supportive course of treatment of great value, and yet Libradol-not whisky, not aspirin, not any of the coal-tar synthetics-was used, a fact that this writer considers, in his case, very fortunate.

And now he wonders if he did not almost commit a crime when, for so long a time, he held off Dr. Ellingwood and refused to make for him the compound now known, the country over, as "Libradol." Three letters did Dr. Ellingwood write, threatening him in the last to have another pharmacist try his hand. Then, for Dr. Ellingwood's use, a small batch was compounded in a mortar, the result being a note concerning its effect, published in Ellingwood's Therapeutist. Came then the demand from physicians the country over, without one line of advertising having been issued by our establishment.

The question might be asked, "Why did I resist making this preparation?" The answer is, because the mixing of the ingredients seemed so absurdly like guess-work poly-pharmacy.

But not one physician has advised that any ingredient be excised, and most assuredly no change in the preparation will be made during the life of the writer of this editorial.

To sum up: The expense of a four-ounce jar of Libradol is but a few cents. To anticipate the need of it is good judgment. To wait the call of the child, mother, or father who lies gasping is, in the opinion of this writer, near to criminality.

In this editorial I surely speak by authority, even though I do not use a long word nor an ultra-professional term, and in this editorial sometimes say "this writer" and in other places use the personal pronoun "I". JOHN URI LLOYD.

GLEANINGS AND COMMENTS PNEUMONIA

Question.-Please give suggestions for internal treatment of pneumonia.

Reply.-Space does not permit a complete analysis of the symptoms presented in pneumonia, but if one will carefully study the indications presented in each case and apply thereto the principles of Specific Medication, we have great confidence in the internal treatment of this disease. We will, however, name the remedies we find most frequently indicated and the chief conditions calling for their use.

Veratrum.- This is used, primarily, to lessen the amount of congestion in the lung tissues, and should not be given beyond the first stages of pneumonia. It has its greatest value in the first thirty-six hours of the disease, and is undoubtedly of great value in lessening the amount of congestion. Its indications are a high fever and a full, bounding pulse. The less solidification, the less severe the disease, and the sooner the crisis and the convalescence.

Once the solidification has occurred, Veratrum should not be used. Do not use it after the first thirty-six hours. Failure to observe this caution has brought unjust condemnation on this valuable remedy.

Gelsemium.-Patient has a high temperature, flushed face, bright eyes, contracted pupils, and is more or less restless.

Lobelia.- This is indicated in practically every case of pneumonia. It fits in very nicely in any prescription.

Bryonia and Asclepias.- These are very valuable remedies in pneumonia.

Remedies to be considered when the third stage of pneumonia arrives are Ammonium Chloride and Specific Medicines Ipecac, Sanguinaria, and occasionally Drosera.

It is to be remembered that pneumonia is a disease of the respiratory system, and not of the heart. Too many physicians err in directing all their attention to the heart and overstimulating this organ, with resultant failure. We do not mean to give the impression that the heart action must not be watched, but it is surprising to see how nicely the heart will behave if we center our attention upon the respiratory organs, treating these primarily, without meddling in the direction of the heart.

In connection with the above, we beg leave to present the following, by the late Dr. J. D. McCann, of Monticello, Indiana. This appeared in GLEANER 15, which is long since out of print, but it is of ever timely interest.

ECLECTIC TREATMENT OF PNEUMONIA

Be the patient young or old, my first thought is of Specific Medicines Asclepias and Bryonia. If the patient is a child I usually give Specific Medicine Aconite for fever. When the pulse is full and strong and the fever does not yield to Aconite, I do not hesitate to give Specific Medicine Veratrum. Asclepias soothes the inflamed surface and helps to loosen the exudation, so that it does not become tough and sticky. Bryonia helps to keep down pain and inflammation.

One of our anxious cares is that the lungs do not become solid from infiltration. Bryonia and Asclepias are charming remedies to prevent this condition. Where the pain is very severe I oftentimes add Specific Medicine Sticta to the Bryonia and Asclepias.

I have never become so ultra-scientific in my work that I cannot make use of a poultice if the case is extreme. Where resolution is slow, and my Libradol, etc., do not act kindly, I make free use of the flaxseed-meal poultice. I must not forget our old standard, Compound Emetic Powder, that our people still use when children and adults have cold on their lungs.

In one case where all my remedies seemed to fail and death seemed inevitable, Subculoyd Lobelia did the work. During the past winter I had an unusual number of lung-fever patients, all of whom had Asclepias and Bryonia. Two of them had twenty drops of Subculoyd Lobelia, hypodermically, after the family had given up hope of recovery. In one extreme case, a year ago, I left some of the Subculoyd Lobelia with the nurse, directing her to use it every four hours if collapse seemed imminent. Two or three doses were all that were required. To-day Subculoyd Lobelia has its permanent place in my medicine case. Let me insist, however, that the term "pneumonia" is a blanket, covering many varieties of cases. Selection of remedies applicable to each case must be carefully made. Study the indications presented and choose the remedy accordingly.

EXTRACTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE MEDICINAL QUALITIES OF PLANT PRODUCTS

Question.-What is the best method for extracting the active parts of Blue Cohosh (Caulophyllum) and Golden Seal? Also, what is the best method of preserving aqueous extracts of these drugs?

Reply.-A part of these inquiries we can satisfactorily answer, but it is impossible to answer other parts, as the complications of extraction are too great to attempt to put into a brief article for presentation in the pages of THE GLEANER.

In the first place, any aqueous extract of either Caulophyllum or Hydrastis will ferment unless it be preserved with alcohol or some other antiseptic material. We would use 18 per cent alcohol in preference to any other preservative.

As concerns processes of extracting the desirable qualities of either of these drugs we will state that in each there are many different qualities, which have to be studied separately. Separate and combined manipulative processes must be followed. Usually colloidal chemistry must be employed. It is impossible to describe, in an article such as this, processes that will combine all the desirable qualities of either Golden Seal or Caulophyllum. We make several different preparations from each of these drugs, no two of them being the same, and each being prescribed by physicians in accordance with the indications presented by the patient being treated.

More than fifty years ago, in Drugs and Medicines of North America, we made studies of these and other drugs. That on Caulophyllum comprised more than twenty pages, while the one on Hydrastis required more than one hundred pages. It will thus be seen that the subject is one of vast importance, not to be dealt with lightly in a few lines.

SUBCULOYD LOBELIA IN TUBERCULOSIS

(Contributed)

I am using Subculoyd Lobelia extensively in treatment of "colds," and have been very successful in this direction.

I wish to report its use in one case of tuberculosis of eight years' standing, in which no other treatment was employed but violet rays from a water-cooled lamp close to the skin, over the entire chest, back, and front. Before treatment patient weighed 86 pounds, and now weighs 102. She was recently examined by our county superintendent, who pronounces her "O. K.," but advises continuance of the lamp until warm weather, as an aid in building up the system. This case was of eight years' standing, with a sputum positive for t. b. bacilli. From the length of time elapsed I believe it to be a mild infection, as t. b. patients seldom survive for this length of time

I am not likely to "repeat," as I seldom treat this class of patient.

ECHINACEA AND INULA FOR "NIGHT SWEATS"

(Contributed)

I wish to report a case treated by me with Subculoyd Inula and Echinacea. Colored man, aged 36, taken sick with cold and fever and confined to his house. Lost weight, cough and expectoration abundant, night sweats so severe clothes had to be changed twice a night, weak, no appetite.

Examination showed cavity size of a silver dollar in upper lobe of right lung. I began giving him an injection of Inula and Echinacea every other day. After one month's treatment cough was relieved, night sweats stopped, appetite was good, and he had gained eight pounds in weight. He now has no pain, and examination shows no cavity. He has resumed his work. No other medicine than the Inula and Echinacea was given.

LIBRADOL IN CHRONIC BRONCHITIS

(Contributed)

My wife is a sufferer from chronic bronchitis, complicated with laryngitis. She is unable to use anything containing the least bit of pine products or mustard, and hesitated about using Libradol. Finally the constriction and pain in the region of the larynx was such that she was forced to do something, and I applied Libradol, as directed. Within ten minutes after the first application material relief was experienced, and for the rest of the night she did not have a single coughing spell. Since then improvement has been gradual, but steady. After her long siege of treatment with other remedies, we are very much pleased with the results obtained from Libradol.

LIBRADOL IN PRACTICE

(Contributed)

I wish to say that I am a satisfied user of Libradol, which I have used since its introduction, nearly thirty years ago. It is a remedy I could not be without.

LIBRADOL IN CONGESTION AND NEURITIS

(Contributed)

In congestion and neuritis Libradol has given me more satisfaction than anything else I have ever used.

Plant pharmaceuticals are of such excellence that no others can rightfully take their place.

ANEMIC CONDITION

Question.-My daughter, 17, is 5 feet 4 inches tall, and weighs 103 pounds. She graduated from high school last month, and now seems tired and listless all the time. Has little vitality and no appetite. Until the past year has always been very active and full of life and energy. Please suggest a tonic.

Reply.-We would suggest the following:

R _x Sp.Med.Echinacea	3i
Sp.Med.Berberis	3i
Lloyd's Iron	3ii
Water	℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture before meals and at bedtime.

PERNICIOUS ANEMIA

Question.-Have you any preparation that will in any way benefit pernicious anemia, especially the neurological symptoms and cord affections that usually follow this disease. I would greatly appreciate anything that promises any beneficial influence on spinal cord and nerves.

Reply.-We much regret that we can give no very helpful suggestions in this direction.

At the present time the use of liver extract seems to be an experimental method of combating this lamentable condition. If it does the patient no service, it helps the slaughterhouse owner to dispose of a by-product previously of little or no value.

DIABETES

Question.-I have a bad case of diabetes. Blood sugar test, 274; no albumin; specific gravity of urine 1,000 to 1,010 instead of 1,030 to 1,040. I have in mind to try Specific Medicines Kalmia and Lappa Officinalis. Niederkorn, Howe, and Ellingwood speak highly of these agents in diabetes. What do you think of powdered jambul seed in this condition?

Reply.-We have had no personal experience with any of the remedies mentioned in treatment of diabetes. Until the advent of Insulin, which we now employ as required, our method of treatment of this disease has been dietetic, with the use of pancreatic hormone or gland substances. In the particular case mentioned we would not worry about the specific gravity of the urine so long as the blood sugar is decreasing and there is an improvement in the patient's general condition. Here, as in other conditions, we would carefully read the indications and, depending upon the needs of the patient, make use of such agents as the Specific Medicines Nux Vomica, Chionanthus, Lloyd's Iron, Fragrant Sumac, and Eryngium. In this particular case we would suggest the use of Chionanthus.

CYSTITIS IN DIABETES

Question.-In cases of diabetes is there any remedy that will restore the function of the bladder without the use of the catheter?

Reply.-Some of the remedies most prominently indicated to relieve the urinary disorder incident to diabetes are Apis, Eryngium, Gelsemium, and Elaterium.

If there be a chronic cystitis, Gelsemium and Thuja are commended, the latter remedy being particularly indicated in the aged, where there is more or less weakness of the bladder and urinary sphincters. We believe a careful study of the remedies named will prove helpfully suggestive.

CHRONIC CYSTITIS WITH SEVERE PAIN

Question.-Patient, 70, had his prostate removed nearly two years ago. He is now greatly troubled with chronic cystitis. Urination is frequent, and is accompanied with pain so severe that it can scarcely be endured. He is also passing blood and pus. This patient is very active and robust.

Reply.-Some of the remedies to be considered in conditions such as described are Specific Medicines Elaterium, Thuja, Eryngium, Apis, and Hyoscyamus. These may be used in simple combinations or singly, as the case may require.

INTESTINAL CYST

Question.-Can you suggest any method for successfully removing cysts without operation? Last May I treated a lady about 70 years of age who had a solid growth nearly four inches long and three inches wide, that at that time appeared to be in the transverse colon. During a four-weeks' treatment the growth nearly disappeared. She discontinued treatment, but to-day she returned, stating that when she tried to eat any kind of solid food she vomited. She has lost much in weight, and the growth has increased until it extends over nearly the entire abdomen.

Reply.-We feel that no form of medication is capable of removing cysts. As we see it, the use of medicines is to correct wrongs of function, to assist nature. It would be too much to expect them to remove gross structure.

From the description given, we would be of opinion that there is some form of obstruction to the natural bowel peristalsis, and we would fear a stricture of some part of the bowel. This stricture might be mechanical or it might be malignant. The problem then is to ascertain the cause for the condition. Relief might be given, but cure could not be promised.

Medicines that might be indicated in this case are Nux Vomica and Dewees' Podophyllum Laxative, the latter for its action in aiding bowel elimination. The following is a suggestion:

R̄ Spec. Med. NuxVomica.....gtt.x
Podophyllum Laxative, Dewees'℥ j
Glyconda, q.s.,ad.....℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours until regular bowel action is established.

Let us repeat: We would not expect the removal or cure of this cyst, except in so far as the condition depends upon an overloaded bowel.

CARBUNCLES

Question.-Please give suggestions as to cause and treatment of carbuncles. It has been my opinion that a potent factor in causing them is an excess of starch and sugar in the diet. At present I am inclined to place the blame on milk and fats.

Reply.- This opinion is borne out by many of the leading authorities. Excessive carbohydrates, including sugars and starches, predispose the patient to boils and carbuncles. This leads us to the thought of diabetes. It is a matter of good practice to make frequent, thorough urinalyses to determine presence or absence of glycosuria. There are a few cases in which it is necessary to make a quantitative blood sugar test to show the presence of excessive sugar. Milk may, in some cases, be a contributory factor, fats might conceivably be. These are points in food allergy that we cannot here discuss for lack of space.

Diet is important in the treatment, especially as regards foods rich in the vitamins.

In medication we think naturally of Echinacea. As Professor Felter used to tell us, "Use Echinacea externally, internally, and eternally." We would use this as a dressing, either in the form of Echafolta Cream, or combining either Echafolta or Specific Medicine Echinacea with its bulk of water.

Internally, we would suggest the following:

R̄ Spec. Med. Echinacea ℥ss
Water, q.s.,ad ℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture after meals and at bedtime.

HOWE'S POMADE IN ECZEMA

Question (from a surgeon's assistant): I have a mild form of "surgical" eczema, caused by frequent contact with sterilizing solutions of formaldehyde. Have tried various forms of treatment, with little satisfaction. It seems to me that a physician with whom I was formerly associated used Howe's Pomade in such cases. Am I right?

Reply.-Howe's Pomade is an excellent preparation for dry, scaly forms of skin lesions where stimulation is needed. In the case described Echafolta Cream would be better, since the condition is one of chemical irritation, requiring soothing. Both preparations are very useful, but their field is slightly different. The Echafolta Cream should be employed after washing and drying the hands.

"NASAL COUGH"

Question.-I have a patient with a nasal cough. The only relief he seems to get is from an oil in the nasal passages, administered by a medicine dropper. Please suggest treatment.

Reply.- This patient probably has a pharyngeal inflammation, possibly combined with a nasal inflammation. For instillation into the nose we would advise as follows:

R̄ Zinc Sulphate gr.ii
Lloyd's Colorless Hydrastis ℥ i
Water,q.s.,ad ℥iv

M. Sig.: Use, locally, 15 drops three times daily.

For internal medication give

R̄ Sp. Med. Belladonna	gtt.v
Sp. Med. Phytolacca	3 i
Water, q.s., ad	℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

"RINGWORM"

Question.-After trying many other remedies for this most perplexing ailment, I tried Thuja Oil. While this seemed to have more effect than other remedies, the trouble still persists, in spots. Applied directly, full strength (after washing the parts with soap water), it causes a burning sensation for a short period. This subsides, and for about twenty-four hours there seems to be a sense of soreness throughout. When this treatment is too strenuous I use a mild ointment for a day or so. Itching persists somewhat, and if this could be controlled the remedy would be better. For this particular ailment phenol preparations appear to be the best, but when combined with other medicaments the odor is too unpleasant. Suggestions will be appreciated.

Reply.- This experience with Thuja Oil is indeed interesting. We would suggest the use of Specific Medicine Echinacea with Thuja as a supportive treatment, as Echinacea has a certain anesthetic effect, as follows:

R̄ Sp. Med. Thuja.	
Sp. Med. Echinacea.	
Glycerin, aa, q.s., ad	℥ iii

M. Ft. Sol.

Sig.: Apply locally.

The glycerin is added to the prescription to facilitate the making of a solution.

ASEPTAFOLTA FOR SORE MOUTH

Question.-I have had several cases where teeth have been extracted, followed by very sore gums and "canker sores." None of the ordinary remedies seem to help.

Reply.-Where, for any reason, the teeth cannot be operated upon, nothing seems to relieve aching gums, the soreness of gums after extraction of teeth, better than Aseptafolta, a combination of Aepsin, Echafolta, and Tincture of Myrrh. This, diluted with from six to eight times its bulk of water, may be held in the mouth for a time, or applied on cotton directly to the gums. It is also very effective as a gargle in ordinary cases of soreness of mouth or throat due to cold.

TO REMOVE TAPEWORM

Question.-Please suggest method for removing tapeworm.

Reply.-Our favorite method is by the use of Pelletierine tannate, four grains to the dose. This is a mixture of the alkaloids obtained from Pomegranate bark (*Punica granatum*). A decoction of the bark is also used. Press eight ounces of the coarsely pulverized bark into a vessel and add three pints of boiling water. Boil for ten minutes, strain, and boil until one pint of decoction is left. No supper excepting milk (as much as desired), should be allowed the night this is administered. Upon retiring, dose of Epsom salts (Magnesium Sulphate), one ounce in three ounces water, should be given. A light

breakfast may be allowed, but it is better to fast, and take four ounces of the decoction about an hour after rising. This is followed by another ounce of Magnesium Sulphate in four ounces of water.

When the bowels start to act, it should be into a vessel half filled with warm water, so that the worm may not be broken. If the "head" is expelled, it should be studied under a low-power microscope to determine whether the tentacles have also come away. Thus we know that the entire worm is expelled.

If unsuccessful, give remaining four ounces of decoction, and follow with dose of Castor Oil, two ounces.

Male Fern is also useful for removal of tapeworm, either in the form of the oleo-resin, or Specific Medicine Male Fern, an elegant preparation of the Eclectic School of Medicine.

DOSAGE OF SPECIFIC MEDICINE PHYTOLACCA

Question.-Kindly advise as to the dosage of Specific Medicine Phytolacca. On the label is the prescription:

R \bar{x} Specific Medicine Phytolacca. gtt. v to xx
Water..... $\bar{\zeta}$ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the dilution every three or four hours.

On the label of Corydalis I find the following, for use as an antisyphilitic:

R \bar{x} Specific Medicine Corydalis.
Specific Medicine Phytolacca. a a 3 ij
Specific Medicine Kalmia.....3 j
Water..... $\bar{\zeta}$ iij

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the dilution four times a day.

Another Question.-How about doubling the label dose of Specific Medicine Cactus?

Reply.-The dose of Specific Medicine Phytolacca varies with the condition of the patient for whom it is employed. Hence, when used as an antisyphilitic it is often used in combination with the remedies named on the label for Corydalis, and in the dosage there given. In chronic cases, such as a syphilitic case, the dosage is rather large. The label for Specific Medicine Phytolacca has reference to acute conditions, in which the remedy is used every hour or two. In such conditions the dosage and action of the remedy must be carefully supervised. Then, too, the age of the patient must be taken into consideration. Phytolacca is often employed in the treatment of children suffering from tonsillitis or some other acute glandular disturbance. For children the dose of Specific Medicine Phytolacca is gtt. xx in $\bar{\zeta}$ iv of water, teaspoonful doses of the mixture being given every hour.

The label for Specific Medicine Phytolacca is as follows:

Specific Medicine Phytolacca

Indications.-Pallid mucous membrane, sense of irritation and burning when epithelium is removed, vivid red exudation in patches, mammary fullness with pain.

Use.-In diphtheria and diseases of the throat; in inflammation of the mammae, and as a general alterative.

Dose: R \bar{x} Sp. Med. Phytolacca. gtt. v to xx
Water..... $\bar{\zeta}$ iv

Misc. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the dilution every three or four hours.

As regards Cactus. One who has learned the uses of Specific Medicine Cactus and studied carefully its therapeutic action, will readily recognize those cases in which the dosage may be increased. We would say that there are many cases in which the dose of Cactus, as given on the label, may be doubled.

SCIATICA

Question.-Please suggest treatment for the following case: A left-sided neuritis, extending from the sacro-iliac joint down the thigh posteriorly, down the leg and extending into the toes. The pain is constant. A number of remedies, such as Rhus Tox. and Hypericum, have been used without effect.

Reply.-From the description given, we would diagnose this case as sciatica. Some of the Specific Medicines here indicated are Bryonia, Apocynum, Gelsemium, and Macrotys.

The remedies mentioned, Rhus Tox. and Hypericum, are often used, and occasionally we find one that requires Piscidia, although this latter remedy is most frequently indicated in neuritis of a cervical type.

DOSAGE OF SUBCULOYD ECHINACEA

Question.-Kindly tell me proper dosage of Subculoyd Echinacea.
How often should the remedy be administered?

Reply.-No maximum dosage has been established for Subculoyd Echinacea. The usual dose, given hypodermically, is twenty minims. This may be repeated every four hours, choosing each time a different site for injection. Larger doses than this may be used by injecting in the gluteal region, or by injecting in two or more locations and massaging well with a gauze pad saturated in alcohol. For children the dose may be less (from five to ten minims), according to age. However, no toxic effects have been observed from its use, and practically the only danger we need fear would be that of large doses producing pressure and consequent sloughing of tissue. This may be minimized by the procedure of spreading the remedy well beneath the skin and massaging well into the subcutaneous tissues.

LANOLIN AS A VEHICLE

Question.-Is there anything known to you that will "cut" Lanolin, or is there any refined product made therefrom eliminating its greasy constituents that render it impractical to mix in with other drugs?

Reply.-In our opinion, it is impossible to put Lanolin into a form that will not be greasy or unctuous. It must be classed with greases, pure and simple, and the only way in which it can be brought into a form in which the grease will not be a disturber is to rub enough dry powder into it in such a way as to make this powder passably dry.

CONCERNING "HUSA"

An Inquiry From India

Question.-In an old medical work I find an account of a plant said to be native to the everglades of Florida, called "Husa," which is claimed to be a perfect antidote for snake bites, stings of insects, etc., and for the opium habit. Do you make any preparation of this plant?

Reply.- This inquiry is of much interest to us, as possibly we are now the only manufacturing pharmacists in America in a position to give authoritative information regarding the material mentioned. Under the name "Husa," it was introduced to American physicians as a substitute for morphine, and large quantities were purchased, in the hope of combating the morphine habit through its use.

Perhaps one of the first public demonstrations regarding a habit-forming evil was John Uri Lloyd's exposure (in 1899) of this "fake" remedy, which was shown by him to contain immense amounts of morphine. Furthermore, it was shown that no plant in Florida then known to botanists corresponded to the description given of the "Husa" plant by those distributing the compound, which was a conscienceless method of exploiting the unhappy morphine addicts. It is needless to say that, following this exposure, "Husa" at once disappeared from the market, and its very memory has long since been forgotten by all but a very few.

SPECIFIC MEDICINES GELSEMIUM AND DIGITALIS

Have They "Cumulative" Action?

Question.-For how long a time may the Specific Medicine Gelsemium be given to a patient with paralysis agitans without causing cumulative action? I am now giving a patient-a young man-five drops of this remedy in elixir of orange three times a day. Does this remedy have a cumulative effect like Digitalis?

Reply.-Specific Medicine Gelsemium has no cumulative effect, like the ordinary commercial preparations of Digitalis. Specific Medicine Digitalis is devoid of most of the toxic principles that render most of the Digitalis preparations cumulative in effect. It carries the stimulating and aromatic qualities of the drug, but where the toxic action of Digitalis is desired, we advise the use of some other preparation than the Specific Medicine. Specific Medicine Gelsemium may be given over a long period of time. The dosage may be increased gradually, until the desired effect of the remedy is obtained.

EMPYEMA

Question.-Have any of your remedies any specific action in empyema?

Reply.-It is doubtful if any agent has the power to influence, directly, the suppurative process in empyema. However, it is thought that Specific Medicines Baptisia and Echinacea do so. It is also claimed that Calcium Sulphide and Calcium Sulphate, in trituration, aid in stopping the process.

Proper breathing exercises are beneficial. We would then advise as follows:

R̄x Spec. Med. Echinacea.....℥iv

Spec. Med. Baptisia.....℥ii

Water or Glyconda, ad.....℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful every three hours.

Give also R̄x Calcium Sulphide in half-grain tablets,

q. s. Sig.: One tablet four times a day.

A general tonic treatment is advisable, and gradual chest expansion through deep breathing is recommended.

A KIND WORD FROM AN OLD PHYSICIAN

(Contributed)

As a heart remedy Specific Medicine Crataegus has never failed me in any instance. It is simply wonderful. I am no longer very active professionally, as I have just passed the eighty-second milestone in the journey of life. Though I no longer attempt long trips nor care to attend critical cases, I am still active. After some fifty years of active practice it is mighty hard to make a full stop.

GLEANERS NEEDED TO COMPLETE SETS

I need several numbers of THE GLEANER to fill out my set, and am willing to pay your price, or any price, for them if you can get them in any way for me. I find each day definite help and inspiration in THE GLEANER, and in times of stress they are first to be consulted. Ofttimes nothing more is needed.

Comment.-As we have many times stated, as long as it is possible for us to do so, back numbers of THE GLEANER are supplied without charge to our physician correspondents. But so great has been the demand for these that it is now impossible to supply the early numbers or, indeed, to go back more than a few numbers beyond the current issue. We therefore say again what we have said so many times before, "Keep every number of The Gleaner."

CHRONIC CONSTIPATION

Question.-Have you a preparation for constipation that you can commend for a man with high blood pressure and enlarged prostate gland? Patient is in the seventy-sixth year of his age. Urine thick and acid. Chronic constipation in bad form.

Reply.-In this case we would advise as follows:

1. Careful regulation of the diet. In this fruits will play a very important part.

2. Light exercise, coupled with the establishment of a regular habit for evacuation of the bowels.

3. Such medication as may be indicated. Among the remedies most frequently employed in the treatment of chronic constipation are Dewees' Podophyllum Laxative and Specific Medicines

Cascara, Hydrastis, and Nux Vomica, the two last-named remedies being employed to impart tone to a relaxed atonic or enfeebled gastro intestinal canal.

REMEDIES AFFECTING THE REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Question.-Have you any remedies that have a specific influence on the reproductive organs, promoting their secretory power and increasing their size? I have a case, male, twenty-seven years old, single, weight 137, height 5 feet 11 inches. His reproductive organs are wasting away, due to masturbation, started when a young lad and continued till about two years ago.

Reply.-In the case described we question if there are any of our remedies that will bring about improvement. In this particular case we are inclined to believe that organo-therapy will come nearer to producing the desired result than any medicines. We do not wish, however, to give the impression that there are no specific medicines having direct action upon the reproductive tract, whether in the male or female. On the contrary, we have many whose sphere of action covers this field. Among those most frequently employed are: Specific Medicines Ignatia, Senecio, Pulsatilla, Staphisagria, Viburnum, Gossypium, Helonias, and Phosphorus. A careful study of their indications as presented in the Dose Book will prove of great value in overcoming disturbances of the reproductive tract. We would also suggest a study of the chapters devoted to this subject in Dr. Niederkorn's Handy Reference Book, sent free on application to physicians.

TO INCREASE OUTPUT OF SOLIDS IN URINE

Question.-How may the output of solids in urine be increased?

Reply.-Apis is very helpful in this direction. This medicine increases the output of both solids and liquids in the urine. The use of a larger amount of water by the mouth will also be helpful and will increase the action of the apis. We would suggest the following:

R \bar{x} Sp. Med. Apis gtt. xxx
Water, q.s., ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

SALTY TASTE IN MOUTH

Question.-A patient complains of salty taste in mouth. What causes this, and how may it be corrected?

Reply.- This condition is often due to a neurosis, especially of the nerves controlling the production of saliva. One of the best remedies to correct this condition is Phytolacca, as in the following:

R \bar{x} Sp. Med. Phytolacca 3i
Water, q.s., ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture after each meal.

LEUCORRHEA

Question.-I have on hand a bad case of leucorrhoea. Any help you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

Reply.-In treating leucorrhoea we must bear in mind that the condition is nearly always a symptom of uterine, vaginal, tubal, or other disease. Many cases cannot be entirely relieved without proper attention to the underlying cause. Many times leucorrhoea is a symptom of lowered vitality. We would advise that treatment be both general and local. Many cases have been benefited by the following:

R \bar{x} Sp. Med. Pulsatilla 3 i
Sp. Med. Hydrastis 3 ss
Water, q.s., ad ℥ iij

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

Locally, use cleansing washes, such as Boric Acid, 3j to the pint of water, using half a gallon of this solution twice a day or oftener. All solutions should be as warm as can be borne comfortably. Local treatments should be applied after cleansing with the boric acid solution or normal salt solution. The following is a solution we often use:

R̄ Pulverized Alum	gr.xx
Zinc Sulphate	gr.x
Lloyd's Hydrastis (Colorless)	℥ iiss
Glycerin, q.s., ad	℥ iv.

M. Sig.: Apply as vaginal tampon once daily.

The local treatment must naturally be given by the physician.

The patient herself may use suppositories, inserting them at bedtime:

R̄ Hydrastine Hydrochloride	gr. i
Ichthyol	gtt.v
Ol. Theobromat, q. s.	
Ft. Suppos. No. j D. T. D. No. XII.	

CHRONIC CATARRHAL GALL BLADDER

Question.-I have a patient with chronic catarrhal gall bladder that I have been unable to relieve. Kindly give suggestions for treatment.

Reply.-In a case such as this we should first consider the presence or absence of stones. Many times the condition may require surgical intervention. However, much may be done with medication. The following has proved useful:

R̄ Sp. Med. Chionanthus	3 i
Podophyllum Laxative, Dewees'	℥ ss
Glyconda, q.s., ad	℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful an hour after meals and at bedtime.

If there be constipation, which usually occurs, direct the use, each morning on arising, of one to two tablespoonfuls of Sodium Sulphate in one-half glass hot water.

This method has, in many cases, given excellent results, but it must be adhered to for a long time. Other remedies, such as Nux Vomica, Iris, Trit. Podophyllin, Ipecac, and Leptandra should also be studied and applied, according to their several indications.

CHRONIC GONORRHEA WITH LOW OR HIGH SPECIFIC GRAVITY OF URINE

Question.-I have a case of chronic gonorrhoea with enlarged testicles, and another, a man about forty-five, whose articulation is so poor that at times one can scarcely understand what he is saying. What is the trouble, and how can it be met?

Reply.-It has been our experience, where cases present themselves in which there is a low specific gravity of the urine, but neither albumin nor sugar, that this is merely a part of a symptom-complex that is usually characterized by the patient being of a low ascetic type, tiring easily, worrying considerably, drinking too freely of fluids, and carrying a low blood pressure. Treatment, to be successful, must be directed toward the underlying cause. Diet must be carefully supervised and light calisthenic exercises prescribed. Medication should be directed toward building up the general strength.

On the contrary, where a high specific gravity is shown in the urine, with negative tests for albumin and sugar, the patients are usually overweight, do not drink enough fluids, and have a tendency to essential vascular hypertonation.

Every patient should lose some weight, should stop all stimulating drinks and drink more water, not with meals, but between meals. This is about all we can say in a general way, without having a more detailed description of the particular case involved.

Regarding the case of chronic gonorrhoea accompanied by an orchitis, we would advise that all local treatment be immediately stopped, the patient put to bed, the bowels kept freely open, giving plenty of fluid to flush out the urinary tract, and supporting the scrotum. Locally, Libradol would be indicated, while internally a prescription combining Specific Medicines Aconite, Pulsatilla, and Phytolacca should be given. More detailed information concerning the patient with an impediment in his speech must be given before a diagnosis can be made. It is important to remember that a disturbance in speech, especially as it relates to slowing of the speech, is one of the particular characteristics of brain fever. Should this be accompanied by violent headaches, attacks of vomiting, with word blindness and a choked disc, the diagnosis is not in doubt.

TREATMENT OF DROPSY

Question.-Please outline treatment for dropsy.

Reply.-Let us first call attention to the fact that dropsy is a symptom of heart, liver, or kidney disease, consequently the treatment will necessarily vary, depending upon the cause. However, the one drug that we use for removal of water from the tissues is Apocynum. In its perfected form, this drug does not cause the nausea it formerly did, but in susceptible individuals it may be given in capsules, from one to five drops of the Specific Medicine being administered three times a day. The usual prescription is:

R \bar{x} Sp. Med. Apocynum 3 i-3 Hi
Glyconda.
Water, aaq.s.,ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

Specific Medicine Echinacea may be added to this prescription in the same amount as Apocynum, to prevent nausea. In cases such as this, Echinacea is usually indicated.

APIS IN DROPSICAL CONDITIONS

Question.-How often may Specific Medicine Apis be given in the treatment of a dropsical condition?

Reply.- The treatment of a dropsical condition depends, primarily, upon the cause of this condition. If it be due to heart disease, cardiac remedies are indicated. If, however, the dropsy be the result of a liver or kidney affection, the remedy must be directed toward these organs.

The question is directed specifically to the action and use of Specific Medicine Apis. This remedy exerts its particular action upon the genito-urinary tract, the indications for its use being: "A scanty amount of urine, With some burning, and a rather frequent desire to urinate." The usual dose of Specific Medicine Apis is from five to ten drops to the four-ounce mixture, a teaspoonful of the dilution being given every two or three hours, to effect.

Other agents frequently administered in dropsical conditions resulting from cardio-renal diseases are: Specific Medicines Apocynum, Cactus, Crataegus, Digitalis, Elaterium, Eryngium, and Potassium Acetate. These may be given singly or in simple combination.

TACHYCARDIA

Question.-I have a case of tachycardia that does not yield to treatment. No cardiac lesion. Pulse was 140, dropped to 120 and down to 108, then back to 120. Please suggest treatment.

Reply.-From the description given this would seem to be a cardiac neurosis. What about the use of alcohol, tobacco, coffee, or other habits? Are there any signs of nervous instability?

As the remedy of choice, I would consider Specific Medicine Lobelia, the following prescription being illustrative:

R̄ Sp. Med. Lobelia gtt. xx to 3 i

Aq. Cinnamon, q.s. ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours, using the medicine just to the point of nausea.

For slowing the nervous heart, I feel that we have no better drug in the materia medica than Lobelia.

For improving innervation, Cactus should be used. It may be combined with Lobelia, which it seems to assist.

R̄ Sp. Med. Lobelia 3ss

Sp. Med. Cactus 3iss

Water, q.s. ,ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

We should bear in mind that, for certain individuals, an apparent tachycardia may be normal, but the variations in the pulse noted by you would apparently rule this out.

There are so many of our remedies that might here be applicable that we will not make further suggestions unless we receive a complete description of all symptoms. In that case we shall be glad to give further advice.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

Question.-I fear I have on my hands a case of encephalitis, commonly known as "sleeping sickness." As is well known, this disease is almost invariably wrongly diagnosed at the time of the first attack, as none of the symptoms characteristic of this disease are then apparent.

Patient is a woman, forty-two, unmarried, apparently in good health until the 25th of last August. She was then living with her parents on a farm in Ohio, and doing a considerable amount of hard work in the severe heat then prevailing in that section of the country. On the day she was stricken she had been doing her usual work out doors. On entering the house she felt so "queer" that she sat down, thinking it would wear off, but instead in a few minutes she was stricken with terribly severe pains in her head. A physician was at once called from the village three miles distant. His treatment gave no relief, and for nine days she suffered most intensely. Another physician was then called, whose treatment apparently gave relief.

She improved slowly, and was finally able to go about and do some work. However, a jar would cause pain in her head. At present she says her head feels numb and as though there were a band around the head squeezing it together. Her mind does not seem to be in any way affected, excepting that she says her memory is not as good as formerly. She has had sudden attacks of weakness, also night sweats, but has not been bothered with either for about a month.

During all the time of her illness until about a month ago she did not sleep well, but suddenly a change occurred. Now she is intensely sleepy, can hardly keep awake till seven in the evening, and sleeps like a log all night. Says she "could go to sleep standing up."

I would much like to have suggestions concerning treatment. What would you think of a course of Belladonna and Ergot to relieve this apparent coma or sleepy torpor?

Reply.-From the history of the case, the chronological order of the symptoms, and the chief complaint, we agree in the diagnosis of encephalitis lethargica. The suggestion as to the use of Belladonna and Ergot to relieve the apparent coma is excellent, and we know of no better remedies to employ. At the present time medical science has been unable to cope with this disease with much success.

We would suggest that the physician watch for beginning tremors, often a sequela in this disease. For this condition Stramonium is being frequently employed, being often given with hyoscine-hydrobromide.

INSOMNIA

Question.-I am much troubled with insomnia, due partly to tingling in the fore part of the feet and partly to cerebral hyperemia, "thinking all night long."

Reply.-Insomnia may be treated with Specific Medicine Passiflora, giving from five to fifteen drops of the remedy, well diluted with water, at bedtime, or following it by a cup of warm milk. Occasionally try Gelsemium, using thirty drops in three ounces of water, and taking teaspoonful doses of the mixture every three hours during the day.

HEMORRHAGES

Question.-Please advise as to best method for stopping hemorrhages, pulmonary and after extraction of teeth.

Reply.-For pulmonary hemorrhage we would suggest small doses of Specific Medicine Ipecac, given as follows:

R̄x Sp. Med. Ipecac gtt. x
Water ℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every hour until hemorrhage ceases.

After extraction of teeth the use of pressure is sometimes necessary. Pack the cavity with sterile gauze saturated with full strength Specific Medicine Geranium. This treatment has been found very satisfactory.

APOCYNUM ANDROSAEMIFOLIUM

Question.-I am sending you a plant much used in this section as a diuretic and "dropsy remedy." It grows from one to four feet in height, and has a pink flower about the size of the buckwheat flower. The stalk, when cut, exudes a milky fluid. Its common name here is "Wild Buckwheat."

Reply.- This plant was identified by Professor Aiken, of the Lloyd Library, as Apocynum Androsaemifolium, common names Bitter Root and Dogbane. This variety is of especial interest to us, as it was upon this species that the virtues of Apocynum were established in pioneer days. From Lloyd's History of the Vegetable Drugs of the U. S. Pharmacopeia, 1921, we extract the following:

"All editions of the U. S. P. excepting that of 1910 recognize Apocynum, but until 1880 it appears only in the Secondary List. The early editions, 1820, 1828, and 1830 (New York), give place only to Apocynum androsaemifolium, 'Dogbane,' a variety now so rare that it can scarcely be obtained, even as a museum specimen. The variety Apocynum cannabinum, Indian Hemp, is mentioned first in the Philadelphia edition of 1830. This edition, like all that follow, until 1870, carries both varieties. The 1880 edition limits Apocynum to the variety cannabinum, which it designates as Canadian Hemp. This limitation is followed in 1890, while the edition of 1900 admits 'Apocynum cannabinum and closely related species of Apocynum.' "

Apocynum is dropped entirely from the Pharmacopeias of 1910 and 1920. The label for Specific Medicine Apocynum is as follows:

Specific Medicine Apocynum Colloidum

Indications.-Edema of cellular tissue, especially swelling of the feet.

Use.-A prominent remedy in dropsy; a remedy in some cases of menorrhagia, and in rheumatism and neuralgia, when the indications named are present.

Dose: R̄x Sp. Med. Apocynum. gtt. x to 3 i

Water ℥iv

Misc. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the dilution every three hours.

ASTHENIA

Question.-What is the best remedy for that "all-gone" feeling without pain, and organs apparently functioning normally?

Reply.- The question is a very general one, and can be answered only in a general way. However, from the description given, one gets the impression that the case is one of asthenia. In this condition there is a lack of "pep" and an "all-gone" feeling, but one is apparently unable to place the finger on anyone organ as being the cause. Some of the remedies most frequently indicated in asthenia are Nux Vomica, Ignatia, Lloyd's Iron, Hydrastis, Pulsatilla, Avena, and Belladonna, used singly or in simple combination, as the case may require. A prescription frequently employed by us is as follows:

R̄ Specific Medicine Nux Vomica. gtt. x
Specific Medicine Belladonna. gtt. v
Lloyd's Iron.....3 iss
Water, q.s., ad.....℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture before meals and at bedtime.

Specific Medicines Pulsatilla or Hydrastis may replace the Belladonna in this prescription, should the condition call for these agents.

CHRONIC DIARRHEA

Question.-What remedy do you recommend for chronic diarrhea? Patient is a woman, sixty, married, with one child, thirty-two years of age. At its birth patient was lacerated and not repaired. There was prolapsus, for which she would never go to a specialist.

Has had chronic diarrhea since she was three years old. This has continued constantly, sometimes putting her in bed. When a child she had measles and pneumonia twice, and twice in recent years. Has had bronchitis and "flu" numbers of times. No stomach trouble, but because of the bowel trouble there are many things she cannot eat. She now has severe pains all through the abdomen, does not sleep well at night because of frequent movements of the bowels; is thin and wretched, but is of a cheery disposition and never gives up. Overexertion brings on an attack of hemorrhage, but she is very energetic and will not spare herself.

Reply.-Many cases of chronic diarrhea paralleling the one described have, in our hands, yielded to Specific Medicines Hydrastis, Krameria, and Geranium. These may be given in simple combination or administered alone in alternation.

If the patient's condition permits of the passing of the proctoscope, the local application of diluted Krameria will be a valuable adjunct to the internal treatment.

THE SPECIFIC MEDICINES IN PRACTICE

(Contributed)

I feel that I am getting better able to handle the Specific Medicines. It takes one some time to learn that the small dose of one of these concentrated remedies is as effective as the larger doses of the commercial Fluid Extracts or the crude drug.

THE SPECIFIC MEDICINES IN AUSTRALIA

(Contributed)

The custom officials here seem unable to understand the nature of these preparations, and turn a deaf ear to all protestations in regard to their specific nature, which prevents any possibility of their manufacture here. They class them as "tinctures" and impose very heavy duties. However, this is one of the things from which there is no escape, and I am pleased to have these medicines at any price.

MYOCARDITIS

Question.-About eight years ago I developed myocarditis, but with the help of Specific Medicine Crataegus was able to do heavy office work, giving X-ray treatments, as well as doing general office practice, with comparative ease. Two years ago I had three mild attacks of grippe within four months.

Since that time I have been having attacks of tachycardia arythmia that come and go with no apparent reason, sometimes continuing for six months at a time, and coming from seven to fifteen days apart. Twice there has been an intermission of six months between attacks. I am sixty-eight years of age, well preserved and strong. I rely on Crataegus, which has given me good service. Digitalis does not agree with me, but Cactus has helped. Have tried omitting the Crataegus for several days, but then have pains in my left chest. When at work my pulse runs usually between 70 and 80, lately between 80 and 90. Three weeks ago, during an attack, its rate was about 140 auricular flutter, with two to one ventricular response. Should I continue Crataegus or try some other remedy? Does it lose its effects from long-continued use? With my patients I rarely give any other remedy for any heart trouble.

Reply.-From the description given, this seems to be a case of myocardial disease, with some involvement of the conductive system. For such ailments Crataegus is an excellent remedy. We see no reason why it may not be continued indefinitely, in such dosage as may be desired. Where there is an auricular trouble Digitalis is clearly indicated, changing the flutter to a sibillation, and then down to the normal heart action. We would also suggest that a careful search be made for any possible focus of infection, and if so that it be removed if possible.

Cactus may well be combined with Crataegus, and both be given over long periods of time. But the more experience we have with heart affections, the more we are convinced that the best therapeutic agent is rest. Age must also be taken into consideration. While you may love your work, you must not indulge yourself in too strenuous or active work, such as you accomplished even a decade ago. So our advice is, Rest.

COUGH OF RED MEASLES

Question.-Please advise us what Specific Medicine to use for the cough of red measles.

Reply.- The remedy most frequently used for this condition is Drosera. This remedy works very effectively when used alone, but when conditions demand it may well be combined with other remedies indicated. Some of those most frequently used are Specific Medicines Belladonna, Lobelia, Ipecac, and Sanguinaria.

Following is the label for this remedy.

Specific Medicine Drosera

Indications.-Irritative and spasmodic cough.

Use.-For the cough of measles, whooping cough, and in bronchial irritation with above symptoms.

Dose: ℞ Sp. Med. Drosera. gtt. x to 3 ss

Water ℥ iv

Misc. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the dilution every four hours.

FURUNCULOSIS

Question.-Please suggest treatment for boils. At present I am taking calcium sulphide tablets and using locally an ointment containing salicylic acid.

Reply.- The treatment suggested by the late Professor Lyman Watkins, M.D., in GLEANER 4 (long since out of print), has been very successful in shortening this condition. It is as follows:

℞ Specific Medicine Echinacea. ℥ ss

Potassium Acetate.....℥ ss

Simple Elixir, q.s., ad.....℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture, taken in tumbler of water every three or four hours.

Also:

℞ Calcium sulphide in tablet (1/2 grain) No. xx.

Sig.: A tablet three times a day.

We would like, in this connection, to sound one note of warning. When there are areas of pus we are usually suspicious of diabetes. If there be even a faint trace of sugar, we would alternate the above prescription by Dr. Watkins by the use of the following:

R \times Specific Medicine Fragrant Sumach. 3 i
Glyconda, q.s., ad. 3 iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

We would also suggest the use of Sodium Sulphite in place of Calcium Sulphide, five grains in capsule form, three times a day, followed by one-half glass water. For local treatment, we have found the following dressing very useful:

R \times Specific Medicine Echinacea.
Bismuth Subnitrate, aa 3 j
Lanolin.
Vaselin, aa, q.s., ad 3j

M.: ft. Ungt.

Sig.: Apply twice daily, before and after lancing.

BLADDER TROUBLE

Question.-Please advise for bladder trouble, no pain, but where patient, forty-five years old, has to get up frequently at night.

Reply.-Try Fragrant Sumach as follows:

R \times Sp. Med. Fragrant Sumach. 3 i to 3 ii
Glyconda. 3 ii
Water, q.s., ad. 3 iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

This prescription, used persistently, should take care of this case.

ASTHMA

Question.-Please suggest treatment for asthma. Patient is a male, six feet tall, and in June weighed 200 pounds. Now weighs about 180. There is no organic trouble. There is a cough, which brings up a thick, stringy mucus. In severe attacks morphine seems to be the only thing that gives relief, but this nauseates and causes vomiting. As he eats almost nothing when he has asthma, this is very hard on him. There is no apparent cause unless it be nervousness, and he does not begin to be nervous until after the attacks come on.

Reply.-Asthma, as we understand it to-day, is a complex condition. The causes are so many that it is difficult to give relief unless we make a thorough study of each particular case. From the description given, we would think that it is due to a neurosis. In other words, something brings on the attacks, and there is an accompanying nervous upset. As is well known, various foods may cause a reaction. Emanations from plants (pollen) or from animals (dandruff), etc., may provoke the reaction, bringing on an asthmatic attack.

For the attacks we have found the following prescription to be useful:

R \times Spec. Med. Belladonna gtt.v
Spec. Med. Lobelia 3j
Glyconda, q.s., ad 3 iij

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every hour until relieved, then every four hours.

Between the attacks we would give:

R \times Spec. Med. Phytolacca 3j
Spec. Med. Fragrant Sumach 3 ij
Glyconda.
AquaDest., aa, q.s., ad 3 iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture an hour after each meal.

Some physicians who have made a thorough study of asthma treat it by a process known as desensitization. This requires, in each case, the discovery of the causative agent, and the administration of the offending body in minute doses until the tolerance of the patient is raised, and the asthmatic attacks cease. This method, however, is still more or less experimental.

ORANGES IN ASTHMA

(Contributed)

Several doctors are asking for help in old chronic cases, as for example, chronic asthma.

In all such cases forbid the eating of oranges, for an orange will often bring on an attack of asthma. The diet in asthma is all-important. In all these chronic cases we have acidosis. Fruits that contain both acids and sugar, and even jellies made from them, are very harmful to patients with asthma, and especially so where there is a liver complication, with constipation.

Give such patients plenty of raw food, such as celery, lettuce, grated carrots, and raw cabbage. Leave off bread for a few days, but eat with the above roast lamb or baked fish, and your patient will get better. Avoid greases and sweets. See that the teeth are in good condition and that the food is well masticated. The sleeping room should have plenty of air, and the patient should not sit in a room with a burning oil or gas light. If these suggestions are followed, the breathing will improve.

Comment.- The above comes to us from an old physician friend living in Florida, to whom many asthmatic patients come from the North during the winter months.

SCIATICA

Question.-I have a very stubborn case of sciatica. Have used internal remedies until my therapeutic list is simply exhausted, then resorted to electro-therapeutic and manipulative methods, with very little benefit. The case is complicated with pyorrhea of an advanced type. Elimination has been pushed to the limit.

Reply.-Sciatica is at times very slow in yielding to medication. Good elimination has been established, which is to be commended, as also the mechanical methods employed. All possible foci of infection should be removed, such as infected teeth or tonsils. Then we would suggest two prescriptions, as follows:

No .1 R̄ Sp. Med. Macrotys 3 i
Sp. Med. Apocynum 3i
Water, q.s., ad ℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every two hours, to effect. In our hands this prescription has, in some cases of sciatica, worked very well. Should this fail, try:

No .2 R̄ Sp. Med. Piscidia 3ii
Sp. Med. Bryonia gtt. x
Water, q.s., ad ℥iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every hour, to effect.

Piscidia is rapidly earning its place in my list of remedies for overcoming pain, especially where nerve structure is involved. Other remedies to be considered are: Rhus Tox., Gelsemium, Jaborandi, and Colchicum.

NEUROCIRCULATORY ASTHMA

Question.-What can you suggest for a case of neuro-circulatory Asthma?

Reply.-We would advise, first, that a careful search be made for foci of infection. such as teeth and tonsils, and, as far as possible, a removal of the cause. The diet should be very carefully selected, so that the patient may be made to take on weight. The majority of these patients are undernourished.

Next, we would consider the Specific Medicines Pulsatilla, Cactus, Nux Vomica, Echinacea, Belladonna. and Lloyd's Iron. For its value as a gastro-intestinal agent, Hydrastis should not be overlooked. Our favorite prescription in this type of cases carries Belladonna, Nux Vomica, and Lloyd's Iron.

SEXUAL IMPOTENCE

Question.-My attention has been attracted to Specific Medicine Pulsatilla. which I am considering using in the treatment of sexual impotence. Have you any remedy specifically recommended for this condition?

Reply.-Specific Medicine Pulsatilla has been used in this direction with some success. In former years Damiana was held in repute, but has not been so much employed of late. The causes for this condition being so varied, we feel that no one remedy can be recommended. As to there being an absolute specific remedy, there is none.

A careful study of Salix Nigra Aments would be profitable. If prostatic irritation be present, Staphisagria, Fragrant Sumach, and Saw Palmetto are all useful if given according to their specific indications. Phosphorus is often useful. The treatment must depend upon the cause of the weakness. Much, however, may be done through a careful study of the remedies above named and their application to sexual impotence.

NERVOUS, FLATULENT INDIGESTION

Question.-I have a very stubborn case of nervous, flatulent indigestion, associated with hyperchloridia. The case is not one of ulcer. Please suggest treatment.

Reply.-In this case we would suggest the following:

℞ Sp. Med. Nux Vomica gtt. x

Sp. Med. Hydrastis 3j

Glycyrrhiza, q.s., ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful every four hours.

In cases of flatulent indigestion we would especially recommend the study of Nux Vomica, Hydrastis, Chionanthus, Glycyrrhiza, and Dewees' Podophyllum Laxative.

DIOSCOREA IN UTERINE CRAMPS

(Contributed)

I have found Specific Medicine Dioscorea an immediate relief for uterine pains or cramps during the menstrual period. Given in doses of from fifteen to twenty drops two or three hours apart for about five doses, it has invariably insured a painless menstruation.

It neither increases nor decreases the amount of flow. I have found no mention in literature of this use of Dioscorea. Specific Medicines Dioscorea and Tiger Lily, in doses of about fifteen drops each, immediately control ovarian pain. I know of no other remedy, even morphine, that acts so quickly, and Dioscorea does not narcotize or have any bad after effect.

PHLEBITIS

Question.-Please suggest treatment for Phlebitis, Milk-Leg.

Reply.-In addition to rest, elevation and gentle pressure of bandage, we feel that Libradol applied to the affected veins is the best treatment. This dressing should be applied warm, and changed twice daily.

Internally, use the remedies indicated by venous stasis. The following is a prescription that we have found useful:

℞ Sp. Med. Aconite gtt. v

Sp. Med. Belladonna gtt. v

Sp. Med. Arnica 3 ss

Glycyrrhiza, q.s., ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture every four hours.

TREATMENT OF DIABETES MELLITUS AND SYPHILIS

Question.-Please outline treatment of Diabetes Mellitus and Syphilis with the Specific Medicines.

Reply.-Some of the Specific Medicines used in the treatment of Diabetes Mellitus are Chionanthus, Fragrant Sumach, Belladonna, Apis, Nux Vomica, and Ferri Acetas. The indications for these remedies should be carefully studied. The diet should of course be carefully supervised. Of late, Insulin has been employed in the treatment of this disease.

Following is a prescription for the treatment of chronic syphilis. It was a favorite with Dr. King, who used with it chloride of gold and sodium:

℞ Sp. Med. Corydalis.

Sp. Med. Phytolacca, aa ʒ ii

Sp. Med. Kalmia ʒ i

Water, q.s., ad ℥ iv

M. Sig.: A teaspoonful of the mixture four times a day.

Where Salvarsan (606) fails, we would commend this prescription to practicing physicians.