

# THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD

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## Editorial.

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### IMPURE WATER.

Chemists and bacteriologists attached to the health departments of civic corporations occasionally give us considerable food for thought. Whether that thought produces the effect which those gentlemen think some of their statements will have is, however, open to serious question. Attached to the corporation of the City of Montreal is a chemist of no mean ability and whose chemical knowledge no one would question. Whether he understands human nature quite as well is, in our opinion, exceedingly doubtful. Within the last few months we have had from him reports on the water supply of Montreal which he asserts is chemically and bacteriologically a healthy water to drink. He, however, admits that it is occasionally off color and of a somewhat brownish hue, still will not occasion any untoward results. We believe he is perfectly correct in this statement. As we draw our supply from the Ottawa river, which at best is in bulk of a brownish hue, it requires but a small increase in the amount coming from swamp land to