

as its name indicates, depends in large measure for its value upon euthymol, a preparation that has long been employed by surgeons wherever perfect antiseptics was desired, and has moreover deservedly gained universal popularity because of its freedom from danger except to germ life.

To the mind of the writer this preparation warrants specific mention inasmuch as it offers the ideal of a dentifrice in that it is at the same time a powerful antiseptic, reasonably detergent, modest in price, pleasant in odor, and exceptionally grateful to mouth and gums, while last, but not least, its use affords a positive protection against foul breath and other conditions peculiar to the mouth that lead to retraction and softening of the gums, staining of enamel, formation of tartar, and decay ; it is likewise a reasonably certain guarantee against a number of diseases which gain entrance to the human organism through germs in the mouth and digestive organs.—*Popular Science News*.

THE TRADE IN CRUDE RUBBER.

This remarkable substance is obtained from the milky juice of certain trees and different varieties of climbers. South America is the principal source of supply—Brazil, of the many states producing it, leading in quantity and quality, and having in its great forests sufficient to meet twice the wants of the world. The best is Para (fine, medium and *sernamby*), from the great basin of the Amazon, where more than eighty thousand *seringueiros* (gatherers) are engaged in the dry season in collecting gum. White Para, "virgin sheets," a new variety in three grades, comes from Matto Grosso. Since its importance first began to be felt, this gum has exerted an increasing influence upon the spread of civilization, especially along the Amazon and Orinoco and their tributaries and the great streams which pour out from the interior of the Dark Continent. Para, formerly an insignificant village, has grown to be a city of a hundred thousand inhabitants, with modern features, and Manaus, up the river, is fast following it. India rubber is the mainstay of the northern Brazilian states, Bolivia and Eastern Peru. Brazil has a great advantage in its immense waterway ; ocean-going steamers run twelve hundred miles up the Amazon, whereas every African river except the Congo has a bar at its mouth and cataracts not far distant from the coast line. It is, besides ivory, about the only commodity produced in the interior of a tropical country that will bear the expense of transportation, often on the heads of natives along tangled man-paths, to the seaboard. So in many places it has been the basis of first commerce.—From "*India Rubber and Gutta-percha*," by Clarke Dooley, in *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly* for March.