

# HOMEOPATHY

## SAMUEL HAHNEMANN M.D.

Samuel Hahnemann MD [1755–1843] was a German physician who was appalled at the results of conventional medical care and refused to prescribe the drugs and bleeding treatments used by physicians of his day.

Hahnemann attacked the extreme medical practices of the day, advocating instead, good public hygiene, improved housing conditions, better nutrition, fresh air, and exercise.<sup>1</sup>

He believed that if a healthy person was given enough of a substance to produce symptoms similar to the symptoms of a particular illness, then by diluting that substance to minute doses and ingesting, the body would be stimulated to heal itself of the illness. This “presumed” phenomenon he called *homeopathy*.

Homeopathy is a discipline of therapy for illness that Hahnemann initiated and which subsequently became popular in his day. The use of this therapy has continued ever since. It is a method of treatment utilizing an extremely diluted preparation of a “mother tincture” of a plant, mineral or animal substance. It began in Germany and spread throughout Europe, being brought to the US in the early 1800’s. It became very popular and was commonly practiced until the ascendancy of scientific medicine. After the turn of the century and in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there were 22 medical schools following this type of discipline in the US. There were more than 100 hospitals, and over 1000 pharmacies devoted to homeopathic medicine.<sup>2</sup> It was commonly practiced in the United States since people were able to purchase a home kit of homeopathy remedies and treat themselves. I have in my library a home medical text dated 1918, which has instructions and guidelines for homeopathy treatments for home use. However, by the mid 1900’s, the use of homeopathy had almost died out in the US. Yet, in the last 40 years there has been a rapid resurgence of the practice among various practitioners.

Hahnemann once took a large dose of Peruvian bark (quinine) while he was healthy and said that he developed symptoms similar to malaria. He thereafter initiated a theory that if very small doses of quinine were administered, standard doses would not be necessary for treatment of malaria. To understand how Hahnemann arrived at this conclusion we need to understand his concept of disease.

In his text, *Organon*, paragraph 11., he defines the bodily condition we call “disease.” First, he states that all disease manifests *subjective* and *objective* symptoms. This situation, in turn, is caused by *vital energy* being in an “untuned spirit-like *dynamis*”—unbalanced universal energy status. He reasoned that if disease was a result of spirit-like energy being “out of tune,” then it could only be corrected by “retuning” through the action of another spirit. He further reasoned that if the “spirit” of animal, plant, or mineral when given in large doses would create similar symptoms as the disease under consideration then this same spirit taken in a very minute quantity would correct the untuned—unbalanced spirit causing the disease, thereby, effecting a cure.

*Symptoms*, is the key to understanding his reasoning. When disease was present, symptoms were present. To eliminate the symptoms would, he believed, cure the malady. These correcting spirits were found by trial and error. A mineral or plant substance would be taken by a healthy individual in sufficient quantity—dose to bring on symptoms. If those symptoms were similar to symptoms peculiar to a disease then this substance under test would be considered the “remedy” for that particular disease. This whole concept was built upon belief in the *spirit dynamis* of vital energy—life force. Every plant, mineral, or animal was considered to have its specific spirit dynamis.

The cause of and correction of disease was considered to be by action of “spirit.” Biochemical, infectious agents, lack of or insufficient nutrients, toxic substance ingested causing biochemical interaction, etc., were not understood and had no part in the thinking of Hahnemann. Today, individuals accepting homeopathic therapy as being legitimate therapy are thinking in the terms of correcting a disorder by a biochemical adjustment or interaction; however, there is no scientific evidence to substantiate the remedying claims of homeopathic substances.

It is very important to understand Hahnemann’s *world view* in order to comprehend the rationale of his conclusions regarding disease, its cause, and treatment. Understanding his belief in man’s origin will help to clarify why he formed certain conclusions.

First Hahnemann was a follower of the powerful spiritist and medium Emanuel Swedenborg. Those familiar with the occultic philosophy and theology of Swedenborg, such as his blending of the world of nature and the occult, can recognize the parallels in Hahnemann’s thinking. Andrew Weil received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School, is a research associate in Ethnopharmacology at Harvard, and is somewhat sympathetic with aspects of new age medicine. He observes that Hahnemann was “steeped in the mysticism of Emanuel Swedenborg.”<sup>3</sup>

Hahnemann was also a Freemason, and as the authors have demonstrated elsewhere, the study of Freemasonry presents an excellent opportunity for delving into mysticism and the occult.<sup>4</sup>

Hahnemann was also an admirer of the occultists Paracelsus and Mesmer.<sup>5</sup>

He was a believer in the concept of animal magnetism, which is the same power behind psychic healing. In his *Organon* (text book on homeopathy) Hahnemann confessed similarities between the practice of homeopathy and mesmerism. He wrote:

I find it yet necessary to allude here to animal magnetism, as it is termed, or rather Mesmerism... It is a marvelous, priceless gift of God...by means of which the strong will of a well intentioned person upon a sick one by contact and even without this and even at some distance, can bring the vital energy of the healthy mesmerizer endowed with this power into another person dynamically...The above mentioned methods of practicing Mesmerism depend upon an influx of more or less vital force into the patient...<sup>6</sup>

Hahnemann was also influenced by animism and Eastern religion. In discussing Hahnemann's writings and that of other leading homeopaths, Dr. H. J. Bopp, in his book, *Homeopathy*, comments:

As a matter of fact the vocabulary is esoteric and the ideas are impregnated with oriental philosophies like Hinduism. The predominant strain of pantheism would place God everywhere, in each man, each animal, plant, flower, cell, even in homeopathic medicine.<sup>7</sup>

Dr. Samuel D. Pfeifer, in his book, *Healing at Any Price*, mentions the influence of Eastern thinking upon Hahnemann by quoting a biographer who reveals that

...he is strongly attracted to the East. Confucius is his ideal.<sup>8</sup>

Dr. Pfeifer continues:

On Confucius, Hahnemann himself writes in a letter:

This is where you can read divine wisdom, without (*e.g.*, Christian) miracle –myths and superstition. I regard it as an important sign of our times that Confucius is now available for us to read. Soon I will embrace him in the kingdom of blissful spirits, the benefactor of humanity, who has shown us the straight path to wisdom and to God, already six hundred sixty years before [650 B.C.] the archenthusiast.<sup>8,9</sup> (*Jesus Christ, Divine Son of God*).

His reverence for Eastern thought was the fundamental philosophy behind the preparation of homeopathic remedies. Hahnemann claimed inspiration, as seen in a letter he wrote to the town clerk of Kothen in 1828. He said he had been

guided by the invisible powers of the Almighty, listening, observing, tuning in to His instruction, paying most earnest heed and religious attention to this inspiration.<sup>10</sup>

Hahnemann believed in universal energy or “vital force” as some called it. He believed that the power, or effects, of his minutely diluted remedies resulted from the working of “vital force.” Hahnemann's *vital force*, which is believed to *rule* the *physical body*, is similar to the soul, or the *etheric* and *astral bodies* of many occult disciplines.<sup>11,12</sup>

What does this mean? In the chapter on Universal Energy we learned about vital force and the dividing of universal energy into seven frequencies or levels. Level one is said to be our material world and our physical bodies. The belief is that the level of energy above this first level is in a plane with “frequencies faster than light,” and, that the *etheric body* is an electromagnetic template of our physical body. The *astral body* is said to be an even higher level of frequency from which we can have *out of body* experiences and astral travel.

From the above paragraph we understand the belief that the vital force in the remedies of homeopathy is purported to be actually influencing and treating the higher levels or bodies of energy rather than just the physical body. This is truly *mysticism*.

Because homeopaths operate in the realm of the “invisible” and not in that of the visible and material, many of them admit to the belief that homeopathic medicines really work upon the etheric or astral bodies.

This is where disease begins and spreads outward into the physical body presenting as *symptoms*.<sup>13</sup>

This is why a number of occultic religions such as Hinduism and anthroposophy employ homeopathy. Its philosophy fits well with their occultic views of man and health.<sup>14</sup>

The power that is transmitted directly in psychic healing through the laying on of the healer’s hand, or from a distance, is no different than the power to heal that occurs in the homeopathic remedy. Homeopathic practitioners claim that a cosmic *vital force* is transferred from the homeopathic *medicine* into the patient. But the same effect is supposedly accomplished by radionic devices (see section “Radionics” in chapter 16) which employ spiritistic power.<sup>15</sup> Using these devices, it is said, makes the use of homeopathic remedies unnecessary.

## LAWS OF HOMEOPATHY

This system is built on the theory that:

- (1) Most diseases are caused by an infectious disorder called the *psora*, (itch); (see glossary)
- (2) Life is a spiritual force [vitalism] which directs the body’s healing;
- (3) Remedies can be discerned by noting the symptoms that substances produce in overdose (proving), and applying them to conditions with similar symptoms in highly diluted doses (laws of similia);
- (4) Remedies become more effective with greater dilution [law of infinitesimals], and become more potent when containers are tapped on the heel of the hand or a leather pad (potentizing).<sup>16,17</sup>

“Proving” is a term used to describe the process used by homeopathic practitioners to select new substances for inclusion in the list of therapeutic remedies. A substance will be tested by taking it in high doses, then recording the symptoms it creates. It may be taken daily in high doses for as long as a month, and any type of sensation or supposed change is recorded during this time.

Consider the alleged ‘symptoms’ of chamomilla as given by Hahnemann in his *Materia Medica Pura* [1846, Vol. 2, pp. 7—20]: “Vertigo... Dull...aching pain in the head...Violent desire for coffee...Grumbling and creeping in the upper

teeth....Great aversion to the wind...Burning pain in the hand....Quarrelsome, vexatious dreams... heat and redness of the right cheek.”<sup>18</sup>

One author, writing about Hahnemann, said he (Hahnemann) documented thirteen pages of symptoms from taking chamomile. If such is the case when healthy people take this substance, how can we expect it to cure sick people?<sup>19</sup>

A very interesting comment about “proving” of the remedies, is made by Ankerberg in *Can You Trust Your Doctor?* (p. 273). We are told that the remedies that are listed in the homeopathic *Materia Medicas*, when tested or proved over the past 150 years by non-homeopaths, have never given the responses found by homeopaths.

### CHOOSING THE PROPER REMEDY

In a pharmacy with inventory of more than 2000 homeopathic remedies, how do I select the proper substance that is closest to my symptoms? This is the decision the homeopathic doctor has to make when prescribing for a patient. Homeopathy teaches that it is important to get the exact medicinal for the specific illness and the patient’s constitution. The following procedures may be used to choose a specific substance for therapy:

1. Astrological signs or other modes of astrology may be used to determine the proper diagnosis and therapy.<sup>20</sup>
2. Dr. Bopp writes about the use of the pendulum in choosing the proper remedy for homeopathic treatment. Dr. A. Voegeli, a famous homeopathic doctor, has confirmed that a very high percentage of homeopaths work with the pendulum.<sup>21</sup> Dr. Pfeifer also notes the use of pendulums by homeopaths because “it is easier to take a short cut with the radionic pendulum.”<sup>22</sup>
3. John Weldon, author of *PSYCHIC HEALING An Exposé of an Occult Phenomenon*, reports that many homeopaths today have spirit guides with research on homeopathy being done in séances. There are groups whose (homeopathic) research is carried out during séances, through mediums who seek information from spirits.<sup>23</sup>

Dr. Bopp tells in his book, *Homeopathy*, about a woman who worked in a homeopathic laboratory in France. She personally related the story of an interview she had on applying for a job in a specific homeopath laboratory. She was asked about which astrological sign she was born under, and whether or not she was a medium. She told the sign and answered “yes” to the question about being a medium. She was then informed that new treatments to be produced by the laboratory were researched in séances.<sup>24</sup>

As “conventional” doctors of the past used large doses of toxic drugs, “eclectic” physicians discontinued the use of mercury and the heavy toxic substances and tended to be better at diagnosing, but, prescribed small doses for every symptom. The homeopathic physician, though ridiculing conventional doctors, continued to use toxic drugs in his treatments. He simply used extremely weak dilutions. The following are examples of drugs used in homeopathy: “Nux vomica (strychnine), sulphur, lobelia (nicotine), phosphorus, ipecac, hydrochloric acid, alcohol, lead, arsenic, colchicine, jalap, senna, mercury, aconite, belladonna (atropine), podophyllum,

camphor, veratrum, staphysagria, opium, quinine, cantharides, croton oil, phosphoric acid, tartar emetic, iodine, and numerous other agents.”<sup>25</sup> The solution made by repeated dilution often surpasses the point of having any molecules of the original substance left, yet the homeopathic doctor claims these extreme dilutions are the most potent of the preparations. How can this be? Let us consider the process of dilution.

When each dilution takes place, the solution is shaken vigorously by hitting the hand that holds the dilution on a hard surface so as to *thump* the solution. This is called *succession*. It is claimed that this process causes the remedy to be more *potent*. This is believed to be the critical part in preparation of the remedies. Notice the following comments by leading homeopaths Dana Ullman and Stephen Cunnings:

Homeopaths have found that the medicines do not work if they are simply diluted repeatedly without vigorous shaking or if they are just diluted in vast amounts of liquid. Nor do the medicines work if they are only vigorously shaken. It is the *combined* process of dilution and vigorous shaking that makes the medicine effective...<sup>26</sup>

How can the medicine get stronger and stronger with increasing dilution? The homeopathic practitioner says that the solution (water) receives an *imprint* or *signature* from the original substance (mother tincture) and this is passed along, thereby increasing the potency. Chemists and physicists find no scientific evidence to support this theory.<sup>27</sup>

There have been homeopaths who claimed that homeopathic remedies act similar to vaccinations, a theory that was quickly and unwisely accepted by some adherents of homeopathy. When a vaccination is administered, the immune system manufactures protective proteins, and stimulates specific white blood cells to respond to the organism or allergen contained in the vaccination. A memory is created within the immune system which allows it to respond powerfully to this specific organism or allergen should it be encountered at another time.

The proponents of homeopathy claim that the small homeopathic dose will trigger an immune response. This is not true. The quantity of active ingredients in the homeopathic remedy usually is too small to trigger an immune response. A vaccination will have far greater concentration of an organism or allergen. The response of the body from an immunization can be measured chemically. The high-dilution homeopathic remedies do not produce measurable responses. Vaccines are used as prevention, not as a cure. Homeopathic remedies have no relationship to immunization science.

## PREPARATION OF HOMEOPATHIC REMEDIES

Materials for use in remedies are finely ground or dissolved in water. They are then mixed with a solvent, and the mixture is allowed to soak. The fluid containing the original substance is then filtered or strained. The filtered solution—the *mother tincture*—is placed in a dark jar for keeping.

One drop of the mother tincture can be diluted one of two ways; using either a nine part solvent or a ninety-nine parts solvent, and then shaken vigorously and the solution banged

down firmly on a hard surface after each dilution, a process devised by Hahnemann. The “thumping” after the dilution is believed to transfer the “spirit” from the remedy substance into the solvent. Homeopathy teaches that the *essence* (spirit—remedy) can be carried by water even after all molecules of the original substance are diluted out of the solution. Once the mixture has reached the required strength and potency, a few drops of it are added to lactose tablets, pills, granules, or to a powder so as to impregnate the carrier with the remedy. It is then stored in dark glass bottles.

Dilutions are most often made by using one part of the mother tincture and nine parts solvent, (1–X). With each additional dilution the labeling would be 2–X, 3–X, etc. When dilutions go beyond 24–X there may not be one molecule left of the original remedy substance in the solution. Homeopaths do not depend on molecules of the original substance to effect healing. They are looking to the *signature/energy—imprint/spirit* of the original substance to be passed on and magnified by dilution. This signature or imprint said to be in the solution has not been scientifically demonstrated.

Given below are examples of common “remedies” as listed in *Natural Health, Encyclopedia of Homeopathy*, by Dr. Andrew Lockie, (2000):

**Mercury:** found in cinnabar ore from Spain, Italy, US, Peru, China

Rx for symptoms of:

- a. Foul smelling discharge
- b. Reserved, suspicious state of mind
- c. Insecurity
- d. Copious perspiration that does not relieve condition
- e. Person feels worse at night

**Hellborus:** Southern Europe—extremely poisonous

Rx for symptoms of:

- a. Mental dullness
- b. Chilliness
- c. Tendency to drop things
- d. Person feels worse between 4 pm and 8 pm

**Aconite:** Europe, Central Asia—deadly poisonous, handling root can cause poisoning

Rx for symptoms of:

- a. Symptoms triggered by shock or cold wind
- b. Panic attack and fear of death
- c. Acute infection with sudden onset

**Nux Vomica:** (strychnine)(poison nut tree) India, Burma, Thailand, China, Australia

Rx for symptoms of:

- a. Irritability
- b. Over-critical nature
- c. Tendency to be highly driven and ambitious
- d. Chilliness
- e. Desire for rich foods

**Carcinosin:** Cancer cells usually from breast

Rx for symptoms of:

- a. Workaholic, of passionate nature
- b. Conditions that are affected by being at the beach
- c. Desire for travel
- d. Desire for butter or chocolate
- e. Sleeping difficulty

Remember, there are more than 2000 remedies in the homeopathy pharmacy! In review, homeopathy came from the concept of one man's beliefs which were not scientifically verified. However, it had a great advantage over the common medical care of his day. He did not advocate the use of harmful drugs in large doses. He promoted not only good personal hygiene, but also good hygienic conditions for the home and its surroundings. Diet, fresh air and exercise were also part of his regimen. The remedies (substances given in minute doses) were given credit for the improvements in health, without any scientific evidence to verify that they had anything to do with improvement.

### **HAS HOMEOPATHY BEEN VERIFIED?**

Studies have been done to test the value of these remedies but there is no clear proof that they have any effect on the body in minute doses. Larger (more concentrated) doses have shown some effect on the system. This effect may not always be good. Some remedies available may contain regular modern drugs added to them so they will have an effect on human physiology.

There has been a strong effort on the part of believers in alternative therapeutic modalities to scientifically explain the perceived effects of such methods as acupuncture, homeopathic, therapeutic touch, Roling, osteopathic, chiropractic, hypnosis, and many other therapy techniques. James Oschman, in his book, *Energy Medicine The Scientific Basis*, makes a strong argument for the scientific explanation. He presents the recent advances in the understanding of electromagnetic physiology in biology. Some researchers, who are adherents of the concept of *vitalism*, have reported advances in laboratory research of electromagnetic discharges of body, organs, cells and molecules. Other researchers are unable to reproduce these same laboratory results. The gap is still wide between hypothesis and true scientific proof of cause and effect. Many believers in alternative medicine, or energy medicine, tend to proclaim that energy medicine is now proven to be scientific. They have ignored this gap of proof in a presumptuous manner.

Controlled studies of homeopathic remedies, when done by the homeopaths, tend to show positive results. However, most other studies do not support these positive results. Studies should be repeated by objective investigators, with independent analyses of the homeopathic formulations employed, to ensure that they have not been adulterated with active medications.

A recent meta-analysis of 107 controlled homeopath trials appearing in 96 published reports also found "the evidence of clinical trials is positive but not sufficient to draw definitive conclusions because most trials are of low methodological quality and because of the unknown



role of publication bias.” The reports also concluded that there is a legitimate case for further evaluation of homeopathy, “but only by means of well performed trials.” (Kleijnen, 1991).”<sup>28</sup>

In the British medical journal *Lancet* August 27, 2005, a large study made by the University of Berne in Switzerland reported the results of a meta-analysis of 110 trials, each of homeopathy and conventional medicine. No convincing evidence was found that the homeopathic approach to illness was any different from using a placebo. Conventional medicine did significantly better.

April 19, 2010 *Med J Aust.* 192(8):458-60 carried an article *Homeopathy: what does the “best” evidence tell us?* The author Edzard Ernst of Peninsula Medical School, University of Exeter, Exeter, United Kingdom summarized his study of homeopathy as follows:

The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (generally considered to be the most reliable source of evidence) was searched in January 2010....DATA EXTRACTION: Each of the six reviews was examined for specific subject matter; number of clinical trials reviewed; total number of patients involved; and author’s conclusions. The reviews covered the following conditions: cancer, attention-deficit defect, hyperactivity disorder, asthma, dementia, influenza and induction of labour. DATA SYNTHESIS: The findings of the reviews were discussed narratively (the reviews; clinical and statistical heterogeneity precluded meta-analysis). **CONCLUSIONS:** The finding of currently available Cochrane reviews of studies of homeopathy do not show that homeopathic medicines have effects beyond placebo. [HTTP://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20402610](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20402610)

## WORLD HEALTH CONDEMS HOMEOPATHIC Rx

Homeopathy not a cure, says WHO. Homeopathic remedies often contain few or no active ingredients. People with conditions such as HIV, TB and malaria should not rely on homeopathic treatments, the World Health Organization has warned. It was responding to calls from young researchers who fear the promotion of homeopathy in the developing world could put people’s lives at risk.<sup>29</sup>

The group, Voice of Young Science Network, has written to health ministers to set out the WHO view. Objective evidence that homeopathy is effective on these infections does not exist says Dr Nick Beeching, Royal Liverpool University Hospital by letter June 2010, to WHO. The doctors from the UK and Africa said:

We are calling on the WHO to condemn the promotion of homeopathy for treating TB, infant diarrhea, influenza, malaria and HIV. Homeopathy does not protect people from, or treat, these diseases. Those of us working with the most rural and impoverished people of the world already struggle to deliver the medical help that is needed. When homeopathy stands in place of effective treatment, lives are lost.<sup>30</sup>

A researcher in bimolecular science at the University of St Andrews, Dr Robert Hagan, and a member of Voice of Young Science Network, part of *Sense About Science* promoting "evidence-based" care said:

We need governments around the world to recognize the dangers of promoting homeopathy for life-threatening illnesses. We hope that by raising awareness of the WHO's position on homeopathy we will be supporting those people who are taking a stand against these potentially disastrous practices.<sup>31</sup>

Dr Mario Raviglione, director of the Stop TB department at the WHO, said:

Our evidence-based WHO TB treatment/management guidelines, as well as the International Standards of Tuberculosis Care do not recommend use of homeopathy.<sup>32</sup>

Physicians also complained that homeopathy was being promoted as a treatment of children with diarrhea. A representative of the WHO department of child and adolescent health and development said:

We have found no evidence to date that homeopathy would bring any benefit. Homeopathy does not focus on the treatment and prevention of dehydration - in total contradiction with the scientific basis and our recommendations for the management of diarrhea.<sup>33</sup>

Dr Nick Beeching, a specialist in infectious diseases at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, said:

Infections such as malaria, HIV and tuberculosis all have a high mortality rate but can usually be controlled or cured by a variety of proven treatments, for which there is ample experience and scientific trial data. "There is no objective evidence that homeopathy has any effect on these infections, and I think it is irresponsible for a healthcare worker to promote the use of homeopathy in place of proven treatment for any life-threatening illness."<sup>34</sup>

In June 2010 Delegates to the British Medical Association's conference were expected to support seven motions opposing the use of public money to pay for remedies which they claimed have no place in modern medicine and health care. Hundreds of delegates called for a ban on funding homeopathic remedies by the National Health Service. The British Medical Society's position comes as a result of an absence of evidence that use of homeopathic remedies are more effective than placebo.

In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the 22 homeopathy medical schools in the United States closed or converted to regular medical schools. With the advance of scientific evaluation in medical care, the old harmful way of using dangerous drugs slowly changed. The homeopathic doctor was no longer having better results than the M.D. The public turned to *science-driven* medicine. There is now a resurgence of homeopathy among New Age adherents and some others that consider it to be more "natural." Its return in America is not based on science, but is the end result of the belief in *Vitalism*. A man's belief in his origin has great influence in his choice of healing methods.

I refer again to James L. Oschman, a biology scientist, who, in his book, *Energy Medicine, The Scientific Basis*, speaks of his belief in alternative medicine therapies and of having felt the

electrical charges enter his body as applied by *energy therapists*. He expresses his belief that these electrical charges are explained by electromagnetism. He writes that the electromagnetism of one person can restore balance to the electromagnetism of another. He tells of laboratory testing of healers using therapeutic touch and other methods with tools for measuring electromagnetic charges. He admits to the problem of the reproducibility of these experiments by other investigators.

We have received wise counsel regarding the type of medical care we choose, following God's "*will*" versus gain and life itself:

...Those who give themselves up to the sorcery of Satan may boast of great benefit received thereby, but does this prove their course to be wise or safe? What if life should be prolonged? What if temporal gain should be secured? Will it pay in the end to disregard the will of God? All such apparent gain will prove at last an irrecoverable loss. We cannot with impunity break down a single barrier which God has erected to guard His people from Satan's power.<sup>35</sup>

I wish to share with you the words of a Christian physician who has written on this subject.

There are to be sure some honorable and conscientious ones seeking to utilize homeopathy detached from its obscure practices. Yet, the occult influence, by nature hidden, disguised, often dissimulated behind parascientific theory, does not disappear and does not happen to be rendered harmless by the mere fact of a superficial approach contenting itself simply with denying its existence. *Homeopathy is dangerous*. It is quite contrary to the teaching of the word of God. It willingly favors healing through substances made dynamic, that is to say, *charged with occult forces*. Homeopathic treatment is the fruit of a philosophy and religion that are at the same time Hinduistic, pantheistic and esoteric.<sup>36</sup>

When God led Israel from Egypt to Canaan He gave them health laws and statutes. Israel was the only nation in the history of the world that had a medical and health system that was based on prevention. The Mosaic health code is medically and scientifically reliable, based on sound physiology and proven principles of hygiene.<sup>37</sup>

When God led Seventh-day Adventists in health reform starting in 1848, He gave directions and guidance that are based on the physical laws of the universe. These directions are in harmony with today's understanding of physiology and hygiene. They are built on the principle that we were created and placed under the laws of the physical universe, and that our bodies operate according to those laws. It is not from an imbalance of spirit energy, I repeat:

Disease is the effort of nature to free the system from conditions that result from a violation of the laws of health.<sup>38</sup>

God gave specific directions for developing a healing center so that His methods could be practiced. In 1865, such a center was started and in the space of 40 years, was one of the greatest health centers of its type in the world. It prospered so long as it followed the directions God gave. At that time, homeopathy was in its zenith in the United States, but God did not

direct His people to use homeopathy in the health institutions. I conclude this chapter with the following comment made by Ellen White with regard to the practice of regular medicine and homeopathic medicine:

When the great question of health reform was opened before me, the methods of treating the sick were plainly revealed to me. The old-school cruel practice (use of mercury, antimony, arsenic, strychnine, bleeding, cathartics, etc. these were called drugs in that day) and the sure results, where one claimed to be benefited, thousands were made lifelong invalids who, had they never seen a physician, would have recovered of themselves without implanting in their system diseases of a most distressing character.

Eclectic (medical doctors using same drugs but very small doses) was less dangerous. The **homeopathy**, which creates so deadly opposition from the regular practice, was attended with far less evil consequences than the old-school practice, but **did much harm** because it could be resorted to so easily and used so readily with so little expense. Many practice upon themselves and fall back upon this without real knowledge of their ailments, and do great harm to themselves. Proper regulation of their diet, abstinence from tea, coffee, and all spices and flesh meats, gaining an intelligent knowledge of temperance, would be medicine above all drugs. (emphasis added)

But Dr. Maxson... I told him (that) after the whole system of drug medication had been laid open before me, I was shown of God that we should have an institution conducted on hygienic principles, and in that institution lectures should be given not on how to use drugs, not to lead minds and educate them in the methods of drug using, but to teach people the better way—to live healthfully and do without drugs. The words were repeated, Educate! Educate! Educate!

I then saw that an intelligent knowledge of pure air, and use of it wisely and abundantly, and simple healthful food taken into the stomach temperately, eating and drinking to the glory of God, and ten thousand would be well who are now sick. Then I was taken from room to room and shown disease and its causes, and the result of drug medication. I was then shown through rooms of a hygienic institution that was conducted on hygienic principles and these simple means—sunlight, pure air, healthful habits. Constant instruction needs to be given, line upon line, precept upon precept, in regard to the necessity of clean bodies, clean houses and clean premises. Breathing clean air would preserve health without the use of drugs.<sup>39</sup>

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