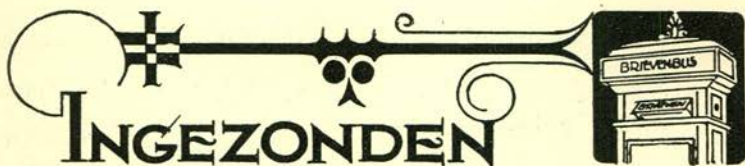


# INGEZONDEN



Onder verwijzing naar de polemiek tusschen de Heeren Flaumenhaf en Tekebroek, waarvan het slotwoord onder Oorspronkelijke Bijdragen in dit nummer is opgenomen, plaatsen wij de volgende ons door de *Dental Fillings Limited*, London, toegezonden regelen:

23-9-'37.

Sir,

*„Kunnen silicaatcementen verbeterd worden door eigenhandig bijmengen van zeep of aanverwante stoffen?“*

We are taking the liberty of trespassing on your space in order to answer the questions implied by the author of the above article.

Tandarts Tekebroek contends that we, the manufacturers of the Silicate Cement which is offered tot the Dental Profession with the addition of Soap, are not convinced that our product is being improved upon by such an addition, as otherwise we would have taken the original product out of the market.

Neither we, nor the Dental Surgeons who use Silicate Cements every day in their lives, are concerned with the theoretical deductions which led Mr. Eberly to advocate the use of Soap in his article in the „Dental Cosmos“. Nor, for that matter, is the Dental Surgeon concerned with the theoretical speculations preferred by Mr. Tekebroek in disputing them.

The point that matters is the statement of facts contained in Mr. Flaumenhaf's article, and which Mr. Tekebroek does not discuss.

These facts are stated thus in Mr. Flaumenhaf's article:

„... , zijn er minstens duizend vullingen gelegd langer dan een jaar geleden.

Van mislukkingen heb ik niets vernomen en zelf ook geen afgestorven pulpae kunnen waarnemen. Deze klinische ervaring wettigt het oordeel, dat men in het silicaatcement met

toevoeging van zeep een materiaal heeft, dat onschadelijk is voor de pulpa."

and

„Daarnaast moet vermeld worden, dat de vullingen, welke ik na een periode van langer dan een jaar heb kunnen controleren er onberispelijk — „als nieuw” — uitzien en er dus geen aanmerkingen te maken zijn op de houdbaarheid van dit materiaal in den mond."

If Mr. T e k e n b r o e k does not wish to dispute these facts, there is only this alternative left, and that is that either the addition of Soap to the *Astralit* accounts for the complete absence of pulp irritation without causing any noticeable deterioration of its lasting properties, or else this fact is not caused by the addition of Soap, but is due to the properties of the *Astralit* itself — a compliment which, coming from Mr. T e k e n b r o e k, we would be very proud to receive.

In our opinion Mr. F l a u m e n h a f t has proved conclusively that instead of lining the cavity under a Silicate Filling, sufficient safeguard against possible pulp trouble is obtained by adding Soap to the silicate cement powder itself. His report on the appearance of the fillings made with *Astralit* so supplemented further indicates that the well known lasting properties of this material are not injured by the addition of Soap. In other words the addition causes no disadvantage which could be held to offset its advantages.

Additional proof of this fact has been furnished — apart from investigations carried out by our own scientific staff — by independent outside research on the crushing strength and disintegration of *Astralit* with and without Soap.

It is, however, not the manufacturer's opinion about his product that matters, but what the Dental Profession thinks about it. The use of *Astralit* with Soap, moreover, demands — as Mr. F l a u m e n h a f t has pointed out — a slightly different technique in its application. From our thirty-five years experience as manufacturers of filling materials to the Dental Profession, we know that the Profession as a whole does not readily adopt a new technique to the complete exclusion of the old one.

It is for these reasons that to-day we hold both *Astralit* with Soap and without at the disposal of the Dental Profession.

Yours truly,

DENTAL FILLINGS LTD.