

# SANTONIN B.P.14.

The unrivalled efficacy of Santonin for the treatment of *Ascaris lumbricoides*, *Oxyuris vermicularis* and *Trichuris trichiura* has been recognized for nearly a century, whilst Wormseed containing Santonin has been prized as a worm cure for over two thousand years.

**There are now sufficient stocks of Santonin to meet all demands at prices which permit its free use even for patients of limited means. Our price for wholesale quantities is about 3d. per grain.**

1. The effective doses of Santonin are perfectly safe even for children; the drug does not irritate the most delicate intestine, nor cause any other injurious effect whatever.
2. One or two small doses of Santonin will expel all roundworms, threadworms, and whipworms from the intestines, thus effecting complete cures.
3. The best time to give Santonin is at bed-time, after a light evening meal. It is not necessary to compound it with any other drug, but a purge should be given about twelve hours later.

## WORMS.

Many of the more recent additions to our knowledge of worms are not yet commonly known. A few of the more important new facts are:

1. Worms are much more prevalent than is generally supposed. Their presence should be suspected in children showing signs of malnutrition, anæmia, gastritis, and loss of sleep.
2. It frequently happens that children are treated for phthisis when in reality they are infested with roundworms. Many cases of cough in children are cases of throat cough caused by roundworms, and not lung cough at all.
3. Roundworm larvæ migrate to the lungs causing inflammation and "parasitic pneumonia." They are suspected of being attendant factors in the development of tuberculosis.
4. The constant nibbling and sucking of the mucosæ of the intestine by worms produce abrasions and lesions which facilitate the entrance of micro-organisms.
5. Worms secrete poisons which are absorbed by the host and cause nervous disturbances.

Wholesale quantities and full scientific particulars of Santonin from:

**THE EASTERN & RUSSIAN TRADING CO., LTD.,**  
26, FINSBURY SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.2.



## "OSCOLS" THERAPEUTIC COLLOIDS

THERE are several points about these colloidal suspensions which are of outstanding importance. One is that they are perfectly stable; another that they are standardized to a definite metal content; another that they are both isomorphous and isotonic. Also, they are powerfully bactericidal yet are non-toxic, and are quite free from irritating properties.

Brochure and Clinical Samples on request.

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claim obsolescence allowance when that occurs in each case; that allowance should be calculated in the same way as a replacement allowance, except that the amount of the depreciation allowance actually received for the car replaced should be added to the amount received for it when calculating the claim.

### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

#### HYDATID CYST OF THE ORBIT.

MR. H. B. WILLOUGHBY SMITH, F.R.C.S. (Gainsborough), writes as follows with reference to the case of hydatid cyst of the orbit reported by Dr. E. A. Seale in our issue of May 29th (p. 900): "I published an account of a case of hydatid in the orbit in a native child in the *Transvaal Medical Journal*, 1906. I forget the age of the child, but the cyst was tense, and on microscopical examination of its walls, etc., hooklets were found."

#### TUNGSTEN ARC LAMP IN PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

DR. T. E. LARKINS (London) wishes to know whether others have had good results in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis by the tungsten arc lamp. His experience, after three months, is that, with only one exposure a week, the cough lessens, the expectoration dries up, and the patients say that their general health has improved. Clinically, the physical signs are better, and bacteriologically there is a rapid decrease in the number of tubercle bacilli in the sputum.

#### ESERINE IN GLAUCOMA.

WE have received from the medical officer of Thar Parka Civil Hospital, Mirpurkhas, Sind, India (B. C. Vachhrajani), a note in which he relates some cases which, in his opinion, indicate that eserine is a most valuable drug in the treatment of glaucoma and should be given a good trial before operation. A solution of eserine of the strength of 4 grains to 1 ounce is used, as a rule, two or three times a day.

#### POISONING BY TOBACCO APPLIED TO THE SKIN.

WITH reference to notes published recently on poisoning by tobacco applied to the skin, Dr. M. CARNEGIE SIMPSON (R.M.O., Ross and Cromarty Joint Hospital) sends the following extract from Bate's *Dispensary* (1699): "Oyl of Tobacco.—Anoint the pit of the stomach with gr. v or vi and the patient will presently vomit, but if you would move the body downwards, anoint about the navel therewith and the sick will presently fall a purging."

#### DEVIATION OF THE NASAL SEPTUM.

DR. F. DALY (Shirebrook, near Mansfield) writes to express the opinion that deviation of the nasal septum (to the left in left occipito-anterior and to the right in right occipito-anterior) is brought about at birth by the pressure of the maternal parts in the soft yielding bones and cartilage of the child's nose. Firm pressure with finger and thumb on the nasal septum, just above the alae nasae, with traction in a downward and outward direction, corrects the deformity during the first two or three weeks of life.

#### MENTAL IRRITABILITY AND BREAKDOWN IN THE TROPICS.

DR. OSWALD HORROCKS, F.R.C.S. Ed. (C.M.O. Annamalai Medical Association, Valparai, South India), in a letter on this subject, writes: "I have read the several letters in the *JOURNAL* during the past three weeks on the above subject. As it is necessary that a thorough investigation should be made and the real causes found, may I help by the following opinion, formed during the last three years I have been resident in Southern India? I believe that a deficiency of thyroid is at the bottom of the whole trouble. The gland may not function owing to hereditary tendencies. All the causes enumerated in other letters—such as bad food, the glare of the sun, drink, isolation, quinine, etc.—may affect a young man, but in spite of all these conditions his friends tell him that he is putting on fat. He is really becoming myxoedematous, with all its terrible symptoms of lassitude, etc. To help himself he drenches his system with salines, which make him worse; he finds temporary relief in drink, eventually taking too much.

The exciting causes in Southern India are high temperatures of disease lasting for some time, as in neglected malaria, typhoid fever, and suppurations—for example, appendix abscess and puerperal fever. I have had patients between the ages of 19 and 70 markedly improved on the administration of thyroid gland tablets.

A lad aged 19 (son of a myxoedematous mother), who had had malaria badly, and suppuration after a motor-bicycle accident, consulted me for lassitude, disinclination for his work, irritability of temper, sudden annoying attacks of frothy diarrhoea, and threatening suicide if he lost his job. I started him on 2-grain doses of thyroid nightly, telling him to increase the dose by half a grain until he found the amount that practically made him well. He is now taking 5 grains and is in perfect health and happy. His diarrhoea was probably the beginning of sprue. He takes no drink. Stop his thyroid for a week and he is ill once more. His mother had suffered from malaria badly before the birth of her son, and put on 4 st. in weight immediately after; she described it as "flabby fat," as if she were a beer drinker. She has not been the same as before. Her heart could not stand any strain: a sudden noise would upset her; looking down from a moderate height made her giddy and feel inclined to throw herself over. There was fear of impending death in a train or

motor car, a terrible feeling of lassitude described as a sinking through the earth. Her temper was becoming unbearable; she was a misery to herself and all around. Three years ago she consulted me for terrible acidity, with severe vomiting and collapse: 4 grains of thyroid at night and 2 grains after lunch keeps her in good health. She has lost all her symptoms; her heart has improved to such an extent that she enjoys a walk and plays badminton. Her memory, which she was rapidly losing, is now quite normal.

I believe a healthy man from home with a little care can live in any part of the world. A small proportion of drinkers abroad take alcohol for amusement's sake, but the greater number have something wrong and take it for the relief of lassitude and other symptoms. What makes the drink worse is the quantity of aerated soft water used to dilute the alcohol. It acts on the sweat glands and kidneys and reduces the salts in the blood. I have often seen six pints of fluid consumed by one man in an hour.

DR. E. HOBHOUSE, in the course of a note on this subject, writes: "There are few more obscure problems in medicine than the interaction between the animal organism and its physical environment, climatic and meteorological, quite apart from the difficulty of excluding social and individual factors. I lived for two years in Colorado, at elevations of 5,500 ft. and over. It was well recognized that after a continuous stay many people, especially women, became restless, sleepless, and irritable. But the first effect was that exaltation which the Bishop of Singapore mentions, as described by Dr. Leys in Kenya, and which frequently led to overexertion on the first arrival. A brief return to lower levels every year was sufficient to put most people right; if they stayed on they became neurasthenic and depressed, but I never heard of anything like suicide or homicide as the result. The majority of the population led an active and energetic life under a sun which shone as long and as brightly as in almost any quarter of the globe. But the state of mental instability, which may end in suicide, is wholly different from that produced by the exciting effect of the high altitude climate which may lead to acts of violence, and it is impossible to suppose that both are due to the effects of sunlight alone. Other factors come in of which, I believe, the chief is humidity. In fact, the effect of the solar rays is quite different in Colorado and inland Australia, outside the tropics, both dry regions. Sunstroke, so called, in Colorado is practically unknown, even though summer temperatures of 90° F. and over are common. Both there and in Australia it is possible to ride or work in the open all day with the thermometer standing at from 90° to 110°, without any more protection than in England. I understand this is also true in Kenya and elsewhere, though I believe it would be considered lunacy to attempt the same in India or the Malay Peninsula. At present, so far as I know, there is no sufficient scientific reason to be alleged for these differences, and the whole subject requires much more careful investigation considering its importance to the empire. The problem, for example, of how much of Australia is really a "white man's country" depends on these factors."

#### A HUMAN OSTRICH.

DR. J. LIVINGSTON (Barrow) sends a description of the removal by operation of a large number of foreign objects swallowed by a patient—a man, aged 35, who was admitted to hospital with acute peritonitis, the provisional diagnosis of appendicitis having been made. Knowing the patient's previous history, he was questioned as to the possibility of his having taken anything to cause his illness. He denied this and was apparently quite rational. On opening the abdomen the whole peritoneum was seen to be intensely inflamed, and several very hard foreign bodies were felt in the intestinal canal near the ileo-caecal valve. The foreign bodies were: two slate pencils  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. long; part of an iron boot-heel plate, 3 in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in.; a thin iron plate, 1 in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in.; a piece of lead piping,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in.; the blade of a knife,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. long; two needles,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. respectively; half a safety-pin,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in.; three nails,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long; a piece of metal,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in.; and a piece of glass,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. The sharp edge of the larger iron plate had perforated the bowel in several places during its passage. The long objects and the piece of glass were found collected in the second part of the duodenum, and were removed with difficulty. The patient died two days later, and at the necropsy another small needle was removed from the pancreas and a collapsible tube,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, from the intestinal tract.

#### LONGEVITY IN A FAMILY.

DR. A. E. ROCHE (London, W.) writes: "Having received from a paternal uncle (one of a family of nine, all surviving, well, and active) a list of the ages of his brothers and sisters, I think it of sufficient interest to justify publication. The three eldest are males aged 79, 77, and 75, and a female follows aged 74. Next come two males aged 70 and 69, after whom there are three females, whose ages are 67, 64, and 63. The average age of the nine is thus 70. Echoing the query so frequently met with in popular publications, I ask, "Can any reader beat this?"

#### VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 31, 32, 33, 36, and 37 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 34 and 35.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 100.