

process. This consists as, of course, you all know, in taking a small quantity of a prepared mixture of sodium-potassium properly on a barbed broach and applying it into the centre of the root canal or canals. The metals form soaps with the fatty products of the septic pulp. (*Cosmos*, page 864.)

Some fibres of cotton are then rolled round an ordinary fine broach and saturated with water; this is pushed up into the canals several times, until the whole of their contents are removed. An antiseptic dressing (we invariably use a mixture of "Oil of Cinnamon," 1 part; "Carbolic Acid," 2 parts; "Wintergreen," 3 parts); saturated in cotton wool and then placed in the canals and sealed over with gutta-percha. About a week later this dressing is removed, and if the patient has been free from pain the meanwhile, the roots are filled. With regard to the filling of the roots (of course after using rubberdam, etc., to exclude saliva), we dry the canals first with the hot air from an ordinary rubber syringe, then apply absolute alcohol, and lastly, insert the canal plugger heated to red heat. After the canal has been properly dried, we take some of the chloro-percha solution on an ordinary plugger and force it into the canal, using a pumping motion.

When we consider the chloro-percha has completely filled the canals, we insert into each a gutta percha cone, and heating the plugger slightly, press it home. We then ask the patient to let us know when he feels a sensation at the end of the root, and when this takes place we stop.

We then take a small piece of gutta percha, soften it, and, placing it in the pulp chamber, with a large burnisher press it home. This ensures the chloro-percha being forced through the apical foramen and effectually sealing the canals.

The root being successfully filled, the next step is to remove all decayed dentine and to shape the walls of the root itself, and whatever part of the crown there is left standing by grinding it down by carborundum wheels and discs, so that no overhanging edges remain, and the walls are as nearly as possible perpendicular. This is very important, as it allows the measuring wire to come off easily.

Assuming that the root is now ready for taking the measure, the next step is to take a piece of fine binding wire annealed and place it round the root just below the gum margin, leaving the free ends at the buccal part of the root and twist them with a pair of flat pliers, until the root is tightly embraced by the wire.

Instead of grasping the binding wire by the pliers, two other instruments are frequently used, but, I think, the pliers are the most handy, and always use them.

The wire is now removed, care being employed not to change the shape obtained. Should there be any pain experienced in applying the wire, a five per cent. solution of cocaine may be applied to the