

Ald. Boustead—

We don't want a hotel upon the Island.
There are quite plenty to be found on dry land.
The space upon the Island park's too small
To give the boys a chance to play base ball.

Ald. Maughan—

Base bawler cease! your reasons we know well,
Your interested in Lorne Park Hotel;
You want to rope the visitor to stay
At your shebang—nor care for base ball play.

Ald. Gillespie—

Oh yes, 'tis very well to make a noise
And talk about the playground of the boys,
But let the Council here make no mistake.
We're onto Boustead's little Lorne Park fake,
And summer visitors will surely shrink
From putting up where there is naught to drink.

Ald. Leslie—

I'm down on fellers who to
grind their axes
Would beat the city out of
rent and taxes,
Which this here big hotel
will surely bring.

Ald. Boustead—

I do not care what mud you
choose to sling,
But don't curtail the few
free breathing spots
Which we have left by leas-
ing Island lots;
Your imputations might be
deemed unkind,
But they pass by me as the
idle wind.



The report was referred back to the Executive Committee.

THE ORIGIN OF SPEECHES.*

BY DARWIN JUNIOR.



It is not my intention to attempt anything in this essay that might belittle the scholarly works of Darwin, Huxley, Wallace or Hæckel on the Origin of Species, and yet it appears to me that had these other gifted geniuses taken up my subject as a preliminary one, matters would have been very much simplified in connection with the work they so admirably performed. Lucretius had

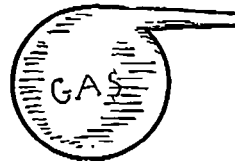
an inkling of what I see so clearly, and Lamarck seems to have stumbled over the idea, only to pick himself up and abandon it.

I could, if necessary, prove quite satisfactorily that the first anthropoid ape who could speak was the first woman, for according to my theory the gift of speech came primarily to our great female ancestor, and was by her communicated to the duller he-fellows. But this is not my purpose. The object of this paper is the origin of speeches, not the origin of speech.

Now, as to the origin of speeches I may say at once that, as in the case of species, it is of a multiple character. What originates a speech in one man may have no similar effect upon another; or what originates one kind of speech may be powerless to originate any other kind of speech.

E.g. Take parliamentary speeches—speeches that have nothing in them—whence come they? Those who

*It is only in keeping with my reverence for the eternal veracities to inform the readers of GRIP that I offered to read the present essay at a recent meeting of the Canadian Institute and was mortified to be informed that the subject was not a suitable one. What they seem to want is something about fossils, dead languages and dead Indians.

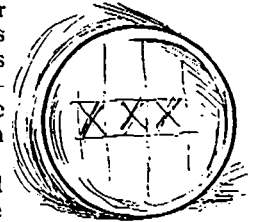


know best about such babblings declare that their origin may be traced easily to the source indicated in this cut. This may in some measure account for the retorts that such speeches often call forth. Such is the German

theory as enunciated by Gottlieb Kruntztheimer, but the French take quite a different view. They contend that in ninety-nine per cent. of the speeches uttered in their *Corps Legislatif* the instrument or article shown here suggests the true origin. The latter theory certainly accounts for some speeches made on this continent, for we frequently find that the less a man has to say the louder he bellows while he is saying it.



British philosophers adopt what is known as the "composite view." They acknowledge the truth of the two continental theories, while they claim for the contents of the vessels here illustrated a large



share of inspiration, at least, in so far as Britain is concerned.

It is quite well authenticated that in the northern part of the island, at any rate, natives thus addicted become unusually argumentative under its influence especially upon matters relating to theology and ecclesiasticism.

The eclectic philosophers are found mainly in America as might be expected. According to them the origin of speeches is of an extremely variable character. They acknowledge the corn in line with the British theorists, and

CANDIDATES.	Place a X opposite name.
John Smith.	
Sam. Jones.	
R. White.	
Thos. Brown.	

are at one with the continental philosophers, but they are of opinion that such influences as are represented by the annexed diagram of a ballot-paper have much to do with the origin of many speeches uttered on this side of the Atlantic.

It is also contended by them that certain circular pieces of precious metal manufactured at Philadelphia and San Francisco tend in a large measure towards the origination of speeches that otherwise would never have



had utterance.

Canadian speechologists claim that in addition to the various origins already mentioned there are others equally potent, as one may readily guess who pays any attention to the reports of proceedings in our Legislatures, municipal councils and public gatherings of various kinds.

GRIP cannot agree with his fellow philosophers in such a view. He believes that all the speeches that are specified in Canada are inspired purely by patriotism and by that sense of right, purity, justice, etc., etc., etc., that animates every noble-minded citizen like Rykert, McGreevy and sich, who are falsely charged with fattening at the public crib.