

Woman Physician as Mayor Fairport, Ohio, Curing City

When arrogant lawlessness is in the saddle, and the law-abiding citizens keep out of sight, it is time for the exercise of a strong hand in government.

So thought the electorate of Fairport, Ohio, last autumn. Whereupon the men and women went to the polls and selected as mayor, Dr. Amy A. Kaukonen, a slight, comely girl of 22 years.

Her election was a mandate for strong arm suppression of the unrestrained violation of the prohibition laws.

Fairport is a picturesque lake port 30 miles east of Cleveland. It has only 9,000 inhabitants but, prior to last November, it had won a place in the front rank of the municipalities in which open violation of the law is viewed with approval. In the Pullman smoker and the club car, Fairport's name had prominent place in the conversations devoted to the location of the lawless haunts from coast to coast.

In Fairport itself, there was a sort of blatant pride in the openness of the law violation. Citizens bragged of the success of their stills, and their recipes for brewing beer. An undertaker, grimly humorous over a dual occupation of bootlegging and burying, fitted out one of his caskets with a spigot and held a long, gleeful and profitable wake over the demise of John Barleycorn.

A long debauch disgusts even those who participate in it.

And when Fairport awoke one morning to learn that one of its police officers, crazed by drugged moonshine whisky, had run amuck in a bootleggers' resort, and shot to death another policeman, the little city decided it was time to put on the brakes.

Fairport cannot yet understand just by what trick of fate it happened to choose a 22-year old girl for its mayor. A girl mayor is a novelty any place. But a girl mayor who has never been a suffragist, never taken part in politics, never made a single street corner speech, but has played the piano, romped with her Airdale, "Pat," shopped for intensely feminine clothes, worn her blond hair in the latest coiffure, sung in the choir of Sundays and danced during the week, is a novelty of the most extreme degree.

Dr. Kaukonen was born in Elyria, Ohio. During her school days she was considered an unusually talented pupil. At Conneaut, she won the high school scholarship which enabled her to enter the Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia, where she again led her class, graduating as the institution's youngest pupil.

About a year ago she hung out her shingle as a physician in Fairport, specializing in children's diseases.

As a physician she naturally came frequently in contact with the effects of the traffic in poisonous alcohol. But she took no part in the political consideration of the subject and it was an unmitigated surprise to her when a committee called on her and asked her to run for mayor on a reform ticket. She laughed at the request and would not accept the proffered nomination despite the seriousness of their insistence. They would take no refusal and left only when she promised to think it over.

Then Dr. Kaukonen says she promptly put the matter out of her mind.

Dr. Kaukonen was called professionally when the bootlegging tragedy which resulted in a police officer's death occurred. This event determined her entrance into the campaign for mayor.

The campaign was a warm one. But the citizens, even the most confirmed liquor addicts, were aroused to the danger of the continued supremacy of bootlegging. Dr. Kaukonen had announced her intention relentlessly to fight the prohibition violators. Women took the lead in her campaign, but men joined them in the fight, and husbands and wives went to the polls together on election morning and Dr. Kaukonen received the largest majority ever given a Fairport mayorality candidate.

Dr. Kaukonen's induction into office was characterized by a new funeral at the bootlegger undertaker's place. This time it was a watery one. The new mayor solemnly marched six of the town's huskiest officers to the undertaker's establishment, seized the casket saloon, hoisted it on a truck, and with the town band playing the "Prohibition Blues," marched down the main thoroughfare and dumped the liquor into Lake Erie.

There was something spectacular about the first raid by the new mayor and there has been something spectacular about subsequent ones which she has led in person. Spectacular raids always draw the criticism of those persons who insist that government must be ultra-dignified. Regardless of the justice of this criticism it must be admitted by the crit-

ics themselves that the new mayor's tactics have carried out the town's desires.

Gambling and bootlegging have been made hazards instead of recognized vocations. Mayor Kaukonen's raids, whether they have utterly eliminated liquor, have made it a subject to be discussed in whispers rather than in loud tones.

The new mayor's law enforcement programme has met the usual obstacles, legal and human. She has been forced to call to her assistance the state prohibition authorities and to arm them with technically correct search warrants. But the clean-up programme has gone forward steadily. Dr. Kaukonen has planned and directed each raid. The battle for law observance has been characterized by sensational incidents. At one place as the raiding was entering a shot was heard; a man dashed out; Mayor Kaukonen braced herself and captured him. One woman attempted to destroy the evidence of her husband's business by pouring raisin whiskey into a sink. Dr. Kaukonen quickly seized a piece of bread from a table near by stopped the drain with it, and enabled the officers to obtain enough of the liquor for analysis.

Federal prohibition officers and law enforcement league officials somehow got the idea that the Kaukonen administration would need instruction in how to enforce the law. So a representative went to Fairport to instruct. When they got there, she took personal charge and gave her instructors a valuable education in the course of a raid that included 11 speak-easies. The biggest raid of her campaign took place about a month after she took office, 10 stills, 1,000 gallons of mash and 25 barrels of whiskey being seized.

Although Dr. Kaukonen conducts her crusades earnestly, she entertains no illusions of the immediate destruction of the liquor traffic.

"Do you believe bootlegging will be completely wiped out?" some one asked her.

"Bootlegging," she replied, "is a long and lingering disease. When you think it is done for, it is the most dangerous. Many men who appear to be the most ardent prohibitionists are the most ardent seekers for cases of whiskey."

"As a matter of fact, the bootleggers do more than the enforcement officers to make prohibition prohibitive. They make drinking a hazardous avocation with poisonous drinks. The drinking public has little faith any longer in the truthfulness of labels. There are a few drinking men who will risk anything for the 'kick' but most men nowadays are wary of drinks they are not able to identify definitely."

It has been in connection with her war on prohibition violators that Dr. Kaukonen has been most active as chief executive. But her own attractive personality, her youth, and the novelty of her incumbency of the mayoralty office all combine in the arousing of the intense interest that has been taken in her. Dearborn Independent.

Women in the United States who reach the age of 100 years exceed the men by the ratio of 5 to 3.

Miss Eva La Rose, of Lawrence, Mass., is said to be the only woman sign painter in New England.

Sixty-five manufacturing establishments in Kentucky have women managers.

FINISH OF THE WARSHIPS.

Time Approaches When Aeroplane Will Take its Place.

If the prophecy of Capt. Frederick Guest, British Air Minister, comes true, there will be no new battleships built at the end of the ten-year naval holiday arranged at the Washington conference.

Speaking in the house of commons a few days ago on the air estimates, he declared dramatically:

"In ten years' time I believe a combat between forces of the air and forces of the sea will have become a grotesque and pathetically one-sided affair."

Capt. Guest prefaced his conclusion with brief but significant revelations of the progress already made along those lines. The possibilities of the bomb have only been partially explored, he said, adding:

"A few months ago we started a bombing school. It has already proved that one bomb can sink the most powerful battleship in a few minutes. The warship may survive a direct surface hit, but you cannot protect it from the explosion of a bomb underneath the water line. It is merely necessary to perfect the bomb sight, which is a matter purely of practice and experiment."

"To show the power and superiority of a bomb over a shell—its accuracy must be greater as apart from the fact that the former is dropped from a height say, of two miles, while a shell must traverse, say, twenty miles—the error inherent in the gun itself is completely eliminated."

"As regards range there can be no comparison. The range from a ship can hardly be more than twenty miles, while an air bomber can cover something like 200."

Hottest Place on Earth.

Ten years of records obtained at the United States weather bureau substation at Greenland ranch in Death Valley, Cal., indicate that this is the hottest region in the United States, and probably on earth. The average of extreme maximum temperature reported to the United States department of agriculture since 1911 has been 125 degrees. At Greenland ranch temperatures of 100 degrees F. or higher occur almost daily during June, July and August. The hottest month on record is July 1917, when the mean temperature of 107.2 degrees F. But the temperature of 134 degrees F. observed on July 10, 1913, is believed by meteorologists to be the highest natural-air temperature ever recorded with a standard tested thermometer exposed in the shade under approved conditions.

Death Valley is from 2 to 8 miles miles wide and about 100 miles long, lying between high mountain ranges. It is the deepest depression in the United States, some estimates placing its lowest point at 337 feet below sea level. Greenland ranch is 178 feet below sea level. White people find the midsummer heat intolerable, and even the Indians go up to the Panamint range during July and August.

The normal annual precipitation in Death Valley is less than 2 inches. Successful agriculture can not be maintained on less than 15 or 20 inches of annual precipitation without the aid of irrigation. A group of springs serve as the source of irrigation-water supply for Greenland ranch. The water has a temperature of about 100 degrees F. and is only sufficient to irrigate 70 acres. Four crops of alfalfa are gathered each year. The principal product of the ranch is dressed meat, but experiments are being made in raising poultry and in growing vegetables, dates, citrus and deciduous fruits.

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Mrs. A. McB. Speaks, Rice St., Box No. 123, Bamberg, says: "I had weak kidneys and pains in my back. I used a box of Doan's Kidney Pills and they greatly relieved me." The above statement was given on May 30, 1914, and on Jan. 22, 1918 Mrs. Speaks added: "I have had no trouble with my back or kidneys since Doan's cured me." 60c. at all dealers. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

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Tired

"I was weak and run-down," relates Mrs. Eula Burnett, of Dalton, Ga. "I was thin and just felt tired, all the time. I didn't rest well. I wasn't ever hungry. I knew, by this, I needed a tonic, and as there is none better than—"

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"... I began using Cardui," continues Mrs. Burnett. "After my first bottle, I slept better and ate better. I took four bottles. Now I'm well, feel just fine, eat and sleep, my skin is clear and I have gained and sure feel that Cardui is the best tonic ever made."

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NOTICE OF TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.

The regular spring examination for teachers' certificates will be held at the court house in Bamberg, S. C., on Friday, May the 12th and Saturday, May the 13th, beginning promptly at 9 a. m. each day. The examination will cover primary licenses—first, second and third grade, and general elementary licenses—first, second and third grades. The examination for high school certificates will be held later. The usual subjects will be given at the examination on Friday and Saturday.

W. D. ROWELL,
County Supt. of Education.
April 22, 1922.

J. WESLEY CRUM, JR.
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