

O. T. A. Case Falls Flat

"I prefer to accept the evidence of the defendant and his housekeeper, that the doctor did examine the two 'special officers' when they applied to him for a liquor prescription and that his examination warranted him issuing liquor prescription and I shall dismiss the case," said Magistrate Brunton in deciding the charge made against Dr. W. S. Olton, of Newmarket, in the County Police Court this morning.

Edwin Blundell and Normal Livingstone, two special O. T. A. officers told of having visited the physician and without being examined as to whether they were ill or not, being given two liquor prescriptions for which they paid \$1 each.

The charge against Dr. Olton was that he "being a legally qualified physician did unlawfully issue liquor prescriptions."

Blundell testified that on Jan. 5 he visited Dr. Olton and after telling him that he was from the north, asked for a liquor prescription which he received without being examined. He then went to the post office where he met Livingstone. He then took Livingstone back to the doctor and introduced him as his cousin. When asked for another prescription the doctor, he stated, said: 'I think I can fix him up.' Livingstone corroborated this evidence.

Miss Beatrice Stoddard, housekeeper testified that she saw Blundell being examined by the doctor, through a partly open door, while Livingstone was in the hall.

Dr. Olton in testifying stated:

"I remember Blundell coming to me alone on Jan. 5. He told me he wanted to get some liquor because he was a returned man who had been gassed while overseas; that he had been having some hard trips, especially from Barrie that morning. He told me that he was afraid that he was going to have another attack of his gas trouble. I know from overseas experience that men gassed are liable to attacks. His voice was husky. I examined him and concluded that liquor would be beneficial to him."

"Livingstone came along and complained of a chill. I examined him and found a mild bronchial condition so I gave him a prescription."

Crown Attorney Murphy pressed for a conviction on the testimony of the two officers.

Magistrate Brunton—"They may have been too officious in the matter of getting evidence, or, the doctor may have concocted his defence. If the doctor's story is true then these two officers should be immediately dismissed. I cannot convict."

Dr. Clay Dead.

Officials of the medical department of Western University have been notified of the death in Roundup, Mont., of Dr. George Clay, a graduate of the medical college in the class of 1899. The notification was received from Dr. C. F. Pigot of Roundup, who is also a graduate of Western, and who is now President of the Montana Medical Association.