

tors of the public press may be induced to enquire more particularly into the nature of the wares which are advertised so freely in their columns. One of the objects of the "League to oppose Christian Science" is formally declared to be "to enlighten the British public regarding the true nature of this pseudo-science, which, under the cloak of religion, preys on hysteria and ignorant credulity." This is a sound crusade, and the only wonder is that anything of the kind should be wanted in an enlightened community at the beginning of the twentieth century. The second avowed object is of a highly practical nature—to wit, "to make the paid healers responsible for the deaths which take place under their wretched ministrations." In other words, to set in motion the machinery of police and of criminal law administration, which hitherto have been mainly conspicuous by their absence.

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## MEDICAL PREPARATIONS, ETC.

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### CRITICAL REVIEW OF THE ACTION OF FIBROLYSIN ON CICATRICIAL TISSUE.

Dr. Felix Mendel, who introduced fibrolysin (the double salt of thiosinamine and sodium salicylate), reviews in *Merck's Archives* for January, 1912, the article by Dr. Sidorenko, in which the latter reported unfavorably upon this product. (*Deutsche Zeitschrift f. Chirurgie*, 110, Nos. 1-3.)

Sidorenko stated that "fibrolysin shows no therapeutic effect upon cicatricial tissue, and that his opinion is the result of clinical and experimental investigation, and the critical analysis of the material of other authors."

Mendel reviews this conclusion critically. He first shows why the experimental study of Sidorenko, because of the methods used, must be regarded as a failure.

Then he divides the cases in which fibrolysin has been reported to be effective into three groups:

(1) Those that might have healed spontaneously, such as softening of scars, adhesions, etc.;

(2) Those that would probably have been improved as a result of mechanical treatment alone, but which are only cured if the hitherto useless therapy is augmented by fibrolysin injections—cases such as ankyloses and adhesions; and