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DR. AUSTIN TELLS ALL ABOUT QUACKS

An Able Address Given Before the Kiwanis Club by Queen's Surgeon.

"Quacks and Quackery," as expounded by Kiwanian John Austin before the Kiwanis club at their noonday luncheon on Monday, proved a most interesting subject.

Even yet there is a good deal of superstition. The speaker had recently met a gentleman of apparently good education who carried a seed potato in either pocket as a preventive of gout.

In Roman times there was an enemy monarch named Mithradates who was so successful in outwitting the expeditions which the Romans organized for his assassination that the legend became established that he held a secret remedy which made him proof against poison.

Later came Venice Treacle, a wonderful remedy for plague, which was used until about fifty years ago. This was extremely expensive, and the guilds which grew rich by its manufacture held special ceremonies when its ingredients were being mixed at special seasons of the year.

There were highly-priced stones such as the Toad stone and another rarely found in the intestine of goats in Persia. As only one such stone was found in about eight thousand goats it was very valuable and was given as presents by royalty.

We owe many of our art treasures to the desire to secure divine intervention in epidemics. Many of the old Italian paintings of Madonnas and some altar pieces were first made to be carried in procession through plague stricken cities.

Patent Medicines. Patent medicines exist in countless thousands. In Great Britain the government tax on these recently netted two million pounds in one year, meaning that the people had spent some ten million pounds in dosing themselves—enough to have kept all the doctors in the land in affluence.

The speaker divided patent or proprietary medicines into groups. There were those which are elegantly prepared, pleasant to take and useful for the diseases for which they are prepared. These contain the drugs which are commonly used by physicians for the same diseases.

There is the group containing drugs whose use has been abandoned by the medical profession as they contain no active principle. Such a remedy for instance as sarsaparilla which has not the slightest medicinal value, but a very catchy name. In this class are the tablets and pills which contain nothing but sugar or some harmless and inoffensive compound, which are sold at big prices to the gullible. And lastly there are the dangerous medicines which do a vast amount of harm annually. These include remedies which carry opium and other habit forming drugs. These should be forbidden by law. So should the remedies which contain a large proportion of alcohol. Drugs and ointments professing to cure cancer are particularly vicious, because they often lead sufferers to postpone the only effective cure which we know at present, the surgeon's knife.

The new law which is about to come into force in Ontario forbids the use of the title doctor to any but qualified physicians and surgeons, or those who have satisfied an examining board. This will protect the sick from their own folly.

Club Business. Mrs. C. C. Folger was the booster and received an enthusiastic "rock-er" from the club. Mr. Frank Anglin won a splendid electric iron as attendance prize and other good prizes went to Professor J. McKee and Mr. Garnet Lockett.

The guests of the club were Judge Hopkins, father of Dr. Bruce Hopkins, of Mowat Sanatorium, Dr. Berry and Torvell of the General Hospital, and Messrs. W. Becking and Ross McKee.

President W. Moore announced that there were 73 members with 50 per cent. attendance and ten with 100 per cent.

Two teams of bowlers accompan-

GAVE ADDRESS BEFORE THE URBAN TRUSTEES

J. G. Elliott of Kingston Spoke on "The School and Citizenship."

At the Ontario Educational Association convention in Toronto, on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. J. G. Elliott, Kingston, spoke before the Urban trustees on "The School and Citizenship." He said because of her geographical extent and brief history, some of the ties which weld an aggregation of peoples into a nation are lacking in Canada. It is therefore exceedingly necessary that patriotism be taught through the church, press, platform and school. Through the teaching of patriotism to a child the home and parents are reached in a way which would be possible in no other way.

Unfortunately in our schools the study of civics is now largely incidental to the study of history. As a result the pupil has often a clearer idea of the organization and powers of a Saxon council than of his own city council. He may know how Charles I collected ship money, and not know how taxes are collected in Canada. And as only twenty-three per cent. of our children advance beyond the public school it is important that the rudiments of civics should be made intelligible to those in the primary school.

A graded course should be outlined throughout our whole school system. It should be taught separately from history and emphasized more than at present, though with a due sense of proportion. From the first a sympathetic attitude should be developed towards the government and public administration. The beginner learns about those members of the government whom he sees and knows the policeman—not as a bug bear and to have children regard him with fear, suspicion or ridicule, but as a public servant and a friend—fireman, postman, street cleaner and so on. From these the expanding intelligence and widening experience of the child advances to the school board and city or town council and the various officials upon whom the conduct of the affairs of a city depend. Moreover, children may be enlisted in active public service, not only in the protecting of property from childish depredations but in planting flowers and shrubs and keeping the streets clean of papers and rubbish.

As the horizon of political knowledge broadens the next advance is to the provincial legislature and the House of Commons. Older boys and girls can receive lessons on the franchise and the dangers of bad government. At election time a children should be given an opportunity to learn to vote, elections being held in the schools at the same time as their fathers and mothers are voting at the polls.

While such knowledge is important, the vital thing is an awakened sense of public duty. In this a sympathetic study of the lives of national leaders does more than anything else to rouse an admiring and responsive spirit in the people. The subject must be humanized, it must be made vital by local illustration and the personal relation and responsibility always made clear.

When citizenship is thus brought in close touch with the pupil's life he is not only informed with facts but his personal life is touched and the pure flame of patriotism nourished.

The machinery of the state, concluded Mr. Elliott, does not always run smoothly or efficiently. Our laws are not all wise, and those that are just are sometimes administered with indifferent justice. The relations between capital and labor are so far from settled that they constitute the severest strains upon our social unity. In spite of the influ-

ences of many good homes, of the school, the church and the state we are unable to control crime effectively, either at its origin or its fruition. We have a large and increasing amount of serious crime. State education has not yet eliminated ignorance nor the church unrighteousness. But while this is true, it does not mean that social and political control can not keep pace with the tremendous advance Canada is making in the control of its material possibilities. It only shows the serious nature of the problems of citizenship waiting for solution. Let us in the press, the platform, the school and the church tackle the work and secure results.

LOCAL TALENT PRESENT A SPLENDID PLAY

"Peg o' My Heart" Delighted Audience at the Grand Opera House.

The members of the Hotel Dieu Nurses' Alumnae are to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which "Peg o' My Heart," was presented at the Grand Opera House on Monday evening. Charles Gates, the director, and the members of the cast, played their parts to the entire satisfaction of all present. It was the general opinion of all who attended the show, that it was without doubt one of the best amateur performances presented in Kingston in some time.

Miss Mary Gratton, who took the role of "Margaret O'Donnell," was the outstanding member of the cast. Her acting was very fine, and although she had more than any of the other members of the company to do, she carried on as though she had been on the stage for years.

Arthur G. Self, as "Alaric Cluchester," was exceptionally good in his impersonation of an English lord, and kept the audience in laughter with his funny sayings. Mr. Charles Woodhouse, of Mikado fame, took the leading man's part, as Jerry, to perfection, and showed that he is an actor of considerable ability. "Ed" Cousins, as Hawkes, the lawyer, handled his part very capably, and Howard McDonald, as Christian Bent, was very good.

Myrtle Leaden, as Ethel Cluchester, took her part to perfection, and Mrs. Hubert Horton, as Mrs. Cluchester, was very good. Mr. Charles Gates has been seen in many amateur shows in Kingston and has taken many different roles, but in "Peg o' My Heart," as Jarvis, the butler, he was at his best.

Specialties were provided between the acts. Master Charles Paradis sang "I Wonder What's Become of Sally," Mabel Paradis and Dorothy Lewers rendered a delightful duet and received great applause from the audience. Mr. R. Betts kept the audience in laughter, with his funny songs and was encouraged many times. It is to be hoped that this wonderful cast will be kept together and that in the near future, another similar play will be presented.

To-night is the night of the Liberal Rally in Memorial Hall. Come early and get a good seat.

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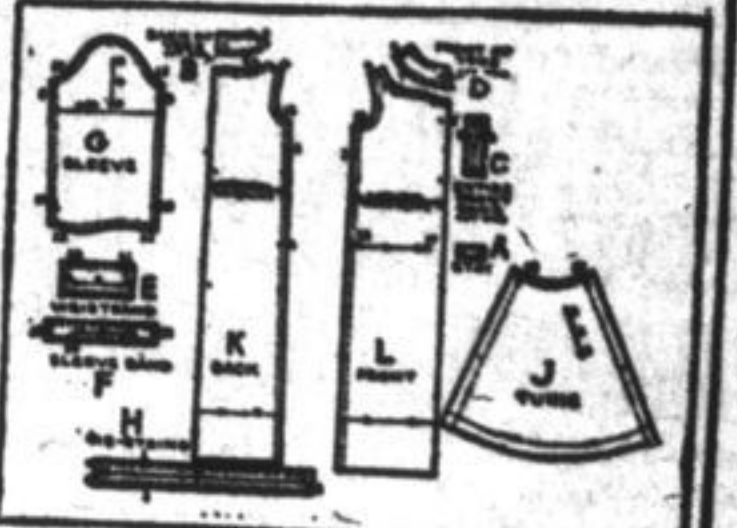


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INTERESTING DEBATE HELD AT Y.M.C.A.

Question of Insurance Formed the Topic for Discussion.

At the weekly meeting of the Y's Men's Club, held at the Y.M.C.A. on Monday evening, the programme took the form of a debate between Donald Roughton and B. G. Robertson. Mr. Robertson took the affirmative on the subject, "Resolved that straight life insurance surpasses all others."

Mr. Robertson, during the course of the fifteen minutes at his disposal, brought forward a strong argument that straight life insurance was the better proposition.

Mr. Roughton, who took the negative side, tried to convince his hearers that long term endowment was better for the man taking out the insurance. No judges were appointed, and for that reason no decision was given.

During the early part of the programme, an orchestra, composed of Ernest Madrand, Lloyd Davis and Donald Roughton, furnished music, which was very much appreciated. The "sing-song" was very much enjoyed. Harry Underwood, who recently entered the employment of the firm of John Laidlaw & Sons, Ltd., favored with a solo.

The club decided to make formal application for a charter, and about sixteen of the members signed the application form.

It is the intention of the social committee to put on an evening's entertainment for the patients at the Mowat Hospital in the very near future. The club is entering a team in the Soft Ball League, which is being organized in the city.

Harold Elliott, president of the club, was in the chair, and a large number of the members were present.

A Young Lady Drowned in Lake Timagami North Bay, April 14.—Word reached here to-day of the drowning in Lake Timagami on Friday last of Miss Mary Turner, member of well-known family in that region. With her brother George and an Indian guide she was crossing the lake on the ice from Bear Island to Timagami. A dog team was carrying mail and the girl is believed to have been riding on the sleigh. The team crashed through the ice, the girl being carried down with the outfit. The brother and guide managed to get to firm ice and save themselves, but could find no trace of the girl. The body was recovered a few hours later.

Hon. George P. Graham, Hon. Duncan Marshall and Mr. J. M. Campbell will speak at the Liberal Rally in Memorial Hall to-night.

The spring dresses are fuller than we have been accustomed to, but they give a slimmer silhouette, because it is achieved without severity or apparent effort.

Hear Hon. George P. Graham and Hon. Duncan Marshall at Liberal Rally in Memorial Hall to-night. Collars that lie closely about the neck in front or back are much smarter than those with more revealing and daring cuts. An orchestra will provide a fine programme at the Liberal Rally to be held in Memorial Hall to-night, and Hon. Duncan Marshall, former minister of agriculture in the Alberta government, will be the chief speaker.

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Big Liberal Rally at Memorial Hall to-night. Hon. George P. Graham, minister of railways and canals, and Hon. Duncan Marshall, former minister of agriculture in the Alberta government, will be the chief speakers.

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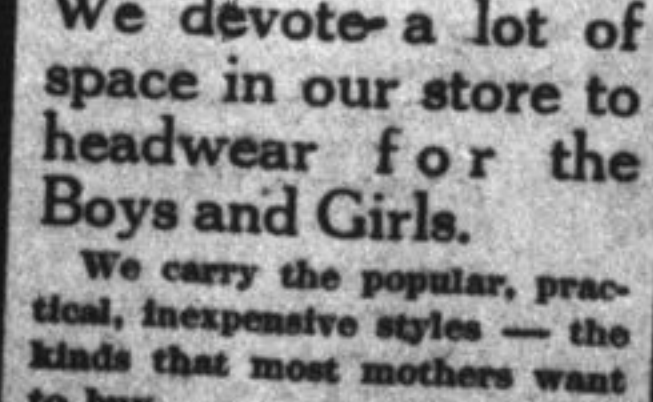
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