



Scenes on a British training ship as seen with Howe's Travel Festival at the Royal Alexandra this week.

CITY TOO WELL BUILT AS BUILDERS VIEW IT

Million Dollars Wasted Yearly in
Needless Trimmings, So Con-
trollers Are Informed.

A committee of citizens, representing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Ontario Society of Architects, Engineers' Club of Toronto, Toronto Branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, Canadian Cement and Concrete Association, and the Builders' Exchange, waited on the board of control yesterday and protested against the requirements of the present building bylaw.

The committee claimed that while they did not wish to criticize the city architect, yet they thought there were many sections of the present bylaw which should be amended. Apparently in many places the city law did not do what it should do, and in other spots did those things which it ought not to do. Many of the objections are purely technical, but all clearly point to a betterment of the building conditions.

The committee object, among other things, to the requirements of ten inches of fireproofing and one inch of Portland cement around external iron columns, and the compulsory use of fireproofing for iron and steel columns; the low-bearing pressure on brickwork, necessitating the use of 50 per cent. excess material in piers and walls; the thickness required for certain and basement bearing walls; the pile foundation rules; the allowable bending stress on enclosed grillage beams; impossible assumptions as to the loads on columns; the low allowable stress on plate girders, timber columns, and the impossible floor loads in some classes of buildings; the provision regarding the wind pressure on roofs of 30 pounds per square foot.

The committee are not desirous of cheapening buildings. All they want is a reasonable bylaw which will provide for the safety of buildings. They object to the allowance of the use of inferior grades of

Portland cement; the limitation of the use of fireproof shutters, wired glass and outside sprinklers; the permission of non-fireproof schools up to a height of 55 feet; the allowance of woodwork within two feet of cupolas in foundries; the insufficient strength demanded for steel columns, higher allowable stresses on wind bracing than are usually permitted; insufficient protection against corrosion of steel towers.

The omission of special stair protection in factories; the firing of the strength of concrete blocks too low a limit, inadequate fire protection for lumber, storage of hay, etc., the allowance of wood framing for all buildings in fire limit D, which is south of the Esplanade.

The bylaw is also defective, it is stated, in that no cognizance is taken in regard to new materials introduced which had to be used by a special permit from the city architect. Important considerations affecting the design, they say, are not mentioned. Some design, they say, should be clearly stated in the code.

What They Suggest.
The committee make a large number of technical suggestions for the improvement of the bylaw. The classification of buildings, the reduction of live loads and columns on footings and other subjects, they say, are indefinitely treated in the bylaw.

The high cost of building in Toronto, they point out, is a matter of common knowledge. This they attribute, not to the cost of labor and material, but to the severe building restrictions.

The committee want the specifications concerning the supports for water tanks amended so as to permit the use of concrete bearing walls or reinforced concrete beams or columns. The metal tank supports should also be protected from rust, by painting with some other material.

Provisions of the bylaw should also show the width of stairs for fire escapes, platforms, etc., of fire escapes. The theatre bylaw, they assert, should not apply to churches, which are in the same class and distinct from buildings where stage scenery is used.

The burden falls on fireproof construction and the erection of steel and reinforced concrete structures is virtually disastrous.

The Bell Telephone's building on Adelaide-st., it is claimed by the architect, cost ten per cent. more than it should have, if the whole had been designed in accordance with good engineering designs and architectural practice.

Reinforced concrete construction, it is claimed, is made very excessive in cost, and instances in support are given. One of which shows that by adopting the city architect's regulations an increase of 21 per cent. in the cost of the work was incurred.

It is to be expected that when building construction, especially of permanent or fireproof character, is unduly expensive, Toronto investors will from time to time pass by this city in selecting a location for their plants and buildings, fears the report, and an instance is quoted where a Pittsburgh firm, which would have spent half a million dollars in building, was kept away after a perusal of the bylaw. Another firm, the National Carbon Company of Cleveland, advertised for tenders for a building, but the prices ran so high that they had to abandon their original plans and erect a one instead of a two-story building.

The investors of this city, the members of the committee declare, waste a million dollars annually, not considering the vexatious delays in dealing with the city architect's department.

It should not be stipulated that in theatres or public buildings lighted entirely by electricity, oil lamps or candles must be kept lighted at the head and foot of each stairway. Gas is preferable, and should be permitted.

HOW TO PRESERVE EGGS.
Now that eggs are the cheapest as a rule that they have been for years, many people are enquiring about methods of preserving them. The old way was to pack them in salt or lime. This served the purpose, but it gave the eggs a very strong taste.

The approved method now is the one which calls for the use of "water glass" or silicate of soda. This is a thick, syrupy liquid which can be had at most drug stores for about 10 cents a pound, and a pound is enough to treat five dozen eggs, so that the cost of preserving is about two cents a dozen.

There are several grades of water glass, and it is wise to get the best. To prepare the solution, stir one part of the silicate of soda into 15 parts of water which has been boiled, cooled and carefully measured.

It is essential to have the eggs fresh, or the experiment will not be a great success. Those over three days old should not be used, as the air has already had a chance to penetrate them. The very best way is to keep the solution made up ready and put the eggs into it just as soon as they are brought in from the nests, if you have your own chickens.

It is worse than useless to try to preserve eggs that are not fresh, or that have been cracked or washed.—The Pathfinder.

All drugists and stores 50c box of ZAM-BUK Co., Toronto, for price.

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A VOICE FROM THE TEXAN BORDER.

Occasionally a private letter has more than usual interest, especially if it happens to come from a spot that is in the limelight. Here is a letter of that kind from the Texan border:

"My Dear —

"We hear the life and the drum and the bugle call; we hear the 'Trump, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,' the rumble of artillery, we see the prancing war steed and its rider richly caparisoned; we are surrounded by the slowness of war. Your paper will probably soon be publishing sketches which may remind us of the war scenes in the same paper in our boyhood days.

"The Guggenheims, the Standard Oil, the Pearson Investments and the money system may have the ear of our rulers, and our sons and sons-in-law may be called upon to shed their blood for some great principle which is put before the common people to arouse their patriotism, while the facts are that the money power is pulling the strings. I am not a politician, I have never held office, I am not the son of a prophet, but I am giving you a prophecy to-day. The insurgents in Mexico are rising for the purpose of obtaining a free ballot and a representation in the laws that govern them. The Diaz rule has become centralized to such an extent that it is monarchical; the people's rights have been trampled upon until they can stand it no longer. Ninety per cent. of the people of Mexico are with the insurgents at heart, and they are ultimately going to succeed in obtaining a few, at least, of the rights of a republican form of government and they are not going to stop until these have been obtained.

"If this administration sends our army into Mexico to uphold the Diaz rule, the people of Mexico and the people of this country will not stand for it, and in my opinion it will be a great mistake.

"This opinion is given you from information that I know to be reliable and a slight better and truer information than can be had from the money interests, whose advice is always influenced by a selfish motive. Now remember what I tell you and watch how things turn out. If this administration does not recognize the fact that those people in Mexico are fighting for liberty of thought and liberty of the ballot, and takes a stand against them, retribution is bound to follow. I don't believe that the selfish money power of this country and Mexico will win out when it comes to the shouling of blood and the sacrificing of the lives of mankind.

"I played golf behind President Taft a good many times last summer and I have watched his game and his associates, and I presume he would consider my game and my opinion unworthy of consideration, but with nothing to gain, with no office in view, no favors to ask, no friends to help, with my feelings for my country and ten years of practice in golf, the thought comes to me, however egotistical it may appear, that possibly my game and my advice might not be poorer than that of some of the potentates and politicians who had his ear while playing the game of golf."

"San Antonio, Texas."

Insurrecto as a Word.
The word "insurrecto," so commonly used in the newspapers, is not to be found in any authoritative dictionary of the English language. It appears to be coming into general use, in place of the word "insurgent," to describe Latin-American rebels. "Insurrectos" is a word of Spanish origin, meaning a rebel or a person who has taken arms against the government of his country.

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PREVENTING DISEASE BY ELIM- INATING DUST.

The relation of dust to diseases of the respiratory system; asthma, hay fever, bronchitis, pneumonia, and influenza, are subjects which have attracted much of the public mind, and especially of the medical profession, in recent years. It is now generally recognized that dust is a potent factor in the causation of these diseases, and that the elimination of dust is a necessary condition for the prevention of them.

More serious than outdoor dust in its danger to health is indoor dust, which is in constant contact with the human body. Indoor dust is composed of a variety of particles, including lint, hair, skin scales, and the remains of food and drink. It is also composed of the spores of bacteria and fungi, which are capable of causing disease.

The dust of streets and roads is the cause of a vast amount of sickness. Investigation emphasizes the importance of scientific methods of highway construction and care of streets and pavements. The extensive use of motor vehicles has increased enormously the difficulties of dealing effectively with the dust nuisance except by radical different methods of road maintenance than have heretofore been in use.

Street dust is no more and no less than street destruction and disintegration with serious consequences to public health. Dust may act as a predisposing cause of disease or as a direct physical irritant, inflaming the mucous membrane and

weakening its resistance to bacillary invasion. Such dust may carry infection directly by means of dried tuberculous sputum which some ignorant or careless custodial janitor may expectorate while incident tuberculosis may be aggravated and converted into a case of rapid and virulent consumption of lung tissue, because of the addition of pus-producing germs.

Health injurious dust is produced by building operations, and in a most aggravating way by the demolition of old, insanitary buildings, without spraying, sprinkling, or the use of dust-laying material, which a rational municipal administration should insist upon.

Methods of dust removal indoors are rarely more than crude methods of dust disturbance. Ordinary sweeping should be absolutely done away with and pneumatic methods of dust removal insisted upon as essential to the public health.

The cleaning, brushing, sweeping, etc., of public conveniences, sleeping and bathing cars, push cushioned street cars, etc., in the presence of passengers should be absolutely prohibited. No doubt cleaning of coats, hats, etc., after dust-stained travel in sleeping or bathing cars.

The problem of effective dust removal is a difficult one. There are no better dust collectors than library books. The close coincidence of school attendance and epidemics is as much the result of dust exposure as of direct contagion or infection from one pupil to another.

Pneumatic processes should, as far as practicable, replace crude methods of sweeping and dust disturbance. The close coincidence of school attendance and epidemics is as much the result of dust exposure as of direct contagion or infection from one pupil to another.

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and air passages. The sale of feather dusters should be prohibited. In Europe, a proper floor dressing has been perfected for public buildings, schools, theatres, churches, etc., but the thorough removal of dust, and especially of factory and industrial dust, has received only incidental consideration in the United States. What is required to-day is effective medical supervision of schools and of factories, workshops and public conveyances, and intelligent supervision of highways and public buildings.

In no field is the outlook for successful work more hopeful than in dust prevention as an agency detrimental to human health and life.

Week-end Trips.
The Grand Trunk Railway System issue return tickets at single fare (plus ten cents) from Toronto to 200 points in Ontario; good going Saturday and Sunday, valid returning Monday following date of issue. Full particulars and tickets at Grand Trunk City Ticket Office, northwest corner King and Yonge streets. Phone Main 4209.

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The political orator inflated his chest and started in on another characteristic of his candidate—bravery. "In war," he said, in ringing tones, "in war, my friends, he was always found where the bullets were thickest."

"Hiding behind the ammunition wagon?" enquired a shrill voice from the rear of the hall.—Youth's Companion.

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