tion to the substitutes, inquiry would seem to reveal the fact that in countries where drug addiction is widely prevalent, there is no evidence of the development of the habit from local anæsthetics other than cocaine. At the same time, in the absence of recorded cases of such, it would be of interest to know whether any of the substitutes had been found to produce mental exaltation and euphoria comparable to that produced by cocaine, and thus providing a basis for its habit-forming property. A. LOGAN TURNER.

A DUAL-PURPOSE WOOL CARRIER.

By B. SEYMOUR JONES, F.R.C.S., Hon. Surgeon Ear and Throat Hospital, Birmingham.

THE double purpose bayonet-shaped wool carrier illustrated here has given such satisfaction that I am prompted to publish a description of it.

Cotton wool twisted around the "business" end is prevented from slipping off during use partly by the splayed-out thin tip and partly by the sand-blasted surface. It serves as a wool carrier for both ear and nose. Any difficulty in removing the wool is surmounted by cutting along the edge with a knife.

The instrument is alternatively used as a probe and for pressing skin or cerumen against the meatal wall to view the tympanic membrane. It is also of unique service for pushing ribbon gauze soaked in anæsthetic solution under a turbinate or between a turbinate and the septum. It does not readily penetrate the gauze, and it can be interposed in a narrower chink than an ordinary probe.



I also use it for conveying B.I.P. to the external auditory meatus in cases of furuncle after incision or rupture, this substance proving, in my experience, the best dressing in preventing recurrence or extension of the affection.

A further use is found in rapidly re-rolling a used bandage, if the hexagonal handle is employed to wind it on and the probe end as a rotatory handle.

The wool carrier is provided in two lengths, one of which is to penetrate to the posterior and upper regions of the nose.

The instrument may be procured from Messrs Philip Harris & Co, Ltd., Edmund Street, Birmingham.

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