

quently, and have found that in two-grain doses, repeated when advisable, it acts as well as ten grains, which, we believe, is the ordinary dose prescribed over the drug counter for headaches. In most instances the accidents which have occurred from the use of this drug, or any of the combinations supposed to contain it, will bear investigation and publication in the medical press—but not in the lay press. We submit that the doses of all the coal-tar preparations are generally set down at a too high figure, and the young physician, and those using these for the first time, should feel his way carefully with small doses, when he will find that very often they will prove satisfactory, and that he will not be required to resort to the larger ones. There is one principle of which we are sure, and that is, a drug advertised to the medical profession should not be advertised to the patient.

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We have written so often in the past about patent medicines that our views on that question ought to be understood. There can be no question that the self-prescribing of remedies is a dangerous practice; but we are not going to suppose for one moment that everybody will be driven to a doctor by legislation, when he is a trifle indisposed. In fact, strange to say, doctors do not look for any such millennium. It is the duty of the doctor to warn the public against the evil habit of drug taking, for nefarious habits in this respect are soon and easily formed. Their consequences once formed are often disastrous. Such preparations on the market as contain alcohol beyond a required percentage, cocaine, opium, strychnine, etc., should have their sale restricted and governed in some manner, and the quality of the dangerous drug and the quantity of it should certainly be upon the label of the bottle. Although it is an unwritten therapeutic law, or rather principle, that it is best for the patient not to know what medicines he is taking, we believe in these particulars, in the interests of the public, the law might be modified in the direction indicated. We do not know that it will serve any good purpose having all the ingredients and their respective quantities printed for him who runs to read.