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Review Article

Understanding the plan and construction of Synthetic Repertory

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ABSTRACT

According to the hierarchy of general symptoms, the *synthetic repertory* is divided into 3 volumes. (First and second volume by Dr. H Barthal and third volume Dr W. Klunker) Pierre Schmidt of Geneva, who also wrote preface and introduction to first edition, and first translated volume from German to English.

Keywords: Synthetic repertory, homoeopathy, construction



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INTRODUCTION

According to the hierarchy of general symptoms, the *synthetic repertory* is divided into 3 volumes. (First and second volume by Dr. H Barthal and third volume Dr W. Klunker)

Pierre Schmidt of Geneva, who also wrote preface and introduction to first edition, and first translated volume from German to English.

Dr . Jacques Beur of Lyon translated second edition. And MR. Martin Weber translated third edition.

Volume I – Mental Symptoms

Volume II – physical generals (except sex and sleep)

Volume III – Sleep and Dreams, As Well As The Male And Female Sexual Symptoms

The rubrics are arranged in an alphabetical order in each volume under each chapter. In some of the publications where three languages are used, the rubrics are first written in English, then in French, and finally in German.

Plan and construction:

The content extends into 3 volumes. An unusual features of this repertory is that the

content is arranged in columns and columns are numbered instead of the page numbers as in order repertories. It therefore consists of 2488 columns. Each of the volumes is distinctly assembled.

Volume I: It contains only the mental symptoms. There are 604 main rubrics including 33 cross—references in this volume. Due to an abundance of mental generals, this volume has a great advantage over other repertories. Every rubric has followed the plan of broader generals further narrowing down to modified generals.

The main rubrics starts as side headings and list a group of medicines in different grades. The main rubrics are followed by sub rubrics like- time and various modifying factors including different concomitants. Ailments from is given as a separate rubric, which contains various factors alphabetically. Pattern of arrangement in each rubric is first rubric in general then cross references then time then sub rubrics pertaining to that main rubric in alphabetical order. It comprises of all the mental symptoms, except the dreams. This volume also includes

the ailments from various mental causes. It is spread over 1102 pages.

Consists of Mental symptoms is divided into 5 + index thumb index sections. They are as follows 1

- 1. Abrupt
- 2. Delusions
- 3. Fear
- 4. Irritability
- 5. Sadness

Index

Volume II: It contains physical generals including time of modalities and other factors and circumstances which modify the general state of the person. The desire, aversion, intolerance, aggravation, amelioration of food are included in this volume. 'ailments from' - is mentioned in almost all the rubrics. Some clinical like conditions Acetonaemia, Agranulocytosis, Anaemia, aviator's disease, Basedow's disease, Tumours (classification), Uraemia, etc are also included in this volume. General rubrics like pulse, pain, etc, mentioned in this volume, are very helpful in practice. Pain rubric contains various types, characters and locations like – glands, joints, muscles, paralyzed parts, Periosteum, tendons, bones, blood vessels, etc. this volume contains 358 rubrics including 23 cross-references.

The main rubrics start with the time modality, which does not follow the general alphabetical arrangement. The fraction of time is mentioned as per progress of time like daytime, morning, forenoon, etc. time modality follows alphabetical arrangements of main rubrics throughout.

Wherever applicable, the rubrics follows the arrangements in order of side, time and modalities. Most of the clinical rubrics are independent rubrics. The food and drinks rubrics follows the order of ailments from, aggravation, amelioration, aversion, desire.

General rubrics pertaining to state of the person. In that rubric FOOD AND DRINKS consists of Aggravation, ailments from, amelioration, aversion, desire. **Pain rubric:** starts with – pain ailments from the appearance of pain like comes suddenly, disappears slowly, etc. Direction, time, location, type of pain.

Clinical rubrics: like Arteriosclerosis, Sarcoma, Hypertension, Hypotension, Hodgkins Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Tuberculosis, Prophylaxis etc. General rubrics like pain with different types, pulse types, children affections of – bitting nails, putting fingers in the mouth, growing too fast, etc.

Therefore the some of the scattered generals, and the rubrics found in the generalities chapter of Kent's repertory are assembled in this volume. It consists of 774 pages.

Time and General symptoms.

Consists of General symptoms. The thumb impression divisions are 5 + index. They are as follows:

- 1. **Day:** Time is mentioned in 24hours. Daytime, morning, forenoon, noon, afternoon, evening, night, followed by rubrics in alphabetical order.
- 2. **Food:** Aggravation, ailments from, amelioration, aversion, desire.
- 3. **Pain**: Ailments from, appearing and disappearing, direction, location, sensations, pulse followed by rubrics in a alphabetical order like perspiration includes agg, aml, type and character, concomitants, time, location, staining, suppression of, complaints from, etc.
- 4. **Reactions:** Lack of, acute danger, chill after, climacteric period at, convalescence in, exanthemas in, loss of fluid after, remedies to, nervous patients in, old age in, suppression after, violent.

5. WEAKNESS:

Index

volume III: It contains four main chapters – sleep, Dreams and sex-male and female.

Some mental rubrics are represented by the dreams.

Time and other modifying factors in alphabetical order follow the main rubrics wherever applicable.

Sleep- chapter contains various conditions of sleep and related symptoms. It has a total; of **44 main rubrics.**

Dreams- chapter contains various types of dreams. There are **400 main rubrics** in this chapter.

Sex – male: This chapter contains various symptoms in relation to sexual functioning of male. There are 16 main

rubrics mentioned in this chapter.

Sex – female: It contains different conditions and symptoms in relation to menses, pregnancy, childhood, menopause, abnormal discharges and sexual functioning. It contains 26 main rubrics. It has 611 pages.

Cross- references are mentioned throughout the repertory in all 3 volumes. They are found below the rubrics at expected places in italics letters. The cross-references are made to different volumes of the repertory. The rubrics are arranged as per principles of generals to particulars.

The medicines are printed in normal spacing to indicate that they belong to that rubric.

- The I grade is printed in **bold** uppercase with underline, and carries four marks.
- The II grade is printed in **bold uppercase**, and carries 3 marks.
- The III grade is printed in **bold** lowercase, and it carries 2 marks.
- The IV grade is printed in **ordinary type**, and carries 1 marks.

Plan and construction: structure: macro construction

- The contents are arranged in column and the column are numbered instead of page numbers as in the other repertories
- It is therefore consists of 2488 column

Each volume consists of

- 1. Tittle
- 2. Dedication
- 3. Preface
- 4. Introduction
- 5. Bibliography
- 6. Remedies and their abbreviations arranged alphabetically
- 7. Repertory proper
- 8. Word index (only in volume I and volume II) limited to synonyms are cross-references.

This repertory is published in 6 sections.

- 1. Psychic symptoms. (604 rubrics)
- 2. General symptoms. (358 rubrics)
- 3. Sleep (44 rubrics)
- 4. Dreams (400 rubrics)
- 5. Male sexual symptoms (16 rubrics)
- 6. Female sexual symptoms (26 rubrics)

Contents in each volume:

- Preface
- Introduction
- Bibliography
- Remedies and their abbreviations arranged alphabetically
- Repertory proper
- Word index (only in volume I and volume II) limited to synonyms are cross- references.

Remedies and their abbreviations:

- These are arranged alphabetically.
- After each abbreviation, the remedy and its synonym are given.
- It contains 1594 drugs.
- For practical reasons, kent's abbreviations have been kept in spite of certain inconsistencies like arg-m and nat-m.
- Rubrics are published in three languages: English, French, German (except clock times and latin words)

Microconstruction:

- The rubrics are arranged in an alphabetical order in each volume under each chapter.
- In some of the publications where three languages are used, the rubrics are first written in English, then in French and finally in German
- Pages are divided into 2 columns with numbering for each column.
- **OHNMACHT**, mit Herzklopfen (page no 34 volume 3)
- Joyous (page no 317)
- Joyeux (french)
- lustige (german)
- **Want** (page no 368)
- Indigeance
- **Bedurftigkelt** (Page 561)
- NACHTSCHWARMEN, folgen von (Page 576)
- GAZ EPHITIOUES
- FAULSSCHLAMMGASVERGIFTU NG
- Main rubric is mentioned in **bold** capital
- Remedies are mentioned after an indentation from the margin
- Sub rubrics are mentioned in **bold** roman after an indentation with their remedies after 2 indentations

- Sub sub rubrics and rubrics related to time (where ever applicable) are given in ordinary roman after an indentations.
- This is the first repertory to use the numbering system to show the exact source of the symptoms or drugs. Numbering is done in superscript from after the drug.
- No numbering for Kent's Repertory remedies.
- Asterisk sign '*' is used for symptoms refers to one of the 138 new collected rubrics of the index of Vol I and Vol II.
- Eg fr asterisk

Ailments from

- Bad news *
- Disappointment *
- Reproaches *
- Pecuniary loss*
- Position, loss of *
- Childbed, mental symptoms during *
- Climateric period agg
- Dentition, difficult**
- Childbed ailments from* (1897)
- Children , affection in* (kents rep 1897)
- Coition during *

CONCLUSION

Here to attempt the plan and construction of synthetic repertory. There are some Lacune in this repertory for I-E, I-F, I-G indicates English, French and German but there is no explanation is given. Explanation given by the authors in the preface regarding the grading of remedies is confusing and difficult to comprehend. Has 3 volumes only for general which is not useful for quick bedside reference. No index to 3rd volume. No numbering for Kent repertory remedies. There are so many rubrics are given in German and French so it is very difficult to understand. Asterisk sign is used for symptoms refer to one of the 138 New collected rubric of the index volume I and II.

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