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BEAUTY AMPLY REWARDS EFFORTS

Canada has been richly endowed with great natural beauty and, except where man in cities, towns and villages has turned that loveliness into semblance of garbage dumps, the land is a vista of endless charm. Just as a man is oft-times judged by his clothes, so is a community appraised by its environment, and that environment is at once the responsibility of every member of the community, individually and collectively. The home after all, is the starting point for the most effective re-beautification of the spots despoiled of their natural grace, and, where each home is beautified, the fulfillment of a comprehensive scheme of beautification on civic or community lines is made a comparatively easy matter.

This has been amply proved by the success of the More Beautiful Canada campaign sponsored by the Canadian Horticultural Council a few years ago. The idea of beautifying the home surroundings had, in many places, only to be suggested to be acted upon, and now Canada possesses many more beautiful towns, villages and homes, some lowly, but all lovely in their lowliness. The use of flowers and plants on the porches and walls of a home, in the gardens, and in adjacent spaces is not a matter of mere show. It goes deeper than that. In reality it strikes at the roots of civilization. Beauty represents the supremacy of the higher over the lower, of form over matter. So much so, that if the world were one beautiful garden and every inhabitant interested in it, there would be no more war. Every human being is influenced to a greater extent by his surroundings than is generally realized. Where there is harmony—and the harmony of flowers symbolizes the blending of the higher impulses—there can be no discord.

The story is the oldest one known. Adam was appointed to dress the Garden of Eden and to keep it (Gen. II:15.) He did not do so and was sent out of the garden to till the ground (Gen. III:23.) Children reared to love flowers have their hearts filled with love for beauty and thus have less room in their hearts and minds for the things that hurt and destroy.

Still another point of view. The progressiveness and thrift of a community or municipality are often reflected in its appearance, and, while the Dominion is stressing the importance of the influx of tourists, the best advertising that any community can do is to present a pleasing appearance. In the matter of what are the most suitable flowers and plants for the district, information will gladly be given by the nearest Agricultural College, or the Experimental Farm of the Dominion or Provincial Departments of Agriculture.

A CHANGED CURRICULUM NEEDED

Dr. Duncan McArthur, Deputy Minister of Education, is at present in Europe to study rural education in Denmark and Holland. Before embarking he predicted that sweeping changes in Ontario's educational system would take place in the very near future, an announcement that must have brought fresh hope to thousands of education-minded citizens of this province.

Soon there will be 230,000 young men and women leaving the halls of our secondary schools for good. It is estimated by men who have made a study of this problem that at least 100,000 of them will join the ranks of the unemployed. Already an actual survey shows at least 457,000 young men between the ages of 18 and 30 on relief in Canada. Inasmuch as the majority of the boys and girls leaving our high schools have an insufficient knowledge of any one subject and have no special training in the use of their hands such as would fit them to fill a job right away, we may expect that a large share of them will not be absorbed into useful employment.

There is no doubt that our educational system is largely responsible for failure to train our youth in the proper channels to enable them to take their place and fill a niche in the practical, workaday world which they find about them. The trouble is that the high school curriculum is designed to train boys and girls for university courses, whereas, only ten per cent. ever go to university. It is a crime to try to force the other ninety per cent. to assimilate the subjects taught in the present curriculum. It can only result in injuring the mental health and souring the character of boys and girls who want something more practical and useful to study.

IS SPEED OF LIFE DRIVING US CRAZY?

Dr. Montgomery of the Ontario Hospital at Whitby says that 50 per cent. of those suffering from mental disease are victims of excessive stress of modern civilization.

When we consider that about 2,000 new patients are admitted to Ontario mental hospitals every year and that many more are left to be cared for at home, we must realize that this is a serious situation. Admitting that we are living in an age when things unknown comparatively few years ago are now almost considered necessities still we must ask whether the advance has been worth what it is costing. When we think of at least 1,000 a year brought down mentally by the stress and strain of present day life, we are forced to conclude that we are paying too dearly for our advantages.

Now everything is labor-saving and speed. No longer is any one content to wait while a correspondent in Vancouver or London, England answers a letter—he is called on the telephone. By air San Francisco is no further away from Ingersoll now than Montreal was by train a few years ago. It's all speed—speed—and more speed.

JUNE, THE MONTH OF ROSES

June is called the month of roses. The rose is called the queen of flowers. So this favorite month springs into ecstatic color, as millions of rose bushes and vines burst into bloom. Probably a vote would show the rose the most popular flower. Douglas' encyclopedia of quotations gives 53 about roses, while the violets only get 32, and the lilies only seven. Wilberforce said that roses are the smiles of God's goodness, while Campbell struck a more, sentimental note when he wrote that when love first came to earth, the spring spread rosebuds to receive him. The blushing red of the rose seems appropriate to lovers, who feel they have advanced their cause with the fair one when they send her a box of those gorgeous flowers.

HITCH HIKERS ARE HIGHWAY NUISANCE

Times-Review, Fort Erie, Ont.—Now that summer appears to have arrived at long last, it brings with it the usual parasitic pests—mosquitoes, sandflies and hitch hikers. And of all the evils, perhaps the last mentioned is the worst.

When hitch-hiking began, it was a case of necessity. People wanted to go places, to look for work, or to make a necessary visit, and didn't have the funds for transportation. So some genius conceived the idea of standing on the side of the road, gesturing in the direction he wanted to go and letting nature and some kind hearted motorist do the rest.

But today it has increased from a necessity to an industry. Accomplished hitch hikers look at a map and discover somewhere they want to go. They blithely pack an extra handkerchief and a toothbrush, go through some setting-up exercises to limber up their thumbs and start on their way.

It's impossible today to start out for a drive of twenty miles or more with plenty of passenger space in the car without encountering a crooked thumb. And the face behind that thumb may belong to anybody from a girl of fifteen to a gray-bearded septuagenarian. The royal order of hikers include both sexes, all ages and every kind of disposition.

The nuisance holds danger for the motorist in more ways than one. Hikers are prone to stand close to the side of the road, making the motorist who is not stopping pull over to the centre and come closer than comfortable to other traffic. Most of them are harmless, outside of their conversation, once they get into a car, but occasionally reports are heard where the unsuspecting driver picked up a strange passenger and had a bump raised on his head for his pains, while his valuables and possibly his car left for parts unknown.

And there is the other aspect of the case to be considered. Trains and buses are operated to produce revenue through carrying passengers from place to place. Many of the people who seek free rides are travelling for pleasure purposes only and could well afford to pay their way.



A HEALTH SERVICE OF THE CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

LOCKJAW

Experience taught our forefathers the particular danger of certain wounds. From them was handed down the fear of rusty nails and deep wounds of the hands or feet. It was in 1886 that the tetanus bacillus, the specific cause of lock-jaw or tetanus, was discovered. Subsequent investigations have provided a reasonable satisfactory understanding of this disease.

The tetanus bacillus has a number of unusual characteristics. It is commonly found living in the intestines of normal healthy animals. This explains its presence in stables, barnyards, cultivated soil, animal manure, and street dust.

The tetanus bacillus is one of the few disease-producing bacteria possessing the power to form spores, a resistant dormant state, whereby it may survive, for many years, under adverse conditions that destroy other bacteria.

The poison or toxin which this bacillus elaborates is unusually powerful, and it has a certain predilection for nerve tissues. The tetanus bacillus is called an anaerobe as it flourishes in the absence of oxygen.

With this information as to where the tetanus bacillus is found and as to the conditions which favour its growth, we can understand that any wound which is contaminated with soil should be considered dangerous. Rust is not dangerous in itself, but the rusty nail is more likely to have dirt on it than is the brightly polished nail, hence the bad reputation of the rusty nail.

Deep penetrating wounds, particularly of the hands or feet, and gunshot or powder wounds are serious. Any tetanus bacilli carried into such wounds find therein a peculiarly favourable opportunity for growth, shut off from the air in warm and moist surroundings.

Every wound which is anything more than a scratch requires skilled care. Wounds of the kind described will usually have to be opened in order that all foreign material may be removed. In every case where there is the slightest cause for suspicion, tetanus antitoxin is given. This is a preventive measure, and it is practically true that it is specific.

The name "lockjaw" comes from the rigidity of the muscles, a symptom of tetanus, which prevents the opening of the jaws. Tetanus has a very high mortality rate, therefore, its prevention is extremely important. Tetanus can be prevented through the proper care of all wounds and the use of tetanus antitoxin.

Questions concerning health, addressed to the Canadian Medical Association, 184 College St., Toronto, will be answered personally by letter.

People don't always raise their hands in case of a hold-up. Usually they just pay the waiter and walk out.

THE OLD, OLD STORY
 My wife submits to my decrees,
 Yet sometimes she will murmur,
 "Honey,
 I'd like to have a dollar please,"
 I don't know what she wants of money!
 I pay the weekly household bills;
 I must confess I think it's funny,
 As I buy all her frocks and frills,
 I don't see what she wants of Money!
 I give her carfare when it rains
 (She likes to walk if it is sunny);
 I pay her way on railroad trains—
 I don't see what she wants of Money!
 And yet she'll ask me for a dime,
 With quivering lips and eyes all
 runny;
 I give it but at the same time,
 I don't see what she wants of Money!
 Carolyn Wills.

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