

HEALTH EDUCATION

BY DR. J. J. MIDDLETON Provincial Board of Health, Ontario

Dr. Middleton will be glad to answer questions on Public Health matters through this column. Address him at Spadina House, Spadina

HEALTH CONFESSIONS OF BUSINESS GIRLS - ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRIZE WINNERS.

petition the judges, Dr. Edna Guest, which they enjoy, even possibly at a Miss Mary MacMahan (President, lower salary? Again, how many who Business Woman's Club), and Miss could afford to realize that money Jessie M. Robson (Welfare Depart- might be well and wisely spent in getment of the T. Eaton Co.), have ting laundry, sewing, etc., done for awarded the prizes as follows:

Crescent, Toronto.

ough, Ltd., Peterborough. (Pen-name,

"Plodder"). Second Prize (\$10) Lillie Taggart private secretary and bookkeeper, 19

ner.) Trenton Ontario. (Pen-name, "Exper-

ienced"). Standards Used in Judging.

In making their decision the judges of most use to other girls. Thus letters which had excellent suggestions to color the present. applied to all temperaments. The dependent not only on keeping the tain mental tranquility and balance. but chiefly on keeping the mind healthy and active.

Letter.

place on account of its two keystone girls themselves. A pamphlet of this points-points on which the whole first-hand advice will shortly be fabric of a healthy, happy life must be brought out and a copy sent to every based; one, that congenial employ- girl who contributed. Thus business ment is essential to health; two, that girls will have themselves written in leisure time business women should their own health manual. "revel" in recreation. These are obvious points, so obvious and so big that many fail to see them. How many girls realize their supreme importance-to the extent of going to

A Promise Is a Debt.

It is a debt of honor. Don't forget that. A promise should be just as sacred as your note. Your good faith or your lack of it is a part of your character. You can't escape that. What you promise should be backed up with your last dollar, if necessary, unless you can honestly break your promise with the consent of the other party. The man of sterling character does not make promises lightly, because to him a promise is as binding as an oath. When he makes a promise he will keep it no matter what it costs him .-O. S. Marden.

Out of the 200 entries for this com- considerable trouble to find work them and thus buying leisure and time First Prize (\$15) Sara Taylor, Busi- for self-culture and self-expression?

This letter started with the assump- the health habit. slackness and dawdling increase the work is done except enjoy himself and will always be an asset to you. aimed at selecting letters containing drudgery of work hours and create a get ready for new duties. Your time 5. Last, but not by any means the play.—Experienced. mental boredom which reacts on the off should give you a complete change least: Cultivate a sense of humor. P.S.—Saved myself many a cold by to keep physically well and mentally body. Distinctly original—and also of air, food, people, ideas, etc., and If at any time when the strain is taking a hot foot-bath, putting on

Letter. taken into account except that where that referring to 9 hours sleep, could points. Realizing that the aim of the avoiding narrowness of interests and ming, motoring, boating, reading, competition was to get advice from to the concrete advice to associate dancing, all in moderation, are fine, the girls themselves, all the judges with those engaged in different work but nothing is better than a morning did was to weigh each suggestion in from one's own. The old world maxim the light of their combined wide ex- to be "civil and strange" with all perience of business life and medical would save much friction and unnec- bring into play unused muscles. science. The big point which has essary mental stress and finally, the come out of the competition is that in occasional detachment from worldly regarding your eyes, teeth, and genthe view of business girls health is things advocated does much to main- eral condition. Be ambitious, painsbody well fed, exercised and rested, Pamphlet Embodying Most of the

Letters to be Published. The Division of Industrial Hygiene Winning Points in the First Prize of the Provincial Board of Health now has in hand much material on health The prize letter was given first for business girls contributed by the

First Prize.

Suggestions Towards Health.

is congenial employment. Your po- Girls" I am taking it for granted that sition must be one where you can put you are presuming that every girl your heart and soul into your work. knows the general laws of health. Of Be what nature intended you for and course, one realizes that it is in the you will be happy and incidentally. keeping of the laws and not in the healthy. One's mental attitude towards knowledge of them that the desired one's work determines its effect upon us result is obtained. However, there are physically. Find your niche and stick. some things I have learned that have Remember a failure in one position been very helpful to me. For thirteen may make a huge success in another. years I was connected with an estab-Then do all in your power to make lishment where there were many girls your work count. Do not be afraid employed and for the past four years

by knowing every phase of your work nominational offices. This last posiso well than an error is rarely made tion means the carrying of heavy and have full confidence in yourself. responsibilities and out of my exper-Be systematic. Keep a stiff upper lip ience I would like to suggest the foland make a joke about the things that lowing: worry you. Remember the worries of 1. Be efficient-Inefficiency is no the future may not happen and our longer tolerated and if any girl desires failures of the past are often the to be mentally keen and happy she means to our greatest success.

ills by eating plenty of fruit, vege- tain satisfaction in knowing that at

pastries and meats. Drink plenty of make yourself indispensable.

ent with your other duties, with lots don't rob your employer of the time things of the world and those of the of fresh air and light warm clothing. for which you are paid. In many offi- spirit. allow but always in keeping with the can be either mentally alert or happy with others engaged in different work occasion, as merely being well-dressed if she stoops to such a practice. gives you confidence in yourself that 3. Store up for the strenuous days viewpoints and to avoid narrowness. for emergency.

laugh is as good as medicine. Let or the Art Gallery at the Grange. cheerfulness abound with industry. 4. Be a dreamer.—Not a day dream- curred in a house where I was a pay-Health is partly a question of mind. er, but have something to which you ing guest. ness Secretary of the Standard Med- Winning Points in the Second Prize If you think you are sick, that will are looking forward with keen antici- 13. Absolute loyalty to employers' help put a nail in your coffin. Get pation. It may be that you are now interests.

> walk, with your head erect, shoulders back, as if you meant it. Calisthenics

Consult a specialist occasionally taking, thorough, and diligent; success will be the result and give you that feeling of satisfaction that makes for health. Be temperate in all things. Control all your emotions. Keep your mind mentally alert for nothing is more killing than monotony. Make your word as good as your bond; be punctual.-A. Plodder.

Second Prize.

Having had an experience of twenty years in business life, I would like to join with the many others who will undoubtedly be sending in suggestions regarding the life of a business girl.

After reading your article on The first essential towards health "Health Confessions of Business I have been acting as private secre-Avoid worry by being careful and tary and bookkeeper in one of our de-

must endeavor to attain to this stand-Avoid constipation and its kindred ing. If one is efficient there is a cer-

tables and nuts. Masticate well. Do least one has given her best and pect of my employers. not eat when over-fatigued, emotion- instead of the word of criticism which able or over-warm. Avoid eating be- is oftentimes merited there will be tween meals, and too much candy, only words of commendation. Try to

Dress as well as your means will ces this is most apparent and no girl

influences the attitude you bear to memories of happy outings taken in 10. Read books bearing on my work, your work. Dress sensibly and sea- your leisure time. A trip across the also the daily paper to keep informed sonably. Keep extra articles at office lake, a corn roast, a day spent among in current events, books of travel, ficthe beauties of that wonderful para- tion, etc. Cultivate a cheerful, optimistic dis- dise, "Niagara Glen", a summer holi- 11. Attended lectures, plays, conposition. Interest yourself in your day when all your holiday allowance certs, and assisted in local affairs. surroundings. Do not expect too much is not spent on hotel bills and clothes. Meeting different kinds of people may from life and then life will have its And do not forget such places of in- be educational. surprises. Loss of hope is killing. A terest as our Royal Ontario Museum | 12. I never referred to or mentioned

preparing yourself, by obtaining a I rise in the morning rested and

number of points covered was not While a minor point in this letter, ting down to old Mother Earth), Many more suggestions might be which soon became real. I thus saved music, painting, anything that makes given regarding this most interesting my self-respect and nervous system. two letters emphasized suggestions of not be urged by the judges as uni- you forget your work. Have as good topic but the above are some of the I have found long walks cheerful comequal value preference had to be given versally applicable, great importance a time as you can, consistent with be- things which have meant much to me panions, or visiting someone in dis-

The best way to deliver a man from calamity is to put a song in his heart. There are some who skin under their calamity, and there are others who swim through it. I think you will flud the difference between these lies in the comparative amount of their previous cheer. The balance generally turns on the hearing or not hearing of yesterday's song. They who have a song already in their heart pass over "The Red Sea"; they who have heard no previous music are submerged in the wave.-George Matheson.

Third Prize.

I attribute my excellent health today, after more than fifteen years of business life, to the following:

- 1. Cultivation of a cheerful disposition and optomistic outlook.
- 2. Fresh air from long walks daily and open windows day and night.
- 3. Moderate supply of plain nutritious food.
- 4. Nine hours of sleep, except on rare occasions. 5. Rising early enough to avoid
- rushing to work.
- 6. Proper dress for the weather. 7. Avoidance of friction, petty quarrels, jealousy, etc. If I inadvertently offended anyone I immediately went and cleared matters up. I avoided difficult persons as much as possible. I never exchanged confidences which if told might cause trouble. As an old grand-aunt put it, I was "civil and strange" with all, did not impose on either my landlady or my friends. I have retained my friends and the res-

8. I always attended Divine Service on Sunday, gaining peace of mind and spirit from even that brief detachment from worldly things. A tranquil spir-2. Believe in your work.—Take a it is necessary for efficient work. One Sleep as much as you can, consist- personal interest in your work and also learns to appraise properly the

> 9. Associated as much as possible from mine, to gain new ideas and

to anyone any unpleasantness that oc-

tion that to be healthy girls must not Make the most of holidays. Forget higher education, to enter a profession eager for the fray, enjoy breakfast as only know how to keep the general your work and revel in doing what in life or it may be that you are in- well as other meals, do not know the Browning Ave., Toronto. (Pen-name, laws of health, and from this went on you please. Too many business wo- terested in travel. Whatever your meaning of headaches, indigestion, "Gash-ki-tow," the Indian for Win- to some psychological points. The men attempt to be their own laun- dream may be, make it count for etc. Have not spent ten dollars for judges feel strongly that the state-dress, milliner, dress-maker, etc., and something. If it be travel (and this medicine in twenty years. Am con-Third Prize (\$5) Helena Driscoll, ment that "No girl can be mentally that is where she falls down, either in appeals to many of us), study the sidered a marvel of good health by alert or happy if she is robbing her health or in making a success of her time-tables, obtain all the knowledge my friends, but am sure it arises from employer of the time for which she vocation. That is where a man lords you can regarding the entire trip, and a naturally cheerful disposition and is paid" is absolutely sound and had it over a woman, because you rarely even if your dream is never realized sane and sensible living, also my attia real bearing on health. Inertness, see a man do anything much after his you have learned something which tude towards my work. When one loses interest in work it is time for

practical—is the suggestion that past make you forget you ever worked. Get heavy and the atmosphere tense, you heavier underwear and stockings and and future pleasures should be made all the fresh air you can. A hobby is can see the ridiculous side, it will rubbing chest and throat with coal-oil the best preventive of your carrying mean the saving of the situation as before retiring, at first symptoms. for girls of a certain temperament Winning Points in the Third Prize your work home. It may be garden- well as the saving of your own temper Resolutely refrained from violent ing (and nothing is better than get- and of those with whom you work. anger and assumed an outward calm to the one which gave additional good was felt to attach to the necessity of ing in good trim for your work. Swim- in my own business life. Sincerely, tress a cure or at least a panacea for Gash-ki-tow. the "blues" and even real sorrow.

-AND THE WORST IS YET TO COME

