

From her ongoing research into the Examiner's archives from 1921, the year our Club was founded, Frances reports the following are frequently reported:

Deadly Diseases: A host of diseases afflicted Peterborough residents, such as Cholera, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Tuberculosis, and, in children, Whooping Cough. Our Club even had a speaker at its October 10, 1921, meeting, fundraising for the Tuberculous Hospital in Gravenhurst.

Of course, thanks to life-saving vaccines, these diseases are not common today. Except for two countries, and thanks to Rotary's efforts, we can now also say that about polio. Hopefully we'll be able to say that about COVID-19 one day.

Bobbed Hair: An emerging fashion trend in 1921 was bobbed hair for some "bold" avant-garde women. This caused quite a stir in the Examiner, with many articles expressing concern about the hairstyle. Some called it "immoral". The paper reported that some businesses refused to hire women with bobbed hair. Cartoons in the paper showed a male, with shocked open-mouthed expression, looking at a woman with bobbed hair.

Short Skirts: Getting an equal amount of space in the Examiner of 1921 were articles about shorter skirts, a disturbing trend according to many. How short? Hemlines had risen from ankle-length to - brace yourselves - 2 inches below the knee! You could see the whole calf! Horrors!

Century-old humour:

The Evening Examiner, Peterborough, Monday, October 17, 1921:

WISE and OTHERWISE

😊 "Women's fashions are primarily for men," says a fashion authority. We take it that the "primarily" means that men pay for them.

😊 That the last shall be first is demonstrated by the fact that those who arrive at work last in the morning are the first to leave at night.

😊 One person out of every fourteen owns a motor car in the United States, according to official statistics. The other thirteen probably make a good living as gas-mongers and tire-tinkerers.