

THE SASKATCHEWAN MEDICAL JOURNAL

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Editorial Notes

**Knee-Joint
Surgery** Last April before the Chicago Surgical Society, Dr. E. Wyllys Andrews presented a paper, entitled "Laparotomies upon the Knee-joint for Fractured Patella, and a New Method of After-Treatment." The term used, "Laparotomy," as applied to this region, is rather unique, but it is just what the author of the paper intended that it should be. The operative measures advised by Dr. Andrews are not new, it has been advised by other operators, and consists of suturing the various structures overlaying the bone. In fact, instead of uniting the boney tissue direct, the method of suturing is not the all important consideration of this subject, it is the after-treatment, and as the author says: "Passive motion should be tried lightly on the table and daily thereafter. In this way the tedious course of massage and movements needed after removing the usual splints is avoided. This daily movement is not as dangerous as it has seemed to some of my colleagues, who were quite shocked and very skeptical when I described it."

Dr. Andrews is to be congratulated on his paper, which will do much to advance knee-joint surgery. Those interested on this subject will find a case report in our last issue, and in which is referred a classical memoir by Benjamin Tenney, M.D., of Boston, in the *Annals of Surgery*, November, 1909.