

## Medicine

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**Hookworm Disease.** E. E. Endicott, Jackson, Cal. (*Journal A. M. A.*, September 30), reports his observations on hookworm disease in the deep mines of California. He believes that it has been a contributing cause, if not a direct cause, of death in many cases reported as due to "miners' consumption" or some other symptomatically diagnosed condition, and he doubts whether there are any deep mines in the United States which have been in continuous operation for a number of years, in which foreign laborers are employed who have worked at the business abroad, that are not more or less infected. As regards the difference between the American and European species, the symptoms produced are practically the same, and the European species has certainly been naturalized long enough to be a native by this time. Endicott gives the well-known symptoms and treatment of the infection, and recommends as a prophylactic method the insistence on proper toilet conveniences in mines and thorough cleansing of the miners and disuse of their working clothes on coming out. The extent of the infection makes it improbable that we can at once destroy the germs in the infected mines. The sanitary regulations made should be strictly enforced.

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**Hookworm Remedies.** A report of the therapeutic investigations on the various hookworm remedies is made by W. H. Schultz, Washington, D. C. (*Journal A. M. A.*, September 30).

Only the results are given, as the details of the experiments, with the discussion of still other remedies studied, will appear in the bulletin of the hygienic laboratory in the near future. The remedies here reported on are thymol, beta-naphthol, male fern and Hermann's mixture of eucalyptus and chloroform. The author concludes that any practical vermifuge, to be efficient against hookworm, must be an irritant of sufficient intensity to paralyze the neuro-muscular apparatus of the parasite, make it loosen its hold and prevent its fresh attachment. Its toxicity for the parasite must be much greater than that for the host or its absorption must