

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

MRS Jeanness Miller, the eminent dress reformer, has been lecturing before the Toronto Teachers' Association upon "Physical Culture and Proper Dress." Mrs. Miller is a woman of striking personality. She is tall and graceful, and possesses a form of perfectly symmetrical proportions. She has a sweet but strong intellectual countenance. Her manner is charming, inasmuch as it is absolutely free from affectation, and in every respect gracious and womanly. Her voice is melodious, her dictation fine and her style of delivery effective.

In finely rounded periods, she pointed out the dangers of woman's disobedience to the laws of nature in the matter of dress, not only to the present age and generation, but to posterity. Complex nature must be given a chance of development, but by the present irrational methods of dress the last vestige of Eden-born woman was endangered. Mrs. Miller said that the sentiment of modesty was so unique in its practical application that one never knew when it was safe to employ the good old mother tongue in expounding practical ideas. There was, no doubt, much false modesty, and the standard of modesty varied in different countries. The bathing suit worn at the seaside in perfect confidence in the presence of men would be hooted upon the public streets. Could any person give the reason why? Possibly it was on account of the limbs which she would take the liberty of translating more correctly into legs. They never objected to that designation in the case of men. Had the Creator meant men only to have legs, he would undoubtedly have provided women with some other means of locomotion. The royal road to beauty and the grace of perfect proportions was to know how to dress. The principal objections to the ultra fashionable dress of today were its unhealthfulness and its general inutility for ordinary purposes.

Mrs. Miller, according to the Toronto Empire, was particularly severe on the wearing of corsets, which prevented the freedom of action required by the body to enable it to perform its natural functions. Put the whole race of men in women's dress, she said, and they

would become jabbering idiots or dead men in ten years. Women must get rid of ligatures and bands at the waist. The dress should be so constructed as to simply follow the natural lines of the body, beginning at the neck and clothing each arm and each leg to the hands and feet. The reform she proposed simply involved a change in the undergarments. The outside skirt would not be divided. Mrs. Miller enumerated the articles of wear that should be substituted for those now said to be in vogue. First, there is a combination suit the exact shape of the body, over which garment is a waist with slender bones, for many women felt that they must have something to take the place of corsets. This waist, Mrs. Miller explained, does away with all the objectionable features of the corset. Over this was a third garment, also a combination garment. Mrs. Miller said that she felt really sorry for women who wear petticoats. Like them, she had stood at the street corner on a windy day, climbed stairs and gone out walking in wet weather. The combination garment checked the evils of the petticoat, and was vastly superior to it from the hygienic, physiological and anatomical standpoint. Petticoats and dresses were a multiplication of resistance, and the result was a constant strain upon the back. Regarding the outside dress, there was one essential feature, and that was that it should always be upon a foundation that gets rid of the band about the waist. The outside dress would for the present be designed largely in accordance with the prevailing conventionalities, for while the women were being educated to the reform it was better that its advocates should go about their work in a conservative way. The tea-gown that she wore, and which got rid of the ordinary underwear, was conventional.

Mrs. Miller then retired, and in two minutes reappeared attired in a school girl's costume, which was extremely neat in appearance, and afforded all the necessary bodily freedom. She next donned a street dress, which was comfortable, conventional and inconspicuous. Mrs. Miller again retired for a moment and reappeared in a pretty carriage and calling dress of the conventional style. She said that she believed that the ideal walking dress will

come to the knees, and that it will be so artistically designed that it will not shock sensibility at all. But they had to lead up to it gradually. She had seen the dress worn with charming effect.

"Mrs. Miller," said a lady, "you do not say how the divided skirt is supported."

"I am going to show you after a while," replied Mrs. Miller, smilingly. "I am going to ask all the gentlemen to go out first."

Again she disappeared, and in a short time came back clothed in a beautiful evening costume, which was cut low enough only to display a rounded, shapely neck. This conventional fashionable dress, although it was not her idea of a handsome dress, carried out her ideas as to a correct dress.

"Good night, gentlemen," she said with a bewitching smile, and the gentlemen took the hint. They waited about the corridors and ante-rooms while the mysteries of the divided skirt were being explained.

Mutual Life 6 per cent. consols.

LOTS FOR SALE.

The following described lots are now offered for sale: Lots valued at \$500 each in parcels of twenty, to be paid for in twenty instalments, each of equal amount, and to include all charges.

The property is guaranteed to increase in value each year under a certain contingency until, with the payment of last instalment, the present value will be doubled.

A unique feature is that in case of the owner's death the mortgage is extinguished and payments cease.

A very valuable clause of the contract is the guarantee of the company that the property, when paid for, will produce a revenue (without spending further capital for improvements) equal to at least 6 per cent., free of taxes. For particulars apply to

HEISTERMAN & CO.,

Real Estate and General Agents,
75 Government Street, Victoria, B. C.

CHAS. E. JONES,
DRUGGIST.

36 Government Street.

Prescriptions Compounded Day and Night.