

advantage. Ichthyol may be given internally up to 15 grains daily without producing any bad effects, and experiments on animals have proved its use to be quite harmless, daily doses of 300 grains only producing diarrhoea. Being very oxidisable. Ichthyol draws oxygen away from the tissues, so that it is a reducing agent; and at the same time it produces an invigorating and antiseptic influence throughout the body and an astringent effect on the vessels, so that it can be used with advantage in many diseases in which there is a dilatation of the capillaries. Details are given of its successful employment in cases of burns, scalds, erythemata, herpes zoster, eczema, acne, syccosis menti, psoriasis, pityriasis capitis, prurigo senilis, boils and carbuncles, erysipelas, rheumatism, gout, neuralgias, contusions and catarrhs. The effects that ichthyol has produced in the hands of these men is such as to warrant a trial. For a good many months it has been employed here, and in one case an erythematous condition with a continuous history of forty years yielded to its use.

PATENT MEDICINES AND THE LAY PRESS.

At the annual meeting in Ottawa, March 3rd and 4th, of the Canadian Press Association, Dr. Playter brought up the subject of patent medicines and cure-all advertisements. Why, the doctor said, should the general press insert such advertisements any more than the medical press? Patent medicines did an incalculable amount of harm. They promoted intemperance and disease, mislead the people in many instances until it was too late, disease having progressed too far for medical skill to apply successful remedies. The most excruciating pain of all pains, to most readers of papers, was "Paine's Celery Compound." The press was a powerful educator, a great power for good or for ill. The time would surely come when the general press would not advertise such humbugs. Dr. Playter asked for a committee to be appointed by the president to report on the subject at the next meeting of the Association. The president referred the question to the executive committee, and said the Association would be pleased to have a paper on the subject for next year's meeting from Dr. Playter. The doctor intends to prepare a paper and to urge upon the Association the desirability of more discrimination in regard to advertisements.