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## The Doctor's Consulting Room

Conducted by **OSWALD C. J. WITHEROW,\***  
**M.B. (Tor.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.)**

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FOR the first time it is possible to present definite findings of examinations at a Medical Board Centre somewhere in Canada.

Analysis of 883 examinations:—

A2 422, B2 79, C 14, C2 8, C3 38, D3 33, E 289.

A2 402, A2 illiterate 20.

B C and D 163, B C and D illiterate 9.

E rejected as follows:

Rupture 42, underheight, underweight and undersize 38, deformities from old accident or disease 28, piles 21, mental deficiency 20, varicose veins 20, tuberculosis 18, rheumatic fever 11, chronic discharge from ears 10, valvular disease of heart 10, defective sight and hearing 9, various amputations 9, results of infantile spinal paralysis 5, epilepsy 5, asthma 4, Osteomyelitis (inflammation of bones) 4, Old Pott's fracture (ankle) 3, Grave's disease 3, knee joint affections 3, anal fistula 3, chronic eczema 2, diseases of spine 2, bad stammering 2, active syphilis primary and secondary 2, underage 2, overage 1, insanity 1, diabetes 1, wry neck 1, discharging sinus in neck 1, chronic laryngitis 1, chronic gonorrhoea recurrent 1, deformity of back bone 1, night blindness 1, tachycardia (fast heart) 1, deafmute 1, extensive callous soles of feet 1, prolapse of rectum 1.

In Class E, rejected for other disabilities, who could not read or write, 21. Illiterates in Class A2 20, illiterates in Classes B C D 9, illiterates in Class E 21, mental defectives 20, insane 1. Total, 71.

### An Important Question

COMMENT is surely unnecessary upon the facts presented above. My readers will instantly be impressed with the seriousness of the situation and will realize that everything possible must be done to rear a healthier people for future citizenship in Canada. The President of the Canadian Public Health Association, at the recent congress of that organization, said,—"The health of the community is something of great importance. Every effort should be made to keep the nation strong physically, else it will go down. There is too large a percentage of men being rejected for military service for comfort. I am pleased to see our association take up Child Welfare Work." There is no virtue in boasting that you are medically unfit. Rather, a man or woman should glory in the possession of a sane mind in a sound body and be ever fit and ready for service whenever and wherever Duty calls.

### Antisepsis

"ANYONE whose wound suppurates has the right to demand of his surgeon the reason why." Placards announce this from the walls of every ward in a certain hospital in Europe. Startling and daring in the extreme, it is nevertheless as true as truth. Half a century ago the late Lord Lister began to teach the doctrine of antisepsis. At that time conditions in the surgical wards of any hospital were tragically awful. To-day, such has been our advance in the knowledge of germs and of methods of circumventing their ravages that a clean wound need never suppurate and a suppurating wound can be speedily brought under subjection. What a marvellous change in fifty years. Like all developments it has been of slow growth, but here and there during the years some wizard has waved his wand, and certain spectacular findings have resulted in greater perfection of technique and treatment. The patient operated

on to-day, has a right to demand a clean incision and a speedy recovery. Two generations ago, the sufferer was obliged to accept a dirty, sloughing wound, with death only too often as the outcome.

### Imaginary Diseases

A CORRESPONDENT is intensely interested in my paragraph in the June issue on Functional Diseases, and is inclined to enter into a lengthy argument upon the value of physicians, as opposed to certain sects and cults and orders and isms. Some day I may take up the gauntlet, but just now I want to impress upon you the necessity of regarding the modern competent physician as your best friend. If you have anything troubling you either mentally or physically, you should go to him and discuss the matter thoroughly. If you are honest with each other, much needless suffering and sorrow may be assuaged.

### Our Boys

TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND Soldiers of the Soil are to-day fighting on Canadian farms. These 'teenage boys are doing their bit here to help their brothers who are doing their bit over there. As these boys are aiding in production we must not forget that they are growing rapidly and their health is very important to Canada as a nation. The work will not do them any harm if graduated to the age and strength of

the boy. But he will need sufficient sleep and the proper kind of food. Besides the boy will need some recreation. We must not forget the health of our Soldiers of the Soil. Work, sleep, food and play. These four ingredients in proper doses, well shaken and taken daily during this period of the earth's production will return our boys to their tasks in the autumn months better and bigger everyway.

### Swat the Fly

THE fly is a dangerous animal. Harmless looking, he is capable of causing a tremendous amount of disease because of his germ-carrying propensities. So instead of crooning to the infant mind,

Baby-bye, here's a fly

Let us watch him you and I,

Sing it in this fashion.

Baby bye, here's a fly,

Let us kill him you and I.

At a very early age mankind should be taught the art of war as waged against the fly and everyone should know how dangerous is this insect. Every house that harbours flies invites disease. Every particle of uncovered and unprotected garbage is a menace to the health of a community. Every likely breeding place for the fly should be destroyed. Some person says, "Oh, the flies are much more plentiful this season. I don't know why." There's a reason. There is no need for any season to be plentiful with flies.

\*Dr. Withrow has prepared a series of three booklets which ought to be in the hands of every young man at home and overseas. They speak very fearlessly and strongly on certain sex problems and give information very much needed. Convenient size to be mailed in envelope with letter.

FACTS FOR FIGHTERS, Price 10 cents.  
IF EVERY MAN WERE STRAIGHT, Price 15 cents.

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For Calendar apply to  
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