

# Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XLIII.

JUNE 1.

NO. 11.

## *THE LEGAL ASPECT OF RACE SUICIDE.*

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At the May assizes held in Orangeville a man named Jackson pleaded guilty to the offence of unlawfully administering drugs to a woman with the intent of procuring a miscarriage. Under the Criminal Code of Canada he became liable to a maximum penalty of imprisonment for life, but as a matter of fact he was released on suspended sentence on giving a bond for \$1,000 to appear when called upon. As the presiding judge said in addressing the jury, he "might never be called upon," and there can be little doubt that so long as he keeps himself clear of the criminal law in the future, no sentence will ever be imposed upon him.

A druggist, one Douglas, from whom the drugs are alleged to have been procured, is under indictment for the same offence, but it is stated that as he has already been used as a Crown witness against Jackson, no further proceedings will be taken against him. These circumstances have caused a good deal of excitement, and it is said some indignation, in Orangeville and the surrounding country, and assertions have been freely made in the newspapers that there has been, or is likely to be, a gross miscarriage of justice in the case of both Jackson and Douglas, and the Crown authorities have been admonished in no measured terms that the best thing they can do is to repair their alleged errors, as far as possible, by calling up Jackson to receive a punishment adequate to the crime of which he has pleaded guilty, and by proceeding against Douglas with the utmost rigour of the law. The case has unfortunately acquired to some extent a political importance, and assertions are freely bandied about by leading Toronto journals of both parties, one of which accuses the Attorney-General and the prosecuting counsel of giving an explanation which is "not only weak and inconsequent, but in every phrase of it sus-