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## NOTE ON THE USE OF A MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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**H**EARING of a proposal to start a new medical journal, the question that at once suggests itself is—Is it worth while? So many periodicals overburden the literature of the profession, and to those of us who have to keep pace with it find an ever increasing difficulty to keep track of the new journals which start every year. But when one considers the conditions in the Canadian North West, the rapidity with which it has grown, the increasing professional population, the existence of a medical school and of several large general hospitals, the wonder rather is that a journal has not been started earlier. No reasonable criticism can be urged against its appearance.

What should be the objects of a medical journal in a comparatively new country?

In the first place, it should serve as a medium of communication between the different provinces. Items of local interest should appear in it, changes in residence, facts relating to the prevalence of diseases, etc., the newspaper side of such a publication should ever be kept in view by the editors.

Secondly, it should direct the policy of the profession. To do this is by no means an easy task, as it does not always happen that the journal is fortunate enough to secure an editor, or editors, with independence of mind and breadth of view. The journal should be the organ of the profession at large, not simply of that of Manitoba, and above all, not simply that of the profession in Winnipeg or the medical school. A good editorial committee representing the different interests should be formed, but there is this serious difficulty—after a few months,