

German-speaking Group Meeting

Eringerfeld (near Soest), Germany, 8th-10th May 1998

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This was a meeting without a formal programme and without lectures. It offered the opportunity to bring up scientific questions of immediate concern to the participants. Among the ten of us there were four women, however only five were SMN members, including Kurt Dressler who had joined us from Switzerland. Others came from the North, from Lübeck and Bredstedt near Husum, and from Berlin and Leipzig. Many had thus travelled far in heavy traffic. The interests within this small group were rather varied, but by the end we had approached each other, discussing technology and ethics. There was also much opportunity for exchanges among twos and threes, a valid goal of this meeting, because few knew each other from earlier occasions.

Kurt and I informed on the intentions of SMN. I suggested trying Bohm or Indian-type dialogues understood as effort to understand behind the words of others their frame of thinking and the intended meaning. At first this appeared to me to be to no purpose. Certain words apparently lead to so many associations in the person who hears them that many cannot resist the urge to talk about these instead of uncovering what was really meant within the context of the topic being discussed. Later reflection suggests to me that especially the women contributed very well towards deeper understanding and that ideas that were too abstract were brought back into touch with our reality by them.

Günter Grimlitz and I gave a short overview of the theory by Burkhard Heim; Günter mentioned practical applications which would, for instance, enable more efficient use of energy a topic worthy of separate sessions. I tried to offer a small glance at the results of twenty years of research by Herbert Fröhlich, Cyril Smith, and co-workers, at Salford University, Manchester, on homoeopathic and associated effects. There are points of contact between the concepts of Heim and Smith. The latter points to the correspondence between structure and electromagnetic oscillations, and that these, of course, penetrate vessels. The former emphasizes the equivalence of structure and energy. Both views are effectively identical and raise the question about the order underlying the structures.

In homoeopathy the effects are not caused by the oscillations of the substances that are added to the initial solvent but by the oscillations due to the mutual interactions between colloidal water complexes, i.e. so-called coherent domains which form under the influence of the added substances, but which stand out more clearly as the characteristic oscillations of the substances become less perturbing. The size of such coherent complexes were estimated to be in the millimetre range through potentiation tests in very small cuvettes. The characteristic eigen-oscillations of these structures vary rhythmically between extinguishing and amplifying powers with increasing dilution. The coherent order is also a magnetic order but the effects do not arise from the magnetic fields themselves, but oriented structures called 'vector potentials', as shown experimentally by Smith and co-workers. Such oriented structures are subject to mental influence, which needn't be surprising considering that thoughts are structuring electromagnetic structures in the brain. Nevertheless such effects raise many questions. Some of the reported research results could be confirmed by Silke Haack-Nebbe, a practising doctor and homeopath, through her own observations.

Heim also assumes that our emotions and thoughts influence our actions and hence the physical world. The description of these influences requires, in addition to the co-ordinates of space and time, two further variables which represent order parameters characterizing eigen-values (oscillations). Beyond these variables, which can still be grasped as being physical, Heim deduces additional dimensions which can no longer be defined energetically and which are to be understood as a model, representable in other ways as well.

In this context Günter Grimlitz described mathematical ideas, developed by Gotthard Günter and his student Gerhard Thomas (Berlin), which serve to describe structures and their possible interactions this being an alternative, even simpler and more easily visualizable method to derive Heim's results (e.g. to describe elementary particles or life's processes). These extensive topics could of course be touched only. With respect to models, Silke Haack-Nebbe remarked that many can develop models which seem self-consistent but which contain errors that are not always easy to find, and Ruth Anderson added that models are not considered on their own but that they must be based on what is observable in our reality. In the course of our discussions it emerged that our understanding of mind-matter relationships is presumably determined through our personal emotional needs rather than through rational deductions or through philosophers or scientists who find followers according to the needs of their temporal era.

Sunday morning was devoted to the topic of technology and ethics. The view was held that it is not technology that is bad but that it is rather the motivation behind its use that must be questioned. Kurt Dressler concluded that SMN doesn't seek to assemble members holding concordant views but that it was desirable to exchange thoughts among holders of different conceptions, and especially that SMN offers a forum for the discussion of questions which are excluded within ordinary science. Stephan Krall on the other hand correctly reminded us that science offers such a wealth of not yet noticed nor propagated established insights that the aim cannot be to condemn science as such. Proposed future activities for Members living in Germany include small discussion groups on various topics. In this regard I would like to mention the research on homeopathy by Peter Christian Endler and colleagues at Forschungsstelle für Niederenergetische Information, Petrifelderstr.4, A-8042 Graz. Among their various publications is the interesting book Expedition Homöopathieforschung which offers an overview (Wilhelm Maudrich, Wien/München/Bern 1998).

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