

BEESWAX IN CANALS.—Dr. Ives uses beeswax for filling root canals, having discarded all other materials for it. The beeswax is rolled to a point, inserted in canal, melted into tubuli by use of an Evans root drier, more wax being added until canal is full. A copper point is then heated and sent right to the end, the distance having first been measured. He thinks that in this way every part of the root is filled, and as beeswax does not shrink or expand, and is not affected by acids or alkalies, he is confident that it is the best of all the materials within our reach.

DR. CHAS. G. DAVIS, Dean of the School of Anæsthesia of Chicago, has a paper of more than ordinary interest in the July number of the *Dental and Surgical Microcosm* on "The Use of Hypnotic Suggestion as an Aid to Anæsthesia." Having as a boy studied hypnotism, the doctor, on entering the medical profession, very naturally was soon possessed of the idea of using it to produce anæsthesia. Finding that hypnosis could not be relied upon of itself as an anæsthetic, Dr. Davis was led to try it in combination with chemical anæsthesia, and all experiments in this direction have been entirely satisfactory. He thus summarizes the benefits from using the combination of hypnotic suggestion as an aid to anæsthesia: (1) It calms the nervous system and fortifies the patient to withstand the surgical operation; (2) it lessens the danger of shock; (3) it lessens the time, and consequently the amount of anæsthesia; (4) the patient awakes as from a natural sleep; (5) recovery is more rapid and satisfactory.

OBLITERATION OF SPACE IN ROOT FILLING.—Dr. S. G. Perry believes in obtaining straight access to all canals in teeth in order to the use of straight reamers and broaches. This he gains by drilling "tap holes" if cavity of decay will not allow access to all canals in a straight line. The reamers he uses are designed for opening the orifices of canals. They are tapering in form, and cutting on the side must not be introduced far into the canal. For removing pulp, whether putrescent or recently devitalized, the smooth Swiss broaches used by watchmakers are used, after drawing the temper to a deep blue over a flame. These broaches, if kept straight and patiently used, will remove all traces of canal contents by use of cotton fibres and carbolic acid. The cases are rare where, in his opinion, small canals may not be opened and cleaned in this way. In filling these fine canals his ideal filling is a gold wire smaller than diameter of canal, with a few fibres of cotton or raw silk wound around it and saturated with chloropercha or oxychloride of zinc. For large canals he uses gutta percha points plunged through creamy oxychloride of zinc.—*International*.