

**SOME EARLY MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN U. CANADA**

(Continued from Page 1)  
many points along the frontier, from Montreal to Detroit. Other medical men came in from time to time, but not being able to cover the ground there appeared a regular flood of unqualified men, practising and deceiving people by the most arrant quackery and they increased to such an extent that it became necessary to protect the settlers from impostors.

Governor or the Military Commander-in-Chief, who appointed some person to examine and report on the fitness of applicants. A medical Board under the chairmanship of Dr. James Macaulay, was formed about 1799, but did not meet very regularly; and a proper check could not be held on unqualified practitioners, and medicine fell into such a condition that we find Bishop Strachan saying, "the Province is overrun with self-made physicians who have no pretension to knowledge of any kind."

The capital was removed from Newark or Niagara to York, and the York General Hospital was founded during the war of 1812, afterwards becoming Toronto General Hospital. A new Medical Act was passed in 1815, and

at that time there were less than forty qualified medical men in the whole of Upper Canada. In 1818 a new Act was again passed and a regular Board appointed, consisting of Drs. Macaulay, Widmer, Lyons and Powell, who held regular meetings every three months and passed on candidates who appeared before them.

About 1796 general inoculation for smallpox was carried on, and numbers of deaths occurred as a result of the severe after-effects of this heroic treatment before vaccination became general. The names of James Macaulay and Christopher Widmer (whose portrait hangs in the General Hospital) are yet remembered as outstanding members of the profession, and who were identified with the formation of the hospital and did so much to raise the standard of the profession.

Dr. John Rolph, a name well remembered by laymen as well as the medical profession, appeared on the Board in the early thirties, and although there was not then any teaching school, he took into his home a number of young men as apprentices, and, with the wonderful gift which he possessed as a teacher, fitted them to pass their examinations; and some of them became leaders, as witness the names of H. H. Wright, and James H. Richardson, who were both professors in the University in later student days. Dr. Rolph had also graduated in law and was a member of the Inner Temple in London, and it was no unusual sight to see him enter Court carrying his saddle bags with his legal briefs and documents on one side and his instruments and drugs on the other. After pleading the case of his client he would walk out and mount his horse and ride away to visit his patients. He was three times elected to Parliament, was an Alderman of the city of Toronto, and would have been first Mayor, but was set aside for William Lyon Mackenzie, who secured that coveted honor. For his connection with the rebels of 1837 he was obliged to flee the country, being assisted in his flight by his student, H. H. Wright, who brought his horse and saddle for him, and he rode on horseback to Niagara, crossed to the United States; and practised for five years in Rochester, where he was followed by Wright and Richardson, to continue their studies. When a general amnesty was proclaimed, he returned and resumed practice, founded what was known as Rolph's School, afterwards incorporated as the Medical Department of Victoria University, and it was at this school I first entered as a student, when Dr. William Caniff, of United Empire Loyalist descent, was dean of the faculty and professor of surgery. There were three medical schools in Toronto at that time, and Victoria became merged with the Toronto during my first session.

My student days in Toronto belong to the second half of the nineteenth century. The names most familiar to me were, Dr. William Clarke, of Guelph, father of the late Lieutenant-Governor, Lionel G. Clarke, Dr. Covertson, Dr. Grassett, Dr. Hodder, Dr. Geikie, Dr. Strange, Dr. Wm. Caniff, Dr. J. E. Graham, Dr. W. T. Atkins, Dr. Old Wright, the two Ogdens, who were all distinguished in their several lines; but many must be passed over.

Dr. "Tommy Atkins," as he was affectionately called by the students, was the outstanding surgeon in the seventies, and, in addition to his professional skill, was a high minded Christian gentleman. I remember one occasion when he came to lecture, he took out of his bag a Bible and after reading a chapter, delivered to us one of the most eloquent and impressive sermons I ever heard. I have no doubt the students of those days needed some fatherly advice, and certainly got it that day.

Each session, Dr. Richardson, on the request of the students, delivered a lecture on the Darwin Theory, and would become so excited and work himself into such a passion in his denunciation of Darwinism, that I fear he would have laid violent hands on Darwin if he could have got hold of him. The doctor was possessed of a most fiery temper, but was a most kindly gentleman and very popular with the students.

On one occasion, when a man was to be hanged at the Don Jail for murder, and being naturally anxious to witness the execution, I secured entrance as a reporter, and being recognized by Dr. Richardson, who was jail surgeon, he commanded me to make the usual post-mortem examination and asked me to carry the brain away to the college for his use in lecturing on anatomy. Of course I had to steal it, and, wrapping it in a towel, carried it under my coat. As this occurred over fifty years ago, I presume the statute of limitations will free me from a charge of larceny.

Another of Rolph's students was Dr. John Barnhart, who practised for a time in Streetsville and afterwards removed to Owen Sound, and in association with his brother, "Dr. Charley", as he was familiarly known by everybody, carried on an extensive practice. There was a great disparity between the ages of the brothers, and they were generally thought to be father and son. They were also very much unlike. John was the very personification of a dignified gentleman of the old school, and Charley was a hail fellow well met, with a keen sense of humor, very popular, and a thoroughly efficient doctor, as I have reason to know, having met him professionally in my early days. They tell a story that on an occasion when he was attending the

wife of a Highland piper named Campbell, he called the father to get out his pipes and play "The Campbells are Coming", and the child was heralded into the world to the strains of that martial music. In a short time he called on him again to repeat the tune, and another child was born, making it twins; but the piper said that was enough and refused to play any more, fearing the results.

One of the outstanding surgeons in a country district is Dr. Andrew Groves, of Fergus, who was one of the first, if not the first, Canadian to do an ovariectomy, and appendectomies without number. He was very original in his ideas, and was about the first to recognize the sterilizing effects of boiling water on his instruments and dressings. There was no distance too great, no road too bad, nor no night too dark to prevent him from responding to any call, and he enjoyed a very large consulting and surgical practice extending over the counties of Wellington, Grey, Bruce, Huron and Dufferin, and many capital operations were performed by him with no better light than coal oil lamps, and even with tallow candles. Some years ago I had the honor of presiding at a complimentary banquet given him, and at which over fifty doctors sat down on the fiftieth anniversary of his commencing practice in Fergus, and it was fully expected he would take the opportunity to announce his retirement from practice; but he is still "going strong", and bids fair to challenge the long distance record set by Methuselah.

When I was a student there were only two specialists that I can recall—Dr. Reeve and Dr. Roseborough—but this is the age of specialization, and the old-fashioned country practitioner, the family doctor, is becoming a thing of the past. Perhaps this is to the public advantage, but I believe the general practitioner, who was dependent on his own resources, developed along broader lines and became more self-reliant than his city confrere who has all the advantages of hospitals, trained assistants, graduate nurses and the best and latest in surgical instruments and appliances. In my early days, when I started with a horse and saddle as my only assets, and bought on credit, having a friend who was such an "easy mark" as to take my note for them, I have the most vivid recollection of doing a craniotomy with a pair of sheep shears, with no assistance. In the case of fractures it was the usual thing to select a nice straight cedar fence rail, split it with an axe, and trim it into shape for a splint with a jack-knife, and, strange to say, the patients as a rule made just as satisfactory a recovery as they do now. The country doctor occupied a unique position. He was regarded as a friend of the family and was often called in to discuss and advise in regard to family matters quite outside of his profession. He was expected to be prepared to draw wills, and I think I can safely say I have drawn hundreds of them and they have always passed muster in the Courts, although devoid of the usual legal terms and technicalities. No doubt my experience has been the same as that of others of the ordinary country practitioners, and many of them could recount their experiences in better and more attractive form than I have been able to do.

**Crawford**

(Our Own Correspondent)  
The date of the Crawford garden party is July 2nd. Please keep this date in mind.

Mr. and Mrs. John Matheson and family of Southampton were Sunday visitors with Mrs. Anderson and family.

Mrs. W. Runnigs, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. W. Runnigs, Jr., and daughter, Miss Marjorie of Dornoch were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John White on Sunday.

Mr. George Pilgrim of the London Police Force visited friends in this community recently and attended church service in the local church last Sunday.

Owing to the funeral of the late Edwin McClocklin of Durham being held on Tuesday, the play "Mother Mine" was postponed until Friday, June 14th. A member of the caste is a nephew of the deceased and this was the reason for again changing the date.

Mr. Russell Fiddes visited on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Boyce.

Miss Blanche Boyce and Mr. N. Ritchie spent Sunday at the former's home.

We were pleased to see that J. D. Brown's name was among the winners in Hanover's relay team. Congratulations!

**South Bentinck**

(Our Own Correspondent)  
Mr. Fred Corbett of Detroit is spending a few days with his mother, Mrs. A. Corbett.

We are glad to see Mr. William Derby, Sr., able to be around again after being so sick.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Marshall spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Milligan.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cresswell and son visited friends on this line last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Smith, Mount Forest visited Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Derby recently.

Mr. Wilfred Parke is ill in Durham hospital. Hope he will soon be able to be out again.

Mrs. James McDonald and son James of Durham spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Norman McDonald. The Allan Park Women's Institute will meet at the home of Mrs. Alex. Grierson on Wednesday, June 12th.

**Calderwood**

(Our Own Correspondent)  
Miss Annastatia Horrigan spent the week-end in Toronto.

Most of the farmers have finished

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seedling and even have their potatoes planted.  
Mrs. A. Henry and Miss Bella Stewart, Mount Forest, spent Thursday on this line.  
A car load of the young folk were in Harrison on Thursday to see the "talkies". They were well pleased with them.  
Miss Mary Smith, North Arthur, and Mr. Arthur Smith, Hanover, spent the

week-end at their home here.  
Mr. George McMillan has purchased a new Chevrolet coach.  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moore and son recently visited the latter's mother, Mrs. Henry Hilgartner, Aylmer.  
Mr. George Miller visited his brother, Herman, in the Mount Forest hospital on Sunday and found him recovering from his recent operation very well.

**Rexall STORE NEWS**

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- Large cans Libby's Pork & Beans, 2 for .25
- Free running table salt, iodized or plain, 3 for .25
- Thompson's Seedless Raisins, 2 lbs. .25
- Large cans good red Salmon, each .25
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- Baby chick starter, 4 lbs. .25
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Refreshments and Lunch Booth on grounds.

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**Will Oil Streets Used As D**

Court of Revision Closed Appeals on Monday Night Council Met in Special Session

The final sitting of the Court of Revision was held on Monday night in council chambers, but the roll as listed in our last issue, Councillor Stonehouse told us that he was not asking for an adjournment. When he moved his house to the location some twenty feet from the street, he was obliged to build a new house. He stated that the Council stepped on his house inside the fire by-law. He made him brick it. This was a real hardship on him, but the Council said they had no choice in the matter. It was the house inside the fire by-law that would have to be bricked. Council stated, however, it would not raise his assessment. The circumstances of the case had been required to live by-law other citizens, not cite numerous cases where shingles had been placed without the necessary assenting, and of other instances houses had been built that were wholly of brick, nor capped with fair that should have been led to adhere to the fire by-law others in town did not. He expressed sympathy for Mr. Stonehouse and after a reconsideration ordered his assessment reduced.

A \$1,800 Signal Mayor Murdoch at the sitting of the Council following the Court of Revision. Communication on the table from Killop of the C. P. R. stated that the cost of plant for Garrafraxa street would be \$1,400 to \$1,800. The Grand Fund paid 40 per cent of the balance would have to be paid by the town and the railway. The annual upkeep of this was quite expensive. Notice was given in the matter of the matter of oiling the streets. The matter of oiling the streets was another matter for Council, and while the dust is very bad it was not possible to oil the front streets. The pavement put down on the streets was to be oil. This discussion about the paving ton and Bruce streets and the streets were to be paved. There seemed little economy in money to oil. It was however, to oil the streets would be in use while the streets were in progress. Albert street was the main street for all north-bound traffic in the course of days when the steam engine operating along Garrafraxa town area, and for a time necessary to use Sadder street was another thorough would in all probability coat of dust layer. The special meeting was the subject of disposing of correspondence which had been and which had been in former regular meetings.

**HANOVER BOY WON ORATORICAL**

Wallace Nickle of the school was the winner of a prize of \$100 at the public contest held in the hall of the school. The contest was held on Monday night, June 10th, and was won by Wallace Nickle, a member of the high school. The prizes were given by Miss Mary Stuart, and Mrs. Fred Stuart. The public speaking as follows: Irene Martin, Elizabeth Acheson of Chatsworth, O. A. C. Guelph, and stated that Miss Stuart's material than Mr. Stuart's public speaking contest were given for delivery. The award as stated by the school orchestra with excellent auditorium with excellent was led by Mr. J. R. Macphail, the school principal of the school. Miss strong of Markdale and piano solo and a song by Margaret Sumner and Vera Flesherston was well rendered. Miss A. C. Macphail addressed after the contest awards and presented to the prize money. Mr. C. Macphail, the school principal of the school, presided over the meeting. Advance.



HON. G. HOWARD Prime Minister and Education for co-op extending Department path for accident sponsored by the H. Committee.