

WHEN caries extends to the bifurcation of roots, make a mat of two or three layers of tin, place it in the bifurcation and use it as a base in filling the rest of the cavity with amalgam.—*From "Tin Foil and its Combinations for Filling Teeth."*—Dr. H. L. AMBLER.

A DENTIST in this city made an application of arsenic in the usual manner, and at next sitting attempted to remove the pulp, but found it highly sensitive. To hasten matters he applied cocaine with the current and removed the pulp painlessly, but at the next sitting he found the arsenic had been inducted into tissues beyond the tooth. Here was the devil to pay and no funds. Don't say he should have known better—anyone might have done the same thing thoughtlessly.—Dr. F. FLETCHER, in *Dental Digest*.

USEFUL MATRIX.—Dr. T. F. P. Hodson presented to the New York Institute of Stomatology a method of making a matrix so constructed that the convexity obtains not only from the buccal to the lingual aspect, but also from the grinding surface to the cervical. From thin sheets of very thin steel, which may be annealed, a small piece may be cut to suit the case, the edges trimmed with a file and a couple of small holes punched to facilitate removal. The matrix is then laid on a piece of lead and small convex surface (such as the head of a small picture nail hardened and polished) driven down upon it with a few taps of a hammer. In amalgam filling it may be left over night, to insure no injury to the filling in removing.—*International*.

THE COMPARATIVE VALUE OF EUCAINE AND COCAINE AS LOCAL ANÆSTHETICS.—The following results were obtained from experiments undertaken for the purpose of studying the action of eucaine and cocaine: (1) The injection of cocaine is not at all painful, while that of eucaine caused a certain smarting sensation. (2) Eucaine is a vaso-dilator, while cocaine is a vaso-constrictor. With the former the field of operation is clouded by the blood. (3) Eucaine is certainly an excellent analgesic, although in deep operations the perception of pain seems to be somewhat more distinct than with cocaine. (4) In an operation with cocaine anæsthesia is still complete an hour and ten minutes after the operation, while with the eucaine it disappears after forty-five minutes. If, said M. Reclus, eucaine is less toxic than cocaine, it is still to be preferred in spite of these slight inconveniences. M. Pouchet, he said, had made sixty experiments on different animals. He had recognized that the toxicity of eucaine was nearly as great as that of cocaine. He preferred the latter, which presented warning symptoms of intoxication, to eucaine, which suddenly overcame the patient without any premonitory symptoms.—*Press Médicale*.