

The Measuring Stick

George and Elsie live next door to each other. They are in the same class at school, and in the spelling test they each missed two words out of ten.

When George gave his spelling paper to his mother, she exclaimed, "Aren't you ashamed of yourself? I suppose you let Jim Martin go to the head of the class again. If you would study as Jim does Mother wouldn't have to feel bad about your spelling paper."

"Spelling's easy for Jim," George protested, "he can remember anything. I brought mine home last night and studied half an hour, but I was afraid I'd miss and so I did."

George's mother thought she was using the best method to make her son study. Even since George had started to school she had tried to get him to do better. This comparative idea was good, but she had always used the wrong measuring stick. She had held him up against another instead of against himself. The truth was that her own pride was hurt. She didn't want Jim to succeed above her own son. The inference to be drawn, then, by George or anyone else is that if Jim had missed two words out of ten, then George's misspelled words would not have mattered.

But what did Elsie's mother do about the spelling record? Since both mothers, afterwards, told the teacher all that was said about it, another method of dealing with unsatisfactory school work is available.

"When do you have the next spelling test?" Elsie's mother asked and when told that it was in two weeks, she said, "Well, we'll just forget this paper and think about the fine one you'll have next time. What can you do that you didn't do this week, so as to win in a contest with your best record?"

"I'll review my words for five minutes every day," volunteered Elsie; "this time I let my reviewing go until the last day."

There was not a word from Elsie's mother about what anyone else in the class had done. Her little daughter was encouraged to do her own best, not the best of some other pupil. Elsie was held responsible. She was made her own disciplinarian. She was not crushed by the recollection of her own lapse in spelling and by the victory of a classmate. Rather was she inspired to press forward towards her own shining ideal.

Not all children can be at the head of the class or leader in the game or winner of a trophy. But every child should covet advancement and enjoy mastery of his individual problems.

It is discouraging to hold up an example of excellence before a child which he can never hope to attain. He may not be either physically or mentally equipped to reach such a standard. But every child can step ahead of his own past record if he has any intelligent guidance at all. And the thrill of knowing that he's better this week than last will bolster up his spirit and make him surprise himself.—Issued by the National Kindergarten Association, 3 West 40th Street, New York City. These articles are appearing weekly in our columns.

Grass Plays Important Part in Earth Building

Grasses play an important part in building up the very earth we live on, says Dr. A. S. Hitchcock, of the Department of Agriculture, an example of which is the case of beachgrass (*Ammophila arenaria*) building barrier dunes along the North Atlantic Coast of the North American continent. Beachgrass is found as far south as Maryland.

Extensive mud flats and tidal estuaries on the Atlantic Coast are occupied by species of grass named Spartina, which thrive in the soft mud submerged at high tide. Their stout underground stems form a dense lateral network, ever pushing outward, assisting in the formation of good dry land.

Large-scale land building has been brought about recently in England, France and Holland, too, by a Spartina, the only plant found capable of gaining a foothold on those bottomless muds. Spartina has been planted outside the dikes of Holland and is building up land at a rapid rate.

Cash-Down Ancestors

Mr. Nurich was showing a friend over his new mansion. The walls of the reception rooms were covered with paintings in heavily gilded frames.

"This," said Mr. Nurich, stopping before a portrait of a knight of old in armor, "is one of my ancestors."

His friend looked hard at the portrait.

"Yes, he was very nearly one of mine," he replied.

"What do you mean?" asked the owner of the mansion.

"I bid up to \$10,000 for that portrait, but I didn't think it was worth any more."

Giant Peas

The delightful flavor and tenderness of small peas, together with the satisfying meatiness found in peas of large size, are the unusual qualities of giant peas now on the canned food market. At the time they are picked for canning they are not fully matured but are actually baby giants, being thus unusually sweet in flavor.

Bank of Montreal Annual Meeting

Sir Charles Gordon, President, Stresses Inherent Vigor and Soundness of General Economic Structure in Canada—Reaction in General Business Due Principally to Depressed Grain and Other Commodity Prices.

W. A. Bog and Jackson Dodds, the General Managers, Draw Attention to Maintenance by Bank of Traditionally Strong Liquid Position.

The annual general meeting of the Bank of Montreal was marked by a distinct feeling of confidence in the general outlook in Canada.

Sir Charles Gordon, the President, in reviewing the principal developments of the year, said in part:—

"I am sure it will be very gratifying to the shareholders to learn that we have not suffered any losses from depreciation in the securities which the Bank holds as part of its assets. From this you will understand that great care has been exercised in our investments.

"The year under review has been a most difficult one not only for banks but for practically all classes of business, and this has been reflected in our profits, but nevertheless ample provision has been made for all losses and prospective losses.

"Examination of the figures of the foreign trade of Canada shows how large a part the item of wheat plays. No other single commodity approaches this cereal in volume and value; as a consequence, when crop failure occurs or prices fall below the line of profitable production, the whole business of the country is adversely affected. That has happened. The wheat crop of 1929 was short in quantity; the crop of 1930 faced low prices and a glutted market; and the foreign trade returns disclose the results of these unfavorable factors. To short crops and congested markets can be traced much of the reaction in general business, the decline in railway

traffic, the diminished earnings of carriers by land and water, unemployment of labor and, above all, diminished purchasing power of the agricultural class.

"In summing up his conclusions, Sir Charles stated that "in this virile country of Canada with its abounding resources there can be no permanent depression. My own view is that when the turn comes Canada will be found leading the procession in the return to prosperity."

General Managers' Address
The address of W. A. Bog and Jackson Dodds, the General Managers, dealt more particularly with the report of the Bank for the past fiscal year. The report said in part:

"In times like the present it is inevitable that losses suffered through the heavy fall in prices must affect Banks at least indirectly. It is a satisfaction to be able to assure you that we have made ample provision for all losses and doubtful debts.

"You will note that the traditionally strong liquid position of your Bank has been maintained. This has been accomplished without curtailing the credit requirements of our customers.

"A notable increase during the year in the number of small accounts in specially gratifying, as we have consistently emphasized the fact that the Bank of Montreal welcomes small accounts."

Another little thought for 1931: Let's quit condemning in others what we practice ourselves.

Little Thomas watched a telephone repairman climb a pole, connect a test set and try to obtain a connection with the switchboard. There ensued some difficulty. The youngster listened a few minutes, and then rushed into the house, exclaiming:

Little Thomas—"Mamma, come here quick. There's a man up on a telephone pole talking to Heaven."

His Mother—"What makes you think he's talking to Heaven?"

Little Thomas—"Cause he hollered 'Hello! Hello! Hello! Good Lord, what's the matter up there, can't anyone hear?'"

Diary of a College Graduate
June 23, 1930—Graduated to-day.
June 28, 1930—Looked for a \$10,000 job.

July 20, 1930—Looked for a job at \$100 a week.
Aug. 9, 1930—Looked for any kind of a job.

September 2, 1930—Still looking.
September 27, 1930—Went to work for my uncle for \$75.00 a month.

The customer was busy sawing on the steak he had ordered, and he was having a difficult time.

Waiter (solicitously)—"Is it tough?"

The customer was exhausted. He turned to the waiter with defeat in his eyes and said:

Customer—"When I order beef and get horse, I don't care. But next time, take the harness off before you start serving."

No matter how brave a man is, there's a woman somewhere he's afraid of. Those who have had experience will testify that a woman may smile, and smile, and be unwilling still "She didn't act that way the last time she—was engaged."—Overheard remark. Most any wife gets suspicious if she sees her husband and his mother talking together in whispers. She suspects they are talking about her. Some women can make 25-cent coffee taste like 50-cent coffee and some women can make 50-cent coffee taste like 25-cent coffee. Opportunity is a ladder, not an elevator.

I met her in the garden.
The night was still as death.
I knew she knew her onions,
I could smell them on her breath.

First Salesman—"I'm broke. Can't sell my book."

Second Salesman—"What's it called?"

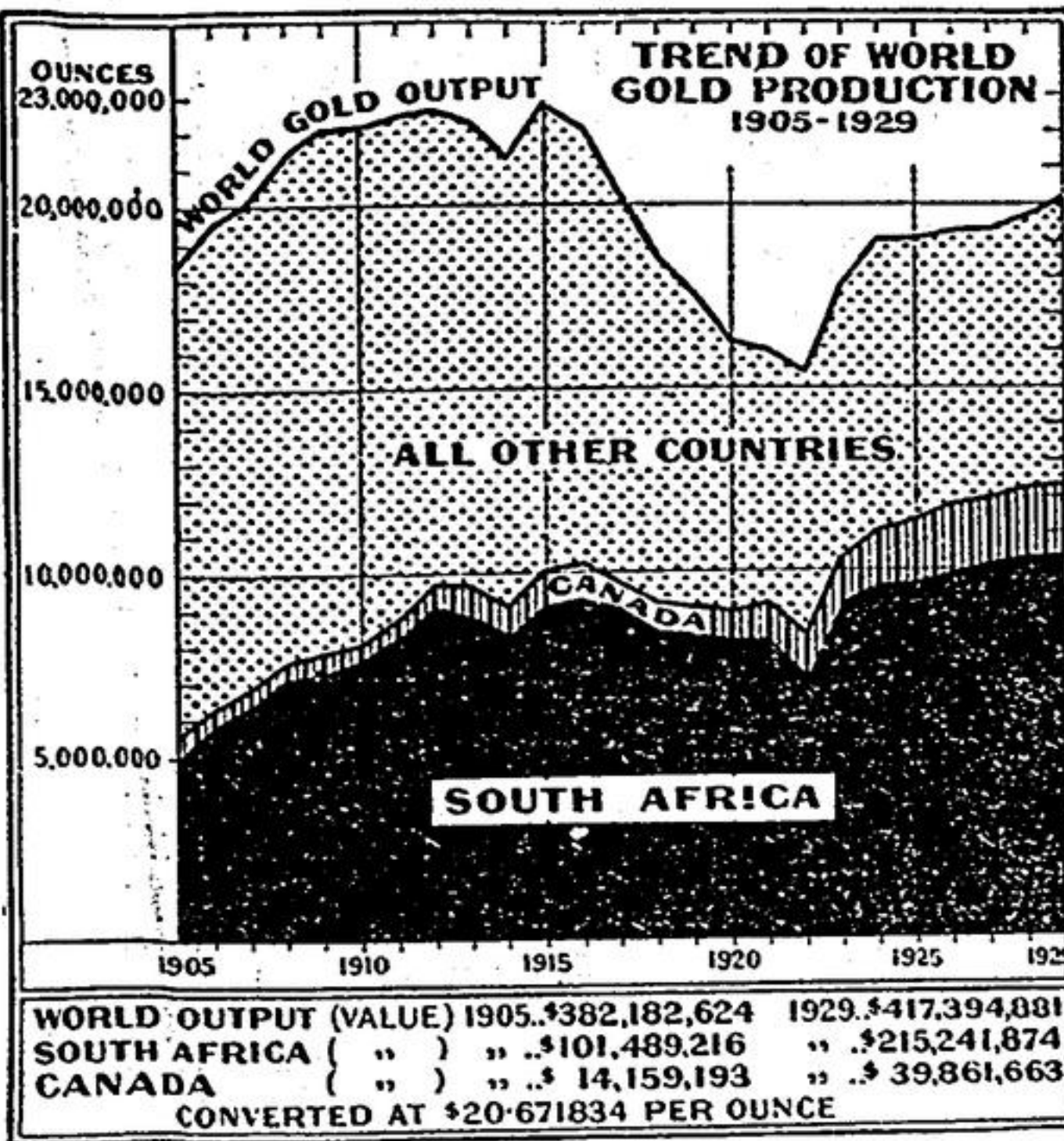
First Salesman—"The Art of Salesmanship."

Infamous Infinities of To-day
"Painless Dentists." "Easy Payments."

Customer—"But you guaranteed that this watch would last me a lifetime."

"Jeweler—"I know—but you didn't look very healthy the day that you bought it."

Canada's Increasing Importance In the Gold Mart of the World



Few economic questions are being more keenly discussed throughout the world to-day than that of the supply of gold for monetary use. In this subject Canada has a double interest—country and also as a trading nation vitally concerned with anything and everything that is fundamental to world prosperity.

While most of the discussion has centered upon the need for better distribution and use of the existing stocks of gold, there has been also a note of real anxiety over the possibility of an actual shortage of gold supplies. This anxiety arises from an anticipated early drop in South Africa's output. As the accompanying diagram indicates, the burden of maintaining the level of world gold production during the last twenty-five years has been borne in ever-increasing degree by South Africa. The total gold

output of the world had fallen by nearly 30 per cent. in 1929 as contrasted with 1905.

One point of special interest from the Canadian standpoint is the fact that, in the writings of almost all students of the gold situation, little or no importance has been attached to Canada's rising output. It is true that the Dominion's production has never bulked largely in the world's total output, but it has grown, and is continuing to grow, substantially. With gold being produced in larger quantities either from gold properties or from heavy ore bodies, in which gold is associated with other metals, it may well be that Canadian resources are destined to play a much more prominent part than has yet been foretold, in offsetting the expected depletion of the South African gold-fields and the threatened embarrassment of the world's monetary systems.

Watch For Early Symptoms Of Cancer—Then Act at Once

This is One of a Weekly Series of Health Articles Prepared By the Canadian Social Hygiene Council

Our last article told you something about cancer. To-day I propose to tell you how this disease can be fought.

If every individual in Canada could receive and follow the simple advice which is contained in this article the number of cancer deaths would be reduced by many thousands. In the first place let us frankly admit that doctors have not yet learned how to prevent cancer in the way they have learned how to prevent smallpox and typhoid and diphtheria. That, however, should not be too discouraging for they have learned how to treat early cases of cancer and how to treat conditions that look like cancer so that the former are cured and the cancerous condition prevented. Therefore the moral connected with this article is this: Watch for early symptoms of cancer and act at once upon the slightest suspicion of having found any.

First, in external cancer there is always a warning to be seen with the eye or felt with the finger. These first signs are moles or warts, little areas covered with a scab, a little lump or nodule beneath the skin or deeper, an unhealed wound. As a rule these things do not hurt, but that does not make it less dangerous, only a physician can state whether a wart or little lump is cancerous.

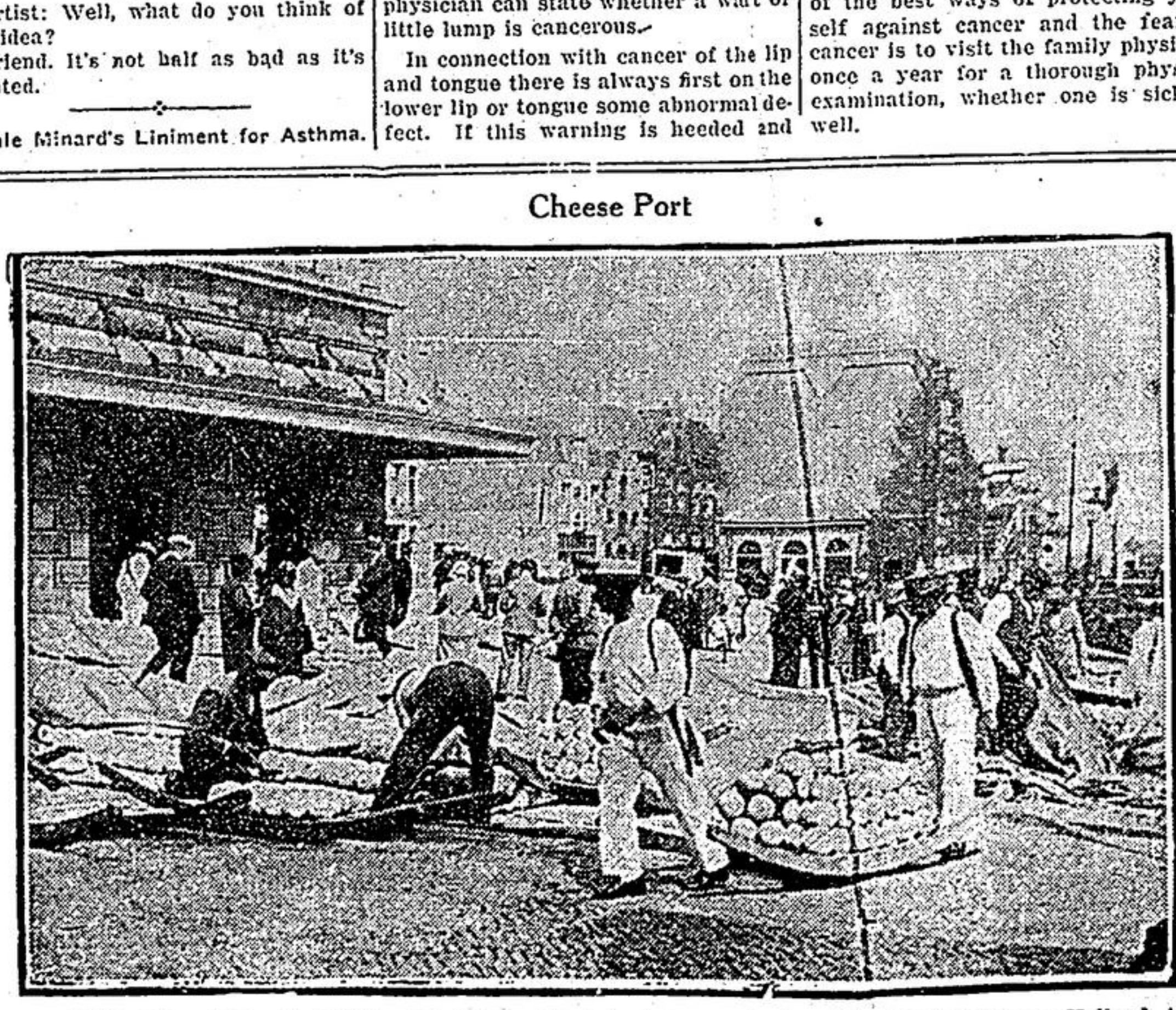
In connection with cancer of the lip and tongue there is always first on the lower lip or tongue some abnormal defect. If this warning is heeded and

treatment given within a month or two the probabilities of a cure are almost perfect. In this connection ragged teeth and unclean mouths are known to frequently produce cancer. Keep your mouth clean and go to the dentist frequently.

It has been said that beautiful women rarely have cancer of the skin because they keep their skins clean. Cancer of the uterus kills many women. It would kill fewer if women would learn to visit their physicians immediately upon noticing any feminine irregularities. Cancer of the breast is not terribly dangerous if it is treated early. As soon as a little lump is noticed the physician should be made aware of it. If this is done early enough the possibilities of a cure are almost nine out of ten even should the lump prove to be a malignant form of cancer. In cancer of the breast every week's delay reduces the chance of recovery.

After one receives an injury to a bone it should be x-rayed if the swelling and discomfort do not disappear in a few weeks. It is most difficult to recognize the signs of internal cancer, but persistent indigestion or a feeling of discomfort or a "new" feeling inside should be viewed with suspicion and the doctor consulted. One of the best ways of protecting yourself against cancer and the fear of cancer is to visit the family physician once a year for a thorough physical examination, whether one is sick or well.

Cheese Port



Odd-looking sleds piled high with balls of Dutch cheese ready for shipment at Alkmaar, Holland, to all parts of world. Twenty million pounds of cheese are sold each year at Alkmaar, one of most famous markets for cheese in world.

Origin of Pipe Organ Credited To Chinese

First Instrument Used By Chinese Resembled Modern Saxophone

The huge modern pipe organs used in churches and theatres probably owe their origin to a small Chinese mouth instrument in which bamboo tubes were used for pipes, and which somewhat resembled in appearance the modern saxophone, in the opinion of Dr. Berthold Laufer, curator of anthropology at Field Museum of Natural History.

Examples of these instruments, which first appeared in very ancient times, but are still used to a limited extent in China, were collected by Dr. Laufer while on an expedition in China, and are now on exhibition at the museum. They are rarely heard nowadays, however, because of a curious superstition that a skilful performer becomes so wedded to his music that he is forever playing, to the exclusion of all other activities. This, the Chinese apparently fear, would prove inconvenient for the player and might become annoying to his neighbors.

Another thing that has caused the popularity of the instrument to wane in late years is the fact that because it is played largely by blowing, it causes inflammation of the bronchial tubes and diseases of the lungs, and it is said that no habitual player ever lives longer than forty years, Dr. Laufer states. This is a serious matter to the Chinese, to whom longevity is one of the fundamental ideals.

The mouth pipe organ, or "sheng" as the Chinese call it, consists of a bowl-shaped body of lacquered wood at the end of a tube with a mouth-piece, which gives it a resemblance to a large meerschaum pipe as well as to a saxophone. Seven teen bamboo tubes of varying lengths are inserted in the top of the body, which provides the wind reservoir. Thirteen of the tubes are fitted with reeds similar to those used in grand organs today. Each of the tubes has a small hole just above the joint where it enters the reservoir.

The harmonium, or small organ with free reeds but without pipes, was the first occidental development from this instrument, says Dr. Laufer. The principle of the free reed became widely known in Europe through the introduction of the Chinese reed organ at the end of the eighteenth century. Prof. C. G. Kratzenstein invented the harmonium after examining a sheng to his native city. The first instrument of this type was the Pan's pipes of the ancient Greeks, which consisted of a set of pipes of different length bound together and made to sound by the player's breath. About two centuries B.C. a device was invented for forcing air into the pipes by water power, and keys were added to open and close the pipes. The hydraulic organ was common among the Greeks and Romans. Centuries later the bellows came into use, instead of water power, to furnish air. An organ built in the tenth century for Winchester Cathedral in England had bellows so powerful that 70 men were needed to pump it. In the organs of today the power that pumps the bellows would be equal to 50 or even 100 horsepower. Yet so improved is the mechanism of the keyboard that the touch of a finger is all that is required to open the pipe-valves. The greatest changes are due to the use of electricity. So much of the machinery is now operated by electricity that the inside of the organ looks like a telephone exchange.—The American Weekly.

Arctic's Prize Beauty Rewarded With Mirror
Winipeg.—Enosias, 21-year-old brunette, is the reigning beauty of the Arctic. Andrew Brown, the big face and figure man of the north selected this brown-eyed, brown-skinned Eskimo girl from an entry of two dozen in the first beauty contest ever held inside the Arctic Circle.

From Baker Lake, little trading post on Chesterfield Inlet, just a thousand miles north of Winnipeg, came word of Enosias's triumph. "Shining Star," her name, means and possibly, for the first time in her life she can survey her prize-winning features. A mirror was her reward, the first she had ever owned.

You have probably noticed in pretty certain bills that all obbers do not wear masks.

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Mrs. G. A. BARNETT, 82 Albert Street, Moncton, New Brunswick.

Hands of invisible spirits touch the strings of that mysterious instrument, the soul, and play the prelude of our fate.—Henry W. Longfellow.

Minard's Liniment for all Pain.

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