

Bank of Montreal Annual Meeting

Sir Vincent Meredith Expresses Belief That Canada Will Prosper—Country Offers Inducements to Immigrants Vastly Superior to Those of Other Countries.

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor Points Out That Canada Must Put House in Order—People Must Insist on Government Practising Policy of Economy.

The 107th annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal was marked by interesting addresses by Sir Vincent Meredith, President, and Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, General Manager.

The President declared that he was satisfied "that a gradual improvement in the trade situation is occurring. Statistical returns support this view, and while there is irregularity in the movement, in the main the trend is upward." After pointing out the gratifying growth of a favorable balance of trade, the President declared that he regarded this increase in Canada's foreign trade credit as "an augury of a not distant improvement in domestic business."

The President concluded his address with the following expression of confidence:

"My last word is a word of confidence and encouragement. The interests of your Bank are more closely bound up with those of Canada than ever before and unless Canada prospers the Bank cannot expect the prosperity it should enjoy. I believe Canada will prosper. It offers inducements to immigrants vastly superior to those of other countries which are at present endeavoring to attract citizens. It stands third amongst the countries of the world in natural resources.

"Yet cardinal virtues must be practiced and I would again stress the necessity for hard work and economy, so often preached and seldom put into practice, and the need for immigration. Given these three things,

I look forward with the utmost confidence to Canada's future."

Much to be Thankful For.

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, the general manager, in his address to the shareholders, said in part:

"First and foremost I would say that there must be an end to the present apathy about public affairs. In my opinion, those who will not go to the trouble to register their vote in municipal, provincial, and federal affairs should be penalized in some form for their indifference.

"We all know that apart from the cost and defects of the war Canada's troubles are the accumulated result of what may be termed in mild and temperate language imprudence in affairs.

"Good government is a hard problem in any country. No government can move faster in these matters than public opinion will permit, and upon the people lies the responsibility of voting for economy.

"We, in Canada, have much to be thankful for. If this were a poor country our case would be a bad one, but we have riches in our forests, our fields, our fisheries, and in our minerals, also in our mighty water powers, and in the industry and ambition of our people.

"If Canada were a private business enterprise the situation would present no great difficulty, for we are solvent, with wealth vastly in excess of our liabilities; and a way would be found by following the obvious course of cutting down our overhead and, like a sane, capable and industrious people, putting our house in order."

Should Bar Summer Furs.

That anomaly of the gentler sex, the fur neckpiece in summer that fashion decrees milady must wear if she would be the envy of other women, should be barred, according to Clyde L. Patch, Government taxidermist of the Victoria Museum. In this way wild fur-bearers would be given greater protection.

"There should be a closed season for fur neckpieces," he says. "If women want to wear woollen undergarments in July and August it is their own business, as the supply of wool is unlimited, but I claim they should not be permitted in summer."

Extermination, he claims, had begun when the number taken for fur was greater than the annual birth rate. Reliable furriers, he said, had abandoned the practice of selling furs under misleading names, such as calling dyed mink sable, and dyed rabbit ermine and chinchilla. One would no longer find two rabbits reared by the same mother posing on the same counter as "white fox" and "black lynx."

TOO WEAK TO WALK

The Sad Condition of a Brandon Lady—How Relief Came.

"I owe my present good health to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills," says Mrs. Annie Treherne, Brandon, Man., who tells of her new found health as follows:—"Some years ago I had an attack of pneumonia and it left me in a terribly weakened and run-down state. I was unable to walk for a long time as I had practically lost the use of my legs, and had to be carried upstairs, for I had not the strength to go myself. I became despondent over my condition for I had tried many remedies, which failed to help me. While in this wretched condition a lady friend urged me to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a trial and I procured a supply. After taking the pills for a while I could see that I was growing stronger, and I gladly continued their use until I had fully regained my old-time health and strength. Now if I feel at all run down at any time I at once take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and they never fail me. I can therefore warmly recommend them to others who may be run down."

There is no better tonic than Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to improve the blood and bring back strength after acute diseases such as fevers, pneumonia, influenza, etc. Given a fair trial they will not disappoint you. You can get the pills from your druggist, or they will be sent by mail at 50 cents a box by The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Free Paint Book for the Children.

Xmas is not far off. Mothers can reduce the cost of filling Xmas stockings by securing a little painting book entitled "Tommy Tomkins Painting Book" in return for four OXO CUBE wrappers. It is filled with pictures showing how Tommy won a long distance race; how he won fame at football, boxing, wrestling; what he did when his automobile broke down in a big race and how he succeeded in keeping at the head of his class in school, etc., etc. "The Mighty Atoms" are always ready for making beef tea and consommé and to put flavor and meat strength into soups, stews, hash, and meat pies. Ask any grocer, every store, of course, carries them, and mail the wrappers to Tommy Tomkins, Oxo Limited, 232 Lemoine St., Montreal, P.Q., and your copy will be forwarded by return in time for placing in the Xmas Stocking.

Her Finish.

"Your daughter recites very well," the pastor's wife remarked to Mrs. Muddleby at the church social. "Yes," said Mrs. Muddleby. "I'm goin' to give her a course in electrocution." Then she smiled and added, "To sorter finish her off, you know."

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A GRAND MEDICINE FOR LITTLE ONES

Mrs. Avila Noel, Haut Lameque, N. B., writes:—"I can highly recommend Baby's Own Tablets as they have worked wonders in the case of my baby. I always keep them in the house and would not feel safe without them." What Mrs. Noel says concerning Baby's Own Tablets is just what thousands of other mothers say and feel. The Tablets are a mild but thorough laxative which regulate the bowels and stomach, thereby banishing constipation, colic, indigestion and a host of the other minor ailments of little ones. The Tablets are absolutely guaranteed to be free from opiates or narcotics or any of the other drugs so harmful to the welfare of the baby. They cannot possibly do harm—they always do good. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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"Splendid! And where would you like your spirit to sit? I have tickets for half a dollar, a dollar and two dollars."

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HEALTH EDUCATION

BY DR. J. J. MIDDLETON

Provincial Board of Health, Ontario.

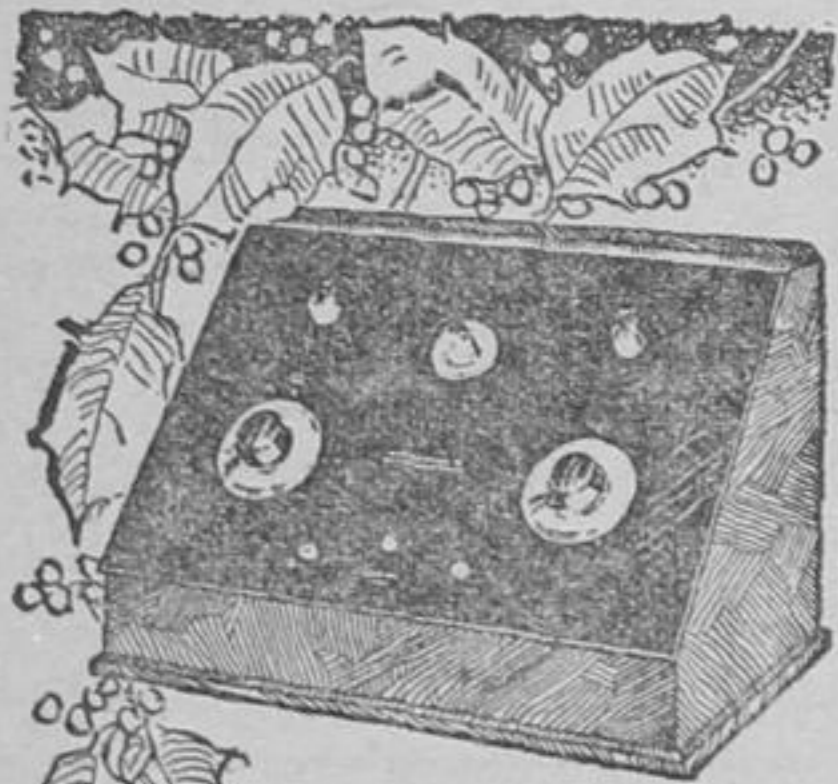
Dr. Middleton will be glad to answer questions on Public Health matters through this column. Address him at Spadina House, Spadina Crescent, Toronto.

The health of many men and women engaged in certain industries is affected by benzol, a product largely used in this province in the preparation of rubber for commercial purposes. Too often in the past, before the effects of benzol poisoning were known, and measures taken to counteract it, there was a considerable amount of somewhat unexplainable sickness, through such conditions as loss of energy and loss of appetite, general weakness, sleeplessness and irritability. These and other symptoms of a kindred nature indicated that something was wrong, but just what the trouble actually was, constituted a problem. Knowing the effects of benzol poisoning, investigations were made by physicians from the Ontario Dept. of

Health, in plants where this commodity was used. One of the first tests consisted in making an examination of the blood of the persons working there, to see if the amount of red and white corpuscles were up to the standard. In nearly every case where the worker had been submitted to the fumes of benzol for a considerable length of time, there was a diminution in the white blood count resulting in the symptoms already mentioned. Just how many people in the province are subjected to benzol fumes has not been determined up to the present, but at any rate, there is definite proof that the poisoning from this source constitutes a health hazard, the injurious effects of which cannot be minimized.

It might be opportune to mention at this point that benzol is very active solvent for rubber. It is efficient and economical in all trades in which rubber has to be used. Its only two disadvantages, and both are formidable, are that the fumes are poisonous and highly inflammable. It will, therefore, be seen at once that measures have to be taken to control the fumes of benzol and quickly and efficiently remove the from workshops and factories where people are employed.

A few days ago I visited a large canning factory in this province where benzol is used in the manufacture of rubber rings for the lids of airtight cans. Recently one or two of the workers employed in this industry died and the cause of death was attributed to benzol poisoning. As a result, very active interest is now being taken by the management in the health of the workers, and every possible effort is being made to remove the danger of benzol poisoning. Powerful exhausts have been installed over the ovens where the benzol fumes are evaporated and these exhausts draw away a very large amount of the fumes. Except directly at the intake of the exhaust, the odor of benzol is hardly discernible. As a further precaution, the workers are subjected to a blood examination every month or six weeks, and if any indication of anaemia is found, the affected person is either transferred to another department or allowed to go home for a period of rest and recuperation. The management has further shown its interest in the workers by providing a pint of fresh milk each morning for every worker in the benzol department, and this innovation has proved doubly successful in that it has stimulated the employees and especially the women employees to bring sandwiches, etc., to take with the milk. Many of these women, worried with household cares had hitherto time for only a cup of tea or coffee before coming to work. The provision of milk has brought about a better standard of health for every worker so favored, and in addition has reduced the time lost through sickness. Efforts are being made by the Industrial Hygiene Division of the Provincial Department of Health to interest all employers in the health of their workers, so that active measures may be taken to preserve the health of all classes of people engaged in industry and so bring about a better standard of health and living conditions not only for the workers themselves but also for their families and dependents.



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