

The addition of thymol in the plaster effects a safe permanent sterilization of the fibre, as there might be a possibility of an evaporation of the formaldehyde, and viable germs might develop. Up to date I have treated about five hundred cases of pulpitis in this manner. In forty-eight hours after the application of arsenic, I removed the pulp and washed the pulp chamber with a 5 per cent. solution formaldehyde, and placed a pellet of cotton with the above paste directly on to the exposed nerves in the canals, and where possible, without causing pain I pumped some of the paste into the canal. The cotton and paste were covered with cement or gutta percha, and the tooth filled permanently. Every one of these cases was successful. I did not require to remove a single filling or extract in any of the teeth. The pain caused by using the concentrated solution of formaldehyde (40 per cent.) was not experienced in a single case where I used the formol paste. The reason I assign for this is the diluted state in which I use the formaldehyde and the addition of cocaine. Another great advantage of this treatment is that the teeth do not discolor. I think I am justified in recommending this method of after treatment of cauterized pulp on the results of my two years' experience. But I will repeat, that I consider the old time style of complete pulp extirpation and filling of the root canal to the apex as the only method with which no fault can be found, but for the numerous cases in which this cannot be done I strongly recommend the forgoing modification.

Although two years' experience is a short time to speak of a permanent success, yet it seems very probable that a sterilized nerve is just as good a permanent canal filling as chloride zinc or gutta percha. Non-success can only occur when the nerve fibres are not thoroughly sterilized. I must lay stress on the fact that the success depends solely upon the thoroughness with which the work is done; the removal of the pulp from the chamber, the washing out of the latter, and the antiseptic treatment of the nerve fibres in the canals with the formol paste. Avoid the unnecessary forcing of the broach into the canal containing live nerve tissue, thus causing pain to the patient. The principal advantage of this treatment is, it causes no pain or inconvenience. I therefore use it particularly with nervous female patients. It is a duty from a humane point of view to inflict as little pain as possible, and for such cases the formol paste has become indispensable with me.

I would not like to close this paper without saying a few words about a method I have been following for some time in the treatment of putrescent pulps, and with such success that it is now a pleasure for me to treat them. The new method is a modification of the sulph. acid treatment of root canals, recommended by Dr. Callahan. I consider the introduction of 50 per cent. sulph. acid into the pulp chamber, and the pumping of it into the canals with