

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 1d. 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:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worms are much more prevalent than is generally supposed. Their presence should be suspected in children showing signs of malnutrition, anaemia, 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 | <p>inflammation and "parasitic pneumonia." They are suspected of being attendant factors in the development of tuberculosis.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

The Uric Acid Eliminant

'PHENOQUIN'

(REGISTERED)

(Phenyl-Cinchoninic Acid)

BRITISH MADE.

GOUT and other forms of Arthritis can be efficiently treated by the administration of Phenoquin, which has proved its curative value in all manifestations due to uric acid diathesis.

PHENOQUIN is practically a specific in the elimination of uric acid.

In Tablets of 0.25 grammes (4 grains approx.).

Dose—5 to 15 tablets per diem.

Supplied in Bottles of 25, 50, and 100 Tablets.

Sample bottles free to members of the medical profession.

SOUTHALL, BROS. & BARCLAY, LTD.,
Manufacturing Chemists, ————— Birmingham.

DIFFICULT OCCIPITO-POSTERIOR PRESENTATIONS.

DR. JOHN T. MACLACHLAN (Glasgow) writes: These presentations often worry young practitioners, who find that the head, after it has come well down to the ischial spines, obstinately stays there. Teachers advise patience and caution, as rotation is said to occur in the vast majority of cases of persistent occipital presentations. The chief difficulty appears to be that the head is not properly flexed, and its long diameter thrown across the pelvis. Young practitioners in such cases should be warned against pushing the head back and turning. I have known of two deaths brought about in this way from rupture of the uterus. I have usually succeeded by applying forceps and extracting slowly. I have known one or two young practitioners fail, as the forceps kept sliding off the head. This can be overcome, in my experience, by, in the first instance, pulling towards the sacrum, before making the pubic turn, with the instruments. Many years ago, when I was inexperienced, I put a woman across the bed on her knees and elbows, slipped my fingers up the rectum over the occiput, and pulled the occiput down, thus flexing the head; the head, thus well flexed, was born immediately.

RAPID DELIVERY IN PLACENTA PRAEVIA.

DR. CHARLES J. HILL AITKEN (Kilnhurst, Rotherham) writes: After the second haemorrhage in a marginal placenta praevia in a primipara the membranes were ruptured. The os was only opening and the child was large, so turning was considered inadvisable. There was no further haemorrhage. A day later labour had not set in and the patient was febrile. Although knowing the danger of rapid delivery in placenta praevia (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, October 2nd, p. 585), the risk was considered less than what might happen if we waited. Pituitrin 1 c.cm. was injected, and within ninety minutes the child was born. There was no bleeding during the third stage, so presumably there had been no tear of the rapidly dilated cervix. There was no post-partum haemorrhage.

"NIGHTCAPS" FOR THE AGED.

DR. T. D. HARRIES (Aberystwyth) writes: Now that we are in the grip of winter a few remarks concerning "nightcaps" might be of interest to those who have to administer to the care and comfort of the aged. There are many kinds of nightcaps worthy of consideration. The old man's nightcap is usually understood to be a covering for the head during cold winter nights, and so well known is the comfort it affords by the way of procuring sleep that its use is almost universal amongst those who dwell amid the Welsh mountains. The caps are of knitted wool, at which the Welsh women are adepts. Another class of "nightcap" is for internal administration, in which a variety of potions are included, some being of great antiquity, such as "rum punch," which is too well known to require comment, beyond that it is of an agreeable nature and produces a feeling of comfort sufficient to ensure a comfortable night's rest. Other useful "nightcaps" are bovril or milk at blood heat; the milk might under certain conditions be usefully reinforced by the addition of a well whipped egg and a tablespoonful of brandy or rum, which renders it more digestible and palatable. There is another time-honoured "nightcap," familiar to those who can recall the old coaching days, when, on arrival at certain stages, spiced ale, better known as "purl" in those days, was kept in readiness to restore the vitality of the shrivelled-up passengers, who were suffering from cold feet, benumbed hands, cold ears, pinched noses, glued lips, and silent tongues. The transformation following a deep quaff of the elixir was beyond description—a glow of warmth was experienced, proclaimed by a natural flush of the face and restored waggle of tongues, the feeling of comfort and joy, brought forth good-natured liveliness, which continued until the happy passengers were in the arms of Morpheus. Some of the "nightcaps" referred to have for ages passed the experimental stage, and have proved their worth in providing mental and bodily comfort during the closing stages of life, and should not be abandoned to make room for the deadly dopes which have become so fashionable of late years. Of all "nightcaps" the one I advocate for the use of old people who are denied peaceful sleep from lack of vitality is "spiced ale," which is made of strong ale brought to the boil, to which is added sugar, butter, ginger, and nutmeg. As to the therapeutic properties of this cordial, we need not trouble as long as we know that it acts as a harmless prop to the old and decrepit who have gone beyond the age of being revitalized by "vitamin" or rejuvenated by "monkey gland."

FRENCH MEDICAL PROPAGANDA IN THE FAR EAST.

THE General Secretary of the Académie de Médecine of Paris, Professor Charles Achard, recently went on a mission to Japan for the purposes of studying methods for bringing about more intimate intellectual relationships between that country and France. Incidentally he visited also Southern China and Indo-China, and in the course of his journey called upon French professors in the universities of Quebec and Montreal. In a communication to the Académie, Dr. Achard reported that while Japanese doctors are acquainted with English and German medical literature, publish their works in English or German, and even receive visits from German professors, French publications are few, and French medicine consequently little known. There is, however, a Franco-Japanese House in Tokyo, which could be used as liaison agent between the two countries, and could distribute medical publications amongst the libraries. It is hoped to organize visits of Japanese doctors to France, and to send delegates to congresses in Japan. Dr. Achard attended various discussions, and addressed a congress in Tokyo on anti-

typhoid vaccination. He concludes his communication to the Académie by stating that the field for French medical propaganda in the extreme East is very large. In Japan, where medicine hardly differs from European medicine, except in method, interpretation, or expression, French propaganda should consist in making better known the scientific publications, the welfare efforts, and the social medicine of France. In China, on the other hand, European medicine is little practised; and France ought to assist in organizing scientific medicine in that country, especially, perhaps, at Canton. Indo-China is French, so that propaganda is hardly needed. But every effort should be made to impress French influence on the population. Native doctors must be trained; medical teaching developed; welfare schemes multiplied; and scientific research endowed. Every nation, says Dr. Achard, which wishes to exercise influence in the world, in the intellectual domain no less than in that of material interests, must without ceasing display its flag. In the Far East France must make the necessary effort, no less than her rivals, to unfurl the national colours.

THE TOOTH-BRUSH: BOON OR BANE?

DR. J. M. MACPHAIL (Middlesbrough) writes: Now that the tooth-brush has lived through more than one generation the question might be asked, Does it do good or harm? On visiting the average house I see lying somewhere about the bathroom a tooth-brush of any age from three to six months, which probably has never been sterilized, and which smells accordingly. Teeth and gums may be infected already, but what of the infection that is forced into the gums with this ragged instrument, which sacrifices before it infects? Attention has been directed recently to the finding of septic germs about the teeth and gums, but what of the dead matter and the resulting sapraemia which, after prolonged action, paves the way for septicæmia? Can the ordinary tooth-brush remove the particles from between the teeth, or does it give but an appearance of superficial cleanliness? Some dentists believe that a rubber tooth-brush with vulcanite handle, which can be readily sterilized by boiling, is more efficient and does less injury to the gums. Is the tooth-brush efficient, or should some other means be encouraged to remove dead and decaying matter from between and behind the teeth?

AN ENTERTAINING TRADE JOURNAL.

THE indefatigable Dr. Cabanès, whose books on curiosities in medicine we have noticed from time to time, edits a periodical entitled *La Chronique Médicale*, which is described as a monthly review of historical, literary, and anecdotal medicine. The magazine appears to be financed by a firm of manufacturing chemists, but, modestly, they do not occupy more than a page of letterpress and all the advertisement space with descriptions of their wares, leaving the rest to Dr. Cabanès. An article in a recent issue was written by a collector named Froehner, who died in 1925, and is entitled "Anthropology of Greek vases." He sought to show how all the words used by the Greeks in describing different parts of vases, bottles, and other vessels had reference to various portions of the human body. The fiftieth anniversary of the death of George Sand leads Dr. Cabanès to a series of thoughts and impressions which he calls "Sandiana." George Sand at one time was accustomed to dress in male attire, for purposes of economy it is said. Dr. Cabanès reproduces a caricature of the period, and a glance at the authoress in a *redingote-guêrite* makes it easy to agree with the writer who said there was nothing very seductive in her appearance. *La Chronique Médicale* indulges also in ghost stories, and a number of miscellaneous notes, such as that, on account of his vivacity, the Prince de Ligne was forgiven the lice with which his armchair was be-starred!

THE PREPARATION OF ANTIVENIN SERUM.

A GRAPHIC account of the process of collecting the venom of rattlesnakes at the San Antonio station of the Antivenin Institute of America is contributed by Colonel Martin L. Crimmins to the *Journal of the American Medical Association* for November 13th. The rattlesnakes are snared with a leather loop at the end of a whipstock, or the snake is pinned to the ground by a forked stick. The snake is then grasped behind the head, which is held over a Petri dish; with the right thumb and forefinger the venom glands are pressed, causing the venom to be ejected through the fangs into the dish. The venom, which dries rapidly, is pipetted off about every ten minutes and centrifugalized, when four layers can be distinguished, the top being amber, the second opalescent, the third colourless saliva, and the fourth cells. The upper two layers are dried in an incubator at 37° C. for from two to four days, when crystals appear. Two hundred Texas diamond-back rattlesnakes (*Crotalus atrox*) produce about 2 oz. of liquid venom, which yields 1 oz. when crystallized. The venom is sent to the Mulford Biological Laboratories, where twenty horses are immunized in a similar way to that employed in the case of diphtheria and tetanus.

VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, and 50 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at page 46.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 256.