

Editorials.

Electrical Progress.

THE application of electricity to therapeutic purposes is attracting much attention at the present time. A serious obstacle, however, to the more general use of this agent in therapy is the great lack of uniformity in the construction of appliances and the means of connecting electrodes with their source of current. Thus, the instrument of one maker can rarely be used with the apparatus of another, and repair is often a difficult matter.

These difficulties are being considered by the Standing Committee on Electrodes of the American Electro-Therapeutic Association, which, through its chairman, Dr. Charles R. Dickson, of Toronto, is in communication with manufacturers throughout the world with the view of securing the production of efficient, durable, interchangeable electrodes, the universal adoption of uniform connections for instruments, and a standard gauge of screw in the construction of apparatus; and manufacturers have been requested to submit their electrodes to the Committee for testing.

The medical journals, home and foreign, have been asked to accord their hearty co-operation in securing these results, and we are sure it will not be withheld, as the accomplishment of this somewhat formidable undertaking can result in nothing but advantage to maker and customer alike in increased sale, facilitation of repair, and the avoidance of many existing annoyances.

Dr. Dickson is ably assisted in this important work by Dr. Hall Brown, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who will test gynæcological electrodes, and Dr. Riggs, of St. Paul, Minn., who will look after neurological electrodes; while Dr. Dickson will devote his attention to surgical and other electrodes and to connections for instruments.

We hope the labors of the Committee will meet with merited reward, and that a most favorable report will be forthcoming.

The American Electro-Therapeutic Association will meet in Toronto on September 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1895, and members of the medical profession are welcome to its sessions, all of which are open to them. A most interesting programme of papers will be presented, and we bespeak a cordial reception to the Association on this its first visit to Canada.