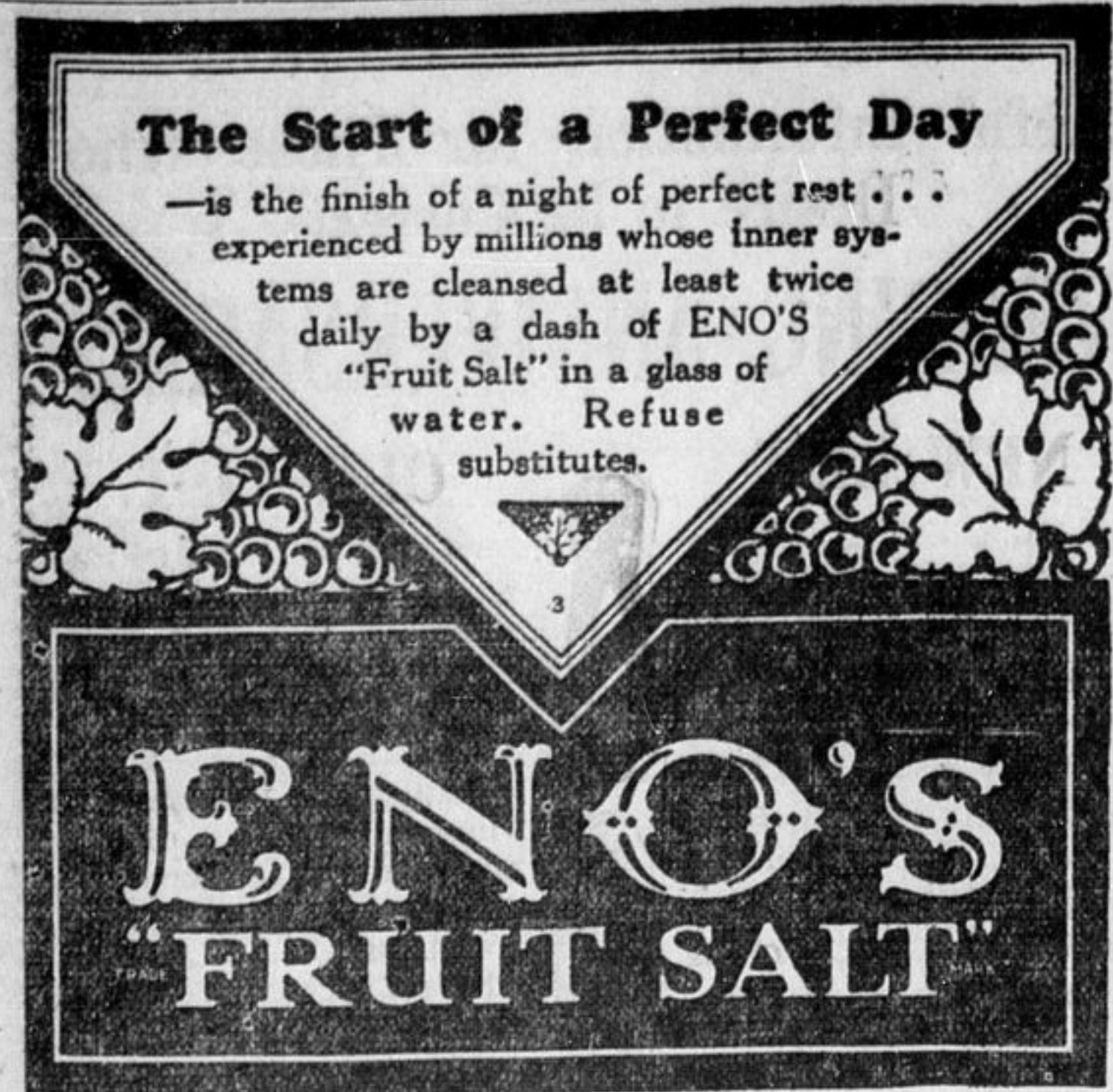


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**PUBLIC MAY OVERCOME THE MENACE OF DIPHTHERIA**

By the Use of Toxoid the Disease May be Entirely Eliminated in the Course of a Comparatively Few Years.

In recent years leading doctors have agreed that the menace of diphtheria may be entirely eliminated in the course of a few years. The doctors have pointed out how this may be done. Dr. H. H. Moore, Medical Health Officer for Timmins, and a number of other leading doctors in the district, have taken active part in informing the public as to the need for co-operation in the effort to eliminate diphtheria. The Advance has given whatever co-operation was possible in the way of presenting information and securing the interest of the public. For the past year or more there has been only one case of diphtheria reported in town, and that an adult. There was no spread of the disease, the majority of the children being protected by immunization. At the schools here practically all the children were protected against having diphtheria by immunization. It is the reasoned opinion of the medical experts that the immunity will last for life. There is hope that further immunization will be carried on this year, as new children are starting school from time to time, and also it is hoped that children of pre-school age may be generally given this protection.

To revive interest in the question The Advance gives herewith an article sent to this paper by the Canadian Social Hygiene Council, a body that has taken a very able and effective part in the fight against diphtheria. This article reads as follows:—

**"Don't Die from Diphtheria"**  
"Practically every child who dies from diphtheria does so because its parents are either ignorant or careless. Because diphtheria can be prevented. Just as vaccination prevents smallpox, so does the administration of a substance called 'toxoid' prevent diphtheria. This process is easy and inexpensive. When one realizes that between 1000 and 1200 Canadians die every year from diphtheria, while 13,500 sicken of the disease, it would seem to be a pity that people are too lackadaisical to save their lives, and the lives of their children from a disease which is preventable.

The purpose of this article is to tell readers of The Porcupine Advance how to save their lives, and the lives of their children from diphtheria. It will do more. It will tell how this disease can be utterly stamped out, from the Atlantic to the Pacific within ten years.

In the first place, it is necessary to consider what causes diphtheria, and why this disease kills.  
"It begins when the diphtheria germ, a tiny living organism which attacks the throat. These germs as they develop, give off a poison, or toxin that spreads through the system and, as any other poison would do, causes illness that sometimes results in death.

"But there is an old saying that every poison has its antidote and the first great advance that medical science made in fighting this disease was in 1890, when an 'antidote' to the toxin of the germs causing it was discovered. This they named 'anti-toxin,' and for years it was mankind's great bulwark against diphtheria.

"It is developed by injecting the virus of the diphtheria germ into the blood of a healthy young horse. Immediately the horse's system develops a substance to fight the poison. This poison-fighting substance, or 'anti-toxin' is withdrawn from the horse's blood, refined, and made suitable for human use.

"Injected into the body of a diphtheria patient, this anti-toxin counteracts the poison of the germ, just as it did in the body of the horse, and years of testing have proven that there are few cases that cannot be cured if anti-toxin is administered shortly after the symptoms manifest themselves. Every hour of delay however, means added danger, and every year many children die of diphtheria because their parents neglect to call a doctor early, believing that their children are suffering from so-called simple sore throat when actually they have diphtheria.

"Important as it is to treat it early, however, diphtheria is one disease that completely proves that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, for there is another substance, called 'toxoid' which does even more than anti-toxin. Toxoid will actually keep the disease out of the system altogether.

"When you take your child to the doctor for this treatment, he will inject about seven drops of toxoid underneath the skin. The process, not a painful one, is repeated at monthly intervals until a total of three injections have been made. The sooner it is done to children after six months of age, the better.

"Occasionally the injection produces a very slight soreness for a day or so, and sometimes the child feels a little bit sick for a few hours, but outside of those trivial discomforts which are negligible when one considers the great good that the treatment does, there are absolutely no ill effects.

"Toxoid is manufactured right here in Canada and distributed free by most Provincial Departments of Health. So thoroughly has it proven its value, that many local boards of health administer it free. There is no question, but that if almost every one availed himself of the protection that it affords, diphtheria would pass off the face of the earth in very short order.

"One says 'almost everyone' because there are some people who do not need toxoid, because nature herself has made them immune to diphtheria.

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"And a skin test has been developed whereby a physician can tell whether your children are immune to this disease or not. It is called the 'Schick Test.' About three drops of a test toxin are injected into the skin of the forearm. If the subject is susceptible to diphtheria, a little red spot, about as big as a dime, will appear on the arm a couple of days later. The test is quite harmless.

"One of Canada's greatest authorities has said that the day will come when a coroner's jury will investigate all deaths from diphtheria, to find out who is to blame. You know the sort of deaths that are investigated by coroner's juries—deaths that are not believed to be altogether natural, or in which somebody is believed to have contributed by negligence.

"So that if the time ever comes when diphtheria deaths are so investigated, it will mean that the state will regard diphtheria as a preventable disease— which it is—and will want to know who is to blame when anyone dies of it. Such deaths will be regarded not as the result of bad luck, but of somebody's carelessness, and somebody will have to be punished.

"From all this, we may realize our individual responsibility. Every mother should see that her children, as they reach the age of six months or so, are given the Schick test. Every community, through its medical officer of health, should see that toxoid is available to all physicians, and that the public is made aware of this. Every physician should advise his patients accordingly. If this were done universally, a single decade would stamp diphtheria out of Canada entirely."

**Buenos Aires Visitors at Halleybury This Week**

The Halleyburian last week says:—"Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Atkinson, of Buenos Aires, South America, are Halleybury visitors this week at the home of Mr. Atkinson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Atkinson. They arrived on Monday from England, where they had spent a few weeks with relatives before sailing for Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson will spend a couple of weeks here before starting their long journey home to the South. Mr. Atkinson spent the early part of his life at his home here and his many friends are extending a welcome."

**USES LANGUAGE OF CRAFT TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION**

Some weeks ago Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Stephenson, of New Liskeard, observed the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding, and because Mr. Stephenson has been so outstanding a member of the Fourth Estate in this North, and the couple such helpful and creditable citizens, all the newspapers of the North made special reference to the occasion. The tributes paid Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson on this occasion were very sincere and in view of the regard felt for the couple may be classed as restrained, rather than fulsome. Mr. Stephenson to his other virtues adds that of modesty, and so finds it necessary to reply in the language of the craft. In the last issue of The Speaker accordingly appears this paragraph:—

While Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Stephenson very much appreciate the kindly felicitations of their friends on the occasion of their reaching the 60th anniversary of their marriage none are more fully appreciated than those which have appeared in the Northern press. We ought to make especial reference to the comments of our near-by neighbour, The Halleyburian, and our somewhat more distant neighbour, The Timmins Advance. We would be very glad indeed, did we believe that we are entitled to the nice words used by these our conferees. Let us reply in the language of the craft: Their eulogies have made a "heavy impression" on us, and if we would be true to "form," and be as "perfect" a "prototype" as we would like to be we shall have to mind our "p's and q's," and "follow copy" very closely so that our "proof sheets" may be "clean" and our "revisions" without a "blur."

St. Catharines Standard:—The art of swimming is so agreeable and so early mastered and the places where it is taught by competent teachers are now so numerous in our cities than even urbanites ought not to grow to maturity without being able to do what any poor fish can. Country youth generally finds a "swimmin' ole" and teaches itself.

**CANADA'S FORESTS PRODUCE OVER \$212,950,000 YEARLY**

Insects, Fungi, Fires, and Other Causes Proving Drain on Forest Wealth, Says Report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

An estimate of the total forest production of Canada for 1928 has just been completed by the forest products branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The figures which include all the products of operations in the woods, the unmanufactured materials cut in Canadian forests during the year show a total value of \$212,950,799.

"An estimate has also been made of the extent to which the forests are being depleted annually in the process of exploiting these materials. For this purpose converting factors based on actual measurements have been used. Each of these factors represents in cubic feet the quantity of standing timber that must be cut in the forest in order to produce one unit of the material in question, based on the total cubic contents of the tree. By the use of these factors it has been estimated that the total forest production of 1928 involved the cutting of 2,988,038,430 cubic feet of standing timber.

This constitutes only the annual depletion for use and to it must be added the volume of material annually destroyed by fire, which exceeds 900,000,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber, and young growth on 1,300,000 acres.

Insects and fungi destroy annually at least 800,000,000 cubic feet to the annual drain on the forest resources, which is considerably more than 4,788,000,000 cubic feet.

The latest available estimate places Canada's forest resources at 224,304,000,000 cubic feet of standing timber which is capable of yielding 424,637,000,000 feet, board measure, of sawn lumber and 1,121,993,000 cords of pulpwood, ties, poles and other materials.

A total depletion of 4,788,000,000 cubic feet per annum does not necessarily imply that the total resources are reduced by that amount every year and the supply will therefore be exhausted in forty-seven years. Estimating the probable duration of supply of forest products is not a matter of simple arithmetic. The rate of utilization is far from constant. It tends to increase with the discovery of new uses for woods, the increase in population and the increase in the demand for forest products from other countries whose supplies have been reduced to a greater extent than Canada's.

On the other hand there is a steady increase in volume taking place in all healthy stands of timber due to annual growth. By the application of scientific forest management this annual growth can be stimulated and could be made to take place over the entire area of potential forest land, it is believed.

In the value of forest products, logs and bolts headed the list in 1928 with \$76,000,000. Plywood comes second with a total value of exceeding \$74,000,000 and is the most valuable item of forest production in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Firewood, with a total of over \$41,000,000 comes third for the Dominion as a whole, but heads the list in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Hewn railway ties with over \$3,000,000; poles with over \$4,000,000 and square timber with over \$3,000,000 are among the important of the other items.

**HAILEYBURY MAY ORGANIZE PROSPECTORS' ASSOCIATION**

Despatches from Halleybury last week say that prospects for forming a prospectors' association for that part of the North are being discussed among the members of the prospectors' fraternity following a visit to the central part of Temiskaming by R. Dipaola of South Porcupine, a week or so ago. This gentleman took a prominent part, the despatches say, in the formation of a similar organization in the Porcupine camp. He interviewed a number of Halleybury prospectors and is quoted as saying that he was given an encouraging reception. Prospectors' associations are of value not only to the prospectors, but to the country in general and certainly accomplish a great deal as may be seen from the good work accomplished by the prospectors and claim owners association for Timmins and the Porcupine. It is considered probable that preliminary steps to form an association for the prospectors in the Halleybury area will be taken up at an early date.

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