

Rudolph Frederick Rabe



Rudolph Frederick Rabe (1872-1952)

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1910 - Lathyrus

"Nov 6, 1903. Mrs. John B., age 42 years, very stout and flabby. On October 21, 1903, she was taken ill with muscular rheumatism of the neck and back. The house was damp, the cellar having been filled with rainwater for some days. She had fever, much pain and swelling of the glands of the neck. Under Bryonia 1,000 and later Rhus tox. cm. Sk., this was promptly relieved.

After the illness she noticed an increasing weakness of the knees which rapidly increased to an acute paralysis.

At present, both legs feel dead and as heavy as lead. Can stand only when supported by a person on either side to hold her up and is able to shuffle her feet along by keeping her knees straightened and the limbs rigid. As soon as she allows her knees to bend, even very slightly, she drops to the floor. In attempting to sit down she has to drop into the chair, unless let down by attendants. Stiffness of the calves < morning on walking and after sitting long, > if raised on her feet to shuffle about a bit. Desire to stretch the limbs. Little pain, occasionally a shooting pain down the thighs and legs. For some months has had a moist itching eruption on the scalp. Is now very costive, though before this illness her bowels were always regular. Her legs feel cold to the examining hand and the patellar reflex is abolished on either side. The inner surface of both legs has been anaesthetic, pin-pricks not felt in the least, but this is slightly > now.

The Rhus. not producing any further improvement, after some study I determined on Lathyrus sativus, of which I gave four powders in the 30th potency, at intervals of twelve hours. Shortly after I left on a trip to Chicago, and during my absence an old school physician was called in to verify or dispute what I had said. After examining the case he informed the patient that she would be fortunate if she recovered in a year's time and left a prescription. The latter was filled, but the mixture was so nauseating that the patient could take no more than two doses of it. On my return on November 12, I found a slight improvement. The patient was able to raise herself to a standing position but could not move from it unaided. Before receiving the remedy she had to be lifted from the chair. No further medicine was given. Has a crawling sensation on the right leg.

Nov. 19. Can now walk five or six steps unaided and alone. Cramps in the posterior surface of the thighs when turning from one side to the other in bed. Much stiffness in the legs.

Nov. 27. Cramps in thighs gone, but no increase in power in the knees. Lathyrus 30th every three hours until four doses have been taken.

Dec. 4. Slow improvement.

Dec. 11. Can now walk about the room unaided, rise and sit down without any difficulty. Knees feel very much stronger.

Dec. 18. Entirely well. Walks as well as ever and even runs a sewing machine.

June 1, 1904. Has been well ever since."

(R. F. Rabe, M.D., Lathyrus, The Medical Advance vol. 48 (1910), p. 282-282)

1912 - The Individualization of the Remedy

“If I may allow myself a short foreword in anticipation of the arnica-like knocks of our chairman, (a reference to the time-gavel which the chairman had enforced on preceding speakers,) it is to the effect that my paper is exceedingly brief and really plays a very small part in this symposium ; also that the reason for its presentation is the fact that there still exists in the minds of homeopathic physicians a great deal of confusion as to what rightly belongs to the prescriber. Those of us who are connected with teaching institutions and with hospitals have that fact sometimes very disagreeably thrust upon us, much to our discomfort. We are frequently criticized or charged with holding our cases too long, for holding them to a point where the surgeon must step in too late. Now, I think that right here, whilst there may be justice in that criticism at times, and undoubtedly has been in times gone by, there ought to be, to-day, a better understanding among us homeopathic physicians as to what I sometimes am pleased to call "a working rule of homeopathy". In other words, we by this time have grown large enough to know that this case is surgical, and that that one is medical ; that here the surgeon, and the surgeon alone, must be employed, and that there the case must be given absolutely to the prescriber. We ought to know these things, but we do not seem to, as clearly as we should. Now, of all the meetings of the state societies which I have attended, I am glad to say that this one, to-day, shows a greater tolerance for truth, for fact, a greater interest in homeopathy, than any at which I have been present, and I think that this sign is a most encouraging one and a decidedly healthful one for the advancement of real homeopathy and our school.

The subject properly refers to the patient to be prescribed for rather than to the remedy to be given, as all drugs which have been proven may be said to possess their own peculiar individualities. These enable us to distinguish one drug from another with comparative ease, but the task of differentiation is not so simple when it concerns the patient. Individualization is, of course, directly opposed to generalization. The latter as a method has little or no value to the careful homeopathic prescriber who rightly is opposed to the idea of specifics for diseases. There are no royal roads to cure ; no short cuts, however desirable these may seem to be. The diagnosis of disease yearly becomes more exact and its classification more refined. The work of the clinician is intimately bound up with that of the pathologist, whose discoveries are helping to clear away the doubts and uncertainties which have heretofore existed. One direct consequence of such research is the establishment of tangible concrete causes for many diseases, as well as the fact that their cure, or at least alleviation, lies along physical or mechanical lines. The homeopathic prescriber is in reality a therapeutic specialist, a materia medicist, and should be so regarded. His tools are the published pathogeneses of our vast materia medica, their clinical verifications, and the repertories to this immense storehouse of observed facts. It is to the discredit of the homeopathic profession to-day that those of its members who are expert in the knowledge and use of materia medica are not regarded and employed by the profession as specialists in this department.

An established diagnosis practically determines to whom or to which method of therapeutics a case is to be referred. It is idle in these days of scientific accomplishment to maintain that the law of similars is universal in its application. It is supreme in its sphere and, although its field of application is enormous, it nevertheless has its boundaries. These must receive intelligent recognition if the science of homeopathy is to advance. However, it lies without the province of this essay to enter into this phase of the question.

The diagnosis determined, the suitability of the case for homeopathic remedial measures conceded, the work of the prescriber begins. It is just here that the ability to individualize the case determines the master prescriber and distinguishes him from the average doctor who thinks he knows that Baptisia, for example, is *the* remedy for typhoid fever. In the science of homeopathy there is no "the remedy" for anything. As men and women differ widely in their physical

and mental traits and peculiarities, so will diseases differ when expressed in them. Even such diseases as small-pox or syphilis, which are fairly constant in their characteristics and outward manifestations, may vary widely in several patients, when regarded from the homeopathic therapeutic angle. To generalize concerning the treatment of these diseases is an error fatal to good homeopathic prescribing. It is possible to lay down general rules for the dietary, the hygienic management or the nursing of such diseases, but it is impossible to foretell which remedies may be required in the course of their treatment. Hence the absolute necessity for careful individualization if the promptest cures are to be made. Without the power to individualize his cases, the homeopathic physician is as a ship which has lost her rudder. He may bring his case to safety, but usually in spite rather than as a result of his medicinal administrations. The question uppermost in the mind of the prescriber should always be "The symptoms of which remedy do the symptoms of this patient resemble?" The individuality of the remedy must correspond to that of the patient. In consideration of this individuality, those symptoms which HAHNEMANN called peculiar, uncommon and characteristic are the ones to be regarded as of supreme value. They correspond to the "generals" and "particulars" as designated by KENT, whose repertory is of such inestimable value to the prescriber to-day. By "general" KENT means a symptom predicated of the patient himself or, in other words, peculiar to the patient as distinguished from any other patient. By "particular" he means any symptom which is predicated of an organ or part or, in other words, a common symptom. Generals and particulars may be of different degrees of importance or rank. For example; the symptom of nausea is common or particular, referred of course to the stomach. It is a symptom of low rank, produced by many drugs. But "nausea aggravated by the odor of cooking", is a particular symptom of high rank and therefore, by virtue of this qualification, is of great value in prescribing. Particular symptoms are usually included by the generals and are always subordinate to them. Of a patient who is constitutionally sensitive to the slightest cold air or draft, this aggravation from cold becomes a strong general and rules the entire case.

Where we find those symptoms present we at once jump to a few remedies like digitalis, colchicum, sepia, arsenic, and narrow down the choice very rapidly, and can readily make our selection.

In the radium provings, for instance, it was found that the patient likes cold, open air and feels better in it, though, locally, his particular symptoms of aching pains and arthritic troubles are relieved by the application of heat or sitting near a stove. We must differentiate these points. By so doing, we fit a remedy to the patient, as it were, when the general state, such as the amelioration from cold, of the remedy, corresponds to a similar general state of the patient. Where this general amelioration of the remedy, does not correspond to that of the patient, the remedy will not be truly homeopathic to his condition, even though numerous particular or common symptoms appear to agree. The strong general symptoms always rule a case and hence take precedence in repertory analysis. To fit a remedy whose general state is always ameliorated by cold, even though the particular symptoms may appear to agree, is to miss the curative remedy entirely. Thus Arsenicum and Sulphur both have burning pains as particular symptoms, but Arsenicum wants heat, while Sulphur prefers cold. Hence the one remedy cannot take the place of the other, although the particular or common symptoms agree.

Attention to these few fundamental facts mean individualization of patient and remedy - scientific prescribing - therefore the avoidance of loose haphazard methods and the lifting of homeopathy above the plane of mere symptom-matching. Let homeopathy be correctly applied in her own sphere in which she is supreme and there will be less heard of the failure of the indicated remedy. The indicated remedy never fails, but its sponsor frequently does. So let us, who have to do with the materia medica, strive to perfect ourselves in the noble art of its application."

(Rudolph F. Rabe, M. D., New York City, The Individualization of the Remedy, Transactions of the Medical Homoeopathic Society of the State of New York, vol. 47 (1912), p. 272-275)

1918 - Pulsatilla, Radium and Rhus Tox: A Comparison of Modalities

“Two of these remedies, pulsatilla and rhus tox. are polychrests very familiar to us all. The third, radium, or radium bromide rather, has been made so by the most excellent proving of Dr. William H. Dieffenbach. As with all new remedies, radium has been lauded to the skies and for a time was regarded as an almost certain specific, especially for cancerous diseases. By some of our enterprising pharmacists it has been advertised as the remedy for arteriosclerosis, rheumatism, gout, etc., but it is gradually sinking to its proper level, and, as might have been expected, its truly curative results are obtained when it is homeopathically indicated, only. Thus the law of similars is vindicated and proves itself to be at the foundation of all curative work.

Palliation with radium, as employed by those expert in its use, is another matter entirely, often successful, no doubt always justifiable and legitimate, but from the standpoint of homeopathic prescribing of no importance in the presentation of this dissertation. No disparagement of the work of those physicians and surgeons who resort to tangible amounts of radium in their work is of course intended. But suffice it to say that such therapy lies without the domain of pure homeopathy.

The writer has employed radium in the form of radium emanation water, as prepared by the Radium Company, Limited, in their Saubermann apparatus. Naturally this work has been more or less experimental and empirical; hence, the results have been variable. In those cases which presented some symptoms, at least, similar to those brought out in Dieffenbach's proving, good results were obtained, whereas in those in which the remedy was given on supposed general indications, no curative effects followed. even though the emanation water was faithfully persisted in. In all of these cases 5,000 maché units were employed in doses of 100 c. c., four times daily. It may be of interest to know that the feeling of general well-being was increased in all of these cases, the elimination of urine was increased, the action of the bowels was improved, and sleep was promoted.

In one case of aggravated chronic psoriasis absolutely no effect, good or bad, was observed and it may be said that in this case doses of potentized radium bromide, 30x and 60x, were equally ineffective. But the best homeopathic prescribing, of which the writer at least is capable, has also failed to help, much less cure this case.

In the case of a senior medical student who presented an arthritis of the right knee of four weeks' duration, a single dose of radium bromide 10M Skinner cured. The symptoms in this case were as follows: Cracking sensation in joint on bending the knee. Pain worse on commencing to move, relieved by or after continued motion, but not felt when at rest. Pain worse preceding a change in the weather. Heat applied to the knee relieves somewhat and is agreeable. In general the patient feels better in the open air. A very slight return of the symptoms some weeks later was immediately relieved by a second dose of the remedy in the same potency and there has been no trouble since.

Radium resembles in many respects pulsatilla, rhus tox. and, we might add, sulphur. The grand characteristic of pulsatilla is its general amelioration in the open air. This modality is found in radium, and although present to some extent in rhus tox., we find that the latter is worse from cold air, becoming cold and particularly from wet, cold air.

Pulsatilla has a general amelioration from continued motion, as in walking. Rhus tox. has this symptom also, though in less degree, soon tiring, however, from the exertion. Radium has this same modality, viz., general amelioration from continued motion, especially walking.

Both pulsatilla and rhus tox. have an aggravation on commencing motion, but improve as motion is continued in. Stiffness and lameness of joints more particularly is spoken of, and in radium we find the same condition expressed. Pulsatilla has amelioration from cold applications to suffering or affected parts; this is not so in rhus tox., which prefers heat to be applied. Radium agrees in this symptom with rhus tox. and we find that a warm bath is agreeable to the radium patient, although the proving of radium brought out this contradictory symptom, "very severe pains in knee-joints, very deep as if in the joints and muscles, better from cold, better from exercise." This symptom was produced by the 12x potency.

In the experience of the essayist, however, relief from local heat is more characteristic of radium.

Tiredness, fatigue, lassitude, we find in all three of these remedies.

Rhus tox. is worse before storm, or in wet weather in general. This is only slightly so in pulsatilla and has not been noted in the proving at least, of radium.

All three remedies produce burning of the skin, pulsatilla somewhat so, rhus tox. more so, and radium markedly so, having the symptom "burning sensation and itching all over body" produced by the 12x potency; also the symptom "entire body feels as if afire." Sulphur here is suggested, also arsenicum album. Metallic taste in the mouth is strongly marked in rhus tox., also found in radium and but slightly in pulsatilla.

These few comparisons between these three remedies have been many times noted by the writer, who has come to look upon them as reliable. In conclusion, the following instructive radium case of articular rheumatism may be profitably cited: In the latter part of August, 1914, Dr. R. S. Seibert of Trenton, N. J., came to the writer in a badly crippled condition. He had been ill since July, for several weeks, in fact, and had been treated with numerous remedies, including nux vomica, kali sulphuricum, pulsatilla and rhus tox. He had also had sodium salicylate, as well as other non-homeopathic remedies, but all without relief. His early personal and family history appeared to be negative, but for five or six years past he had had an annual attack of tonsillitis, which no doubt was the source of the rheumatic infection. Taking the symptoms revealed shifting pains and stiffness located in the various joints. As a rule the pain was better from rest and worse from motion, particularly aggravated on commencing to move, but somewhat ameliorated on continued motion. Wakes up at 3 a. m. with pain which then continues until about 4 p. m. From 4 until 8 p. m. is his most comfortable time. (Reverse of lycopodium).

Normally the patient is warm blooded and perspires freely and is fond of cool open air. Is of constipated habit. At night he sweats on the head and nape of neck during sleep. Is restless and irritable. He had been taking epsom salts every other night and other cathartics. Dull frontal headaches when bowels do not move. On August 25, 1914, he was given six doses of radium bromide 30x at twelve hour intervals.

The response was immediate with rapid improvement and early freedom from trouble. Since that time there have been no attacks of rheumatism, though occasional isolated pains have been noted. A few doses of radium bromide 60x have since been taken. The doctor now is on military duty with his regiment. in New Jersey and looks and feels well. He has experienced a few painful spots in his feet, but nothing severe has been felt.

Discussion.

Dr. R. C. Wolcott, State University, Columbus, Ohio: The importance of this study of modalities is that it gets on the inside of the remedy; we get to the individual, the man behind his symptoms. The patient says, "I am better - or worse - before a storm." We all have our little leg-aches, back-aches, toe-aches, and we find these aches in hundreds of our remedies, but

you can sift out very few that have aggravation before rain. The patient may say, "I feel better outdoors." Most of us feel better outdoors than in a stuffy room, for that matter, yet that is a significant point with a definite remedy. I think all of us who have been in general practice recognize the value of picking out these certain symptoms - "I am better at this time, I am worse at this time, or I am entirely rid of my trouble if I do certain things." If we could collect the ameliorations, the aggravations, the modalities of the different remedies as we study them, we would be better prescribers, basing our selection of remedy on the differentiating symptoms. The importance of the work of which we have heard from Dr. Rabe this morning cannot be overestimated.

Dr. D. E. S. Coleman, New York, N. Y.: I wish to compliment Dr. Rabe on his excellent paper and his clear-cut way of presenting the characteristic symptoms of those important remedies. I have verified the symptoms of radium in rheumatic cases, prescribing on the symptoms that Dr. Rabe has so ably presented and which it is need less to repeat. There is one phase of radium which is of interest to our school and that is in relation to potency. To begin with, I am not exclusively a high potency man, I rarely use above the 30th and I use some remedies in the tincture. In my practice I use all potencies, and a man who does not use all potencies fails to get out of homeopathy all that is in homeopathy. In connection with radium, it is interesting to note that it is the remedy which has proven scientifically that there is medicine in the 30th potency. Radiographs have been made with the 60th decimal trituration, proving conclusively that in this potency there is actual medicine, a scientific demonstration.

Dr. George Royal, Des Moines, Iowa: Just one word as to a suggestion made by Dr. Rabe. Two years ago, when we were talking about the comparison of radium and rhus tox., I made this differentiation which I have verified in three cases since. "The symptomatology, as so vividly put forth, being exactly the same," I said, "how am I to select? I think as we all know that rhus affects more especially the sheath of the muscles, the elective affinity of the drug would help us out." I said at that time, "It seems to me that we have demonstrated that the cartilaginous part of the joint and the bony part is the tissue for which radium bromide has a more marked elective affinity, while rhus has an especial affinity for the sheath of the muscles."

Dr. A. Leight Monroe, Miama, Fla.: I cannot resist the opportunity to thank the Doctor for the paper. We have so little on the subject of radium that any contribution we can get is unusually appreciated. I believe it is going to be a great therapeutic agent; it seems to me, that, especially in rheumatic conditions, there is no limit that we know to what it may do.

In regard to rheumatism, I do not see how Dr. Rabe can see enough similarity in pulsatilla and rhus to make it necessary to compare them. My list of remedies for acute rheumatic conditions is short and it is your list - aconite, arnica, gelsemium, bryonia and rhus, with probably cimicifuga. The comparison is generally easy.

I spoke a little while ago of the great keynote of aconite being tension. The great keynote of gelsemium is relaxation. Another thing that I think is clinically useful is the differentiation - I suppose most of us know it - between bryonia and rhus in rheumatic conditions. You know rhus affects the tendons and the aponeurosis; bryonia affects the belly of the muscle. That is the reason rhus conditions are better from motion and those of bryonia worse.

Dr. Rabe, (closing): Some very interesting cures with radium in potency were made by the late Dr. Zwetch of Gowanda, New York, and these will be found reported in the N. Y. State Society Transactions. There are, of course, other men who have made interesting contributions to the literature on this subject.

There is just one thing that I would like to say in conclusion. Many of us have had experience with patients who have gone abroad at least, before the war - and have drunk the waters of the

various European baths. Many of these patients, we know, have come home almost rejuvenated; others, we know, go abroad and get no benefit at all. Now the waters of Kreuznach, Germany, I know something about. They depend largely, or were supposed to depend largely for their food effects, particularly in tubercular and skin diseases, eczematous cases, upon the iodine which the water contains. But of late years it has been discovered that radium is an element in this water and that it is particularly strong in the inhalation baths maintained at these various resorts. It may be that much of the beneficial result obtained from these waters was really derived from radium. The point is that it would be well for us, if possible, to prove these various waters in our usual homeopathic way. It is said that when these waters are bottled and shipped to this country and are drunk here the effects are not the same, the curative effects do not follow; and the alleged reason for that is the fact that such waters when bottled, no matter how strongly radiant they may be, lose that radiance very soon after bottling, so that when they come to this side and are used they are no longer really radiant in any sense. Therefore, it would really seem that the effects of these waters do depend upon the amount of radium that they contain and that they must be drunk almost immediately after issuing from the springs.”

(R. F. Rabe, M. D., New York City, Pulsatilla, Radium and Rhus Tox: A Comparison of Modalities, The Journal of the American Institute of Homoeopathy vol. 10 (1918), p. 434-438. Bureau of Materia Medica, A. I. H., 1917.)

1920 - Psorinum

"The ancient doctrine of signatures pointed the way to many remedies which, through greater knowledge of their powers and action, have today become our important agents in the alleviation and cure of disease. Similarly, in the dim and distant past, many bizarre animals as well as disease products, were used, crudely, to be sure, in medicine. These have since been experimented with, refined and proved, until now we speak of and use animal or organic extracts, vaccines, nosodes, etc. The term "nosode" belongs to homoeopathy alone and designates a class of remedies the wonderful capabilities of which are known strangely enough, to but few physicians. It is indeed a severe indictment of our own school that so few homoeopathic physicians are acquainted with the proper use of the nosodes. This neglect to study and use these remedies curtails to a serious degree the ability of our physicians to cure many deeply seated chronic states which are not amenable to the ordinary remedies.

Hahnemann, in his "Chronic diseases," speaks of the three miasms, psora, syphilis and sycosis. Not all homoeopaths have subscribed to his theories regarding chronic diseases and the term "miasm" is, of course, obsolete and misleading at the present time. Those, however, who have seriously studied the question of the origin and nature of chronic disease are struck by the fact that modern pathological and bacteriological investigation does not, as it were, offer the real explanation. Pathology photographs, as it were, the end products of disease, bacteriology identifies the accompanying microscopic agents which play an unwelcome part; but which do not, in the last analysis, explain the fundamental reasons and causes. The personal equation of the patient himself, always remains to be considered and it is this factor in relation to which, the nosodic remedies such as Psorinum, are to be regarded. It matters little whether we speak of miasm or of a diathesis, of psora, or scrofula, of tuberculosis or of hypothyroidism, so long as we keep in mind a sick individual who has so radically departed from the physiological normal that his constant state is one of slowly progressing ill health. Regarded in this light, the names psora, syphilis and sycosis will come to have a far greater significance for us as physicians seeking to cure, than is now apt to be the case and will lead us out of the fog of idle speculation into the clear atmosphere of logical reasoning, for we must at all times remember, that as homoeopathic prescribers, we are treating patients rather than diseases.

So, then, Psorinum, the subject of our brief essay, ought to have a peculiar interest for us, based upon its unusual individuality, for remedies possess these in the same degree as patients; were this not so, we could not speak of a law of similars. Perhaps the greatest characteristic of the Psorinum patient is his extreme sensitiveness to cold, which accompanies and modifies, as it were, all his symptoms. The Psorinum patient bundles up when others hardly feel the cold at all. Without this sensitiveness the remedy is never indicated and by this fact alone can be easily differentiated from such remedies as Pulsatilla, Lycopodium and Sulphur, which crave and love the cold open air. Psorinum takes cold easily, with all that this implies; the patient who needs Psorinum is persistently afflicted with frequently recurring attacks of catarrhal inflammation of his mucous membranes. Hence he suffers from chronic nasal catarrh, pharyngitis, bronchitis, etc. His tonsils become enlarged, with chronic inflammation of their crypts, the latter filled with an offensive cheesy deposit, offensive indeed, both in odor as well as in taste. Recurrent attacks of suppurative tonsillitis are common and many a patient who is pestered by annual winter visitations of quinsy will be permanently cured of these attacks by this nosode. Aggravation of Psorinum complaints in the cold or winter months, is, therefore, a great characteristic of this remedy and offensiveness of its secretions, excretions or discharges is another, equally important. In fact, Psorinum tends to uncleanliness, slovenliness in appearance and dress. Oily, dingy, dirty skin is characteristic. Arsenicum album and Psorinum both dislike cold; but the former is a dainty, particular patient, exacting as to the details of his appearance; the latter is philosophically careless in this respect, paying little or no attention to such niceties. Both remedies, however, are very valuable in the treatment of skin diseases. The Psorinum suffers from a variety of skin eruptions, chiefly eczematous in character and marked by offensiveness. Itching and burning are bitterly complained of and these distressing sensations are invariably worse at night, from the heat of the bed. This modality, viz., aggravation of the skin symptoms from the warmth of the bed, is an apparent contradiction to the general aggravation from cold. It is, however, apparent only and relates to the skin alone, in this respect resembling Sulphur; but easily differentiated by the fact that the latter loves cold and feels better in it.

Psorinum eruptions are vesicular and pustular in character, rhagades and crusts are common, always worse in winter and oozing in an offensive moisture. This is suggestive of Graphites, with which remedy Psorinum must at all times be compared. In the diathetic skin diseases of children this remedy will often be inquired.

Diarrhoeas which are obstinate, with dark, almost black, copious, watery stools of an extremely offensive odor, which permeates everything, are very characteristic of this remedy; also constipation with difficulty in expelling even a soft stool. The latter symptom reminds us of Alumina.

Chronic recurrent headaches which alternate with other manifestations, notably those of the skin, are amenable to Psorinum when the general characteristics are present and when the sufferer experiences marked hunger during the attack. Hunger at night is also typical, recalling both Lycopodium and Phosphorus, which have a similar symptom. Eating often relieves the Psorinum headache and going without a meal will bring one on.

Chronic otorrhoeas, extremely offensive in odor, not yielding to the usual remedies, will often be cured by this great nosode.

The treatment of hay-fever and of its various manifestations presents much difficulty, as all physicians will admit. For homoeopathic prescribers such remedies as Arsenicum iodatum, Sanguinaria canadensis, Sabadilla, Succinic acid, Wyethia, etc., have done wonders in modifying the actual attack and bringing it to a speedy termination. The radical cure of recurrent aestivo-autumnal catarrh is, however, quite another story. Here the deeply acting constitutional remedies will be required and among these, the nosode Psorinum occupies a place of

prominence. Asthmatic breathing, which, curiously enough, is relieved by lying down, with the arms abducted, will demand Psorinum, though possibly Laurocerasus, which has a similar symptom, may be required. The symptom is certainly an unusual one, since most asthmatics, whether cardiac or bronchial, must sit up for relief. Psorinum, however, does the reverse and, in addition, requires a warm atmosphere as well.

Numerous remedies are useful in conditions where reaction is poor, feeble and slow. Carbo vegetabilis, Capsicum, Sulphur, are three notable examples. Psorinum is a fourth, particularly after exhausting acute diseases, when the patient despairs of ever regaining his health, is depressed, discouraged and believes that everything he may undertake is bound to end in failure. Slight effort causes him to sweat profusely; night sweats are likewise common.

In short, the possibilities of usefulness of this interesting remedy are large indeed and Psorinum should always come to mind in obstinate chronic disorders especially, when its great characteristics, as above briefly recited, are in evidence. Without these, the remedy need not be thought of, as it cannot accomplish anything unless these individualizing factors are present. To know the Psorinum patient is to know Psorinum and in homoeopathy knowledge of disease and knowledge of remedies are interchangeable. We cannot know too much of either." (R. F. Rabe, M. D., New York, Psorinum, The Homoeopathic Recorder vol. 35 (1920), p. 529-532. Read before the annual meeting of The Southern Homoeopathic Medical Association, Richmond, Va., November 18, 1920.)