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"THE CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED PARENTS"

Subject of an Address Before
 Kiwanis Club by Inspector
 William Black.

"The Children of Unmarried Parents" was the subject of a most interesting address by William Black, Inspector of the Children's Aid Society, before the Kiwanis Club, at the weekly luncheon in the Frontenac hotel on Monday.

Mr. Black was introduced by President H. C. Nickle and he reviewed the work of the Kingston branch of the Society, and gave figures for the province that were startling. The extent of the prevalence of illegitimacy has only been revealed since 1912 when the total registered under one year of age was found to be 10,784. This number has increased by 2,000 per year, and the infants' homes shelter them up to three years of age. If kept up to twelve years there would be 24,000, and if up to sixteen years, the age fixed by law, there would be 32,000 if all were living. The mortality is high, as three to one die which is a very heavy loss of life.

"The one prolific cause of the existence of infants' homes is illegitimacy," said the speaker, who added that the only way to deal with the problem was to put the axe at the foot of the tree that bears these unfortunate children. "In 1914 the act was made more effective, but in only one case in 344 was the father brought to book. In 220 cases out of 687 there was a satisfactory settlement; in 335 failure to get a settlement, and one-third of the total are still pending."

This act has not been operative in this city before and Mr. Black told of his efforts to have it carried out properly. If the problem of the unmarried parents is properly dealt with these institutions will cease to exist. The infants' home here is the only institution of its kind and children have been brought to it when but one day old. It is doing splendid work, but instead of being in a flourishing condition it is carrying a mortgage.

The composition of the Child Welfare Branch of the Ontario government was briefly outlined by the speaker who reviewed the methods of working out the act. The registrar is required to report all cases to the head office, and there is no interference with adoption when the case has been found to be properly placed. Here Mr. Black read a letter received from a foster-father expressing profound gratitude upon receiving a lovely baby from the Kingston home.

"We don't want to fill up institutions, but to fill the foster-homes. It is necessary, though, that the proper procedure be carried out to make wards of the children."

The speaker explained the steps to be taken to obtain an affiliation order. "Such an application is made to a judge and it can be made by the young woman about to become a mother, by the hospital, the inspector or anyone connected with the case. Out of twenty-six wards declared since my appointment, nearly all have been permanently placed. When the order is given, the man must pay for confinement and maintenance of the child until it is sixteen years old at the rate of \$4.50 per week; and in case of the death of the child, he must also pay the funeral expenses. He may make a settlement, however, under the terms of the act, by paying in cash."

"In order to determine the father in any case, there must be evidence to corroborate that of the mother, and in one-third of the cases that have failed this was due to the lack of such evidence. When the man is located, he must give security, and if he fails he faces a term of imprisonment."

"There have been objections to the act, the cost of putting it into operation, for instance, but the legitimate mother is protected. It lowers the standard of mortality, and it gives to the illegitimate child an equal standard for the first time in our history, in the community and in the province which take the place of parent."

The speaker declared that there is no such thing as an illegitimate child, for every child should be protected by the law and be given equality of opportunity in the pursuit of happiness.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Black on a motion of Dr. L. J. Austin, seconded by Dr. Ernest Sparks.

"This problem is world-wide," said Dr. Austin, "and the Anglo-Saxon countries have trampled the mother and her child into the mire. In contrast, we see what attempts have been made in some European countries. Hospitals have been in existence for the protection of mother and child, from the highest to the lowest; and in one city there is an hospital with 3,000 beds where no questions are asked, and the state takes complete charge of the child. That might not satisfy our moral standards, but from a practical viewpoint, it does very well. In one country all illegitimate boys are assigned to the army, 150 to each regiment, and these boys were the back-bone of national defense. Some continental countries have never stigmatized the mother and child as the Anglo-Saxons have done, and they never threw mud or scorn, but made provision that such children might be legitimized. I do not

think we are going to see the end of this problem."

During the roll call the following guests were announced: Rev. W. Black, J. M. Sparks, Des Moines, Iowa; Col. Schmidlin, R.M.C.

The matter of attendance was raised and the president announced that if the average was not raised steps would be taken to increase the club's percentage by dropping the chronic absentees. Frank J. Hoag read a report showing the standing of the clubs in the district. Kingston was given a standing of "40.6" for the month of February which was regarded as unsatisfactory.

Frank Hoag stated that a special meeting of the Belleville club would be held for the presentation of the charter and he asked that a large number go from Kingston on that occasion, the date of which will be made known later.

The sum of \$325 was voted to the Hotel Dieu on the welfare fund for the purpose of assisting in the erection of the new nurses' home.

Next week there will be a series of entertainments at the House of Providence, and on the second day the programme will be given under the auspices of the Kiwanis Club.

OFFICERS WERE ELECTED.

At Meeting of Council of Religious Instruction of Anglican Church.

The council of religious instruction of the Anglican church in Kingston, met in St. Luke's hall on Monday evening, and the gathering was marked by the largest attendance in the history of the organization. The president, Mr. Hamilton, was in the chair. After the reading of the minutes by the secretary, Miss Laura Ryder, a nominating committee was appointed for the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the result that Charles Bunt, of St. James' church, was elected president; Alfred Woodrowe, of St. Luke's, vice-president; Miss Malone, of St. George's, secretary-treasurer.

The following were elected on the executive committee: Rev. W. E. Kidd, Rev. W. Hilyard Smith, and Misses Alma Graham, Rose Compton and Laura Ryder.

Miss Lowe, of St. George's cathedral, taught a model lesson from the church catechism, which provoked a discussion and hearty applause and well merited praise.

The question of picnics, excursions and other schemes were also discussed and committees were appointed to further investigation.

After the business, the members were entertained in a most hospitable way by Rev. J. de P. Wright and the teachers of St. Luke's Sunday school.

Sons of England Smoker.
 Lobster Lodge No. 33, of the Sons of England Benevolent Society, held an enjoyable smoker in the S. O. E. hall, on Monday night, when a goodly number of members and their friends enjoyed a splendid address on "St. George and the Dragon" by Dean Starr. Refreshments were served and a happy evening brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

Appointed Delegates.
 At a meeting of the executive committee of the Kingston Liberal Association on Monday evening, delegates were selected to attend the Ontario convention which opens in Toronto Wednesday. The following were named: Ambrose Shea, James Halliday, Lt.-Col. W. J. Morgan, M. Sullivan, W. J. Fair and Dr. C. C. Nash.

Repairing a Wharf.
 The Canadian National Railway is making repairs to the wharf in front of the station and a good job is being done. This wharf has been in an unsafe condition for a number of years and was an eyesore. A large quantity of rubble is being brought in by cars and used as filling.

Lorne Stanton, Barriefield, left on Saturday for Detroit, Mich.



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Safe Fur Storage

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We have made it possible for every boy to have a Baseball Mitt, having purchased an enormous quantity of Mitts at a very low price. On sale now.

BOYS' MITTS 39c **BOYS' MITTS 59c** **BOYS' MITTS 79c**
 Regular \$1.00. Extra Special Regular \$1.50

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 Beautiful material, 50 inches wide. Rose, Brown, Green. Priced at \$1.50 yard. Guaranteed Sunfast Poplin.
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 Beautiful Velour in Single and Double face. Pretty shades of Rose, Brown, Green, Blue.
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Window Shades, Brass Rods, Curtain Poles, Oilcloths, Linoleums, etc. Big range at low prices.

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You are known by the hat you wear
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Our Shoes for Children are made on nature shaped lasts, which permit the natural growth of the foot. No cramping, no misfits. The excellent variety of sizes and styles insure a proper fit for every foot.

AT \$1.75—Black Kid Buttoned Boots, Patent Leather trim, nature shaped last, spring heel. Sizes 5 to 8.
 AT \$2.00—Patent button Boots, patent lace Boots, black kid lace and button boots, black calf lace and button boots, all made on nature shaped lasts. With spring heels. All sizes 4 to 7 1/2.
 AT \$2.50—Black kid lace Boots, nature shaped last with the new, long-wearing, Bulldog Brand Sole. All sizes 5 to 7 1/2.
 Also a large and complete stock of Nursery and Hewetson Shoes for Children.

S. J. MARTIN

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THIRD LARGE PRINTING, OCTAVO, 408 PAGES \$4.00
COLLEGE BOOK STORE

Mrs. Merrick Lloyd, Brockville, passed away on Saturday, after a illness of lengthy duration. Deceased was born at Mallorytown, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Kimurray.
 On Friday there passed away at Belleville, Sarah Ann Coker Sulman, daughter of Fuller Coker, Norfolk, England, aged eighty-three years.
 Owing to the heavy jam of ice on the Muskrat River the dam above the Pembroke Flour Mills went out on Saturday. This had not happened for years before.
 Mind is a kingdom to the man who gathers his pleasure from ideas.