

possible, but prompt, energetic and appropriate treatment might result successfully. The suggestion is worth a trial. Let every public boating house, every private boating house and every watering place have its placard "Treatment of the Drowned," and let the information contained in the rules referred to receive general dissemination. If the accident insurance companies would take the matter in hand, they would realize a benefit from it, for, putting it in practical manner, one life saved on which there was a policy of assurance would give the companies a handsome profit. If the suggestion is accepted in the spirit in which it is made no one need be in ignorance of the best treatment to adopt to effect restoration. In many cases when all hope was gone, perseverance was crowned with success. Such is indeed a case where "perseverance is its own reward."

On Thursday, June 1st, four municipal by-laws to sanction Corporation loans will be submitted to the public. The first of these is to raise \$700,000 for sewerage purposes, in three separate issues of debentures. There is a proposal to borrow \$70,000 to provide for and improve the electric lighting of the city. Then \$85,000 have to be raised for educational purposes, while, in addition, it is intended, if the public will endorse the departure, to borrow \$10,000 in order to improve Beacon Hill Park. The amount of the loans and the interest and sinking fund to be raised annually on their account is:

	Amount of Loan.	Interest and Sinking Fund
Sewerage Loan.....	\$700,000	\$37,947 00
Electric Lighting Loan..	70,000	3,770 58
Educational Loan.....	85,000	4,580 00
Beacon Hill Park Loan...	10,000	540 00
Total.....	\$865,000	\$46,837 58

This means an annual levy of about three and a quarter mills upon all the real estate in the city. So far from objecting to this, I consider that every dollar to be raised in this way is designed for a legitimate and beneficial purpose, and I, therefore, trust that the vote will endorse the by-laws which I, however, am sorry to think were rushed through the Council in a somewhat precipitate manner, which did not afford the councillors the required opportunity of duly weighing all the provisions of the enactment which are expected to be in operation for the next fifty years. At times, the Council work like beavers, and really do something, but, at others, they yarn and yarn in such a way that the wonder is they are not tired of the sound of their own voices. A little more equalizing of matters would be for the benefit of all parties interested. I may add that His Worship the Mayor, in my opinion, is too much given to the practice of lecturing the Council and of treating them as if they were a lot of convicts condemned to a term of imprisonment at hard labor.

I have received the following letter this week. I know nothing of the circumstances alluded to; even the names mentioned are not familiar. However, if what is charged be true, the poor unfortunate woman is to be pitied. If charitably disposed persons feel like interesting themselves in the woman, all

they will have to do is to call at THE HOME JOURNAL office and her name and address will be given. I am inclined, however, to suspect that some of the grievances complained of are imaginary. For instance, the Victoria city directory does not contain the name of the person said to have betrayed the woman, and it is quite possible that there is no such person in existence.

"Victoria, May, 21, 1893.

"SIR—About three months ago a woman was taken to the police station charged with having an empty pistol in her possession. She was locked up all night and next morning was fined \$20, or a month in prison. Now, this woman only a few months before this happened was brought from England to Victoria, where she was deserted—a stranger in a strange country—by a man who holds a good position in society. I write to you as you are the only one in Victoria who dare say what you think. In last night's paper I find that a Chinaman fired a pistol in the bear pit. Yesterday morning, he was taken before the Magistrate and discharged. He pleaded ignorance of the law. I did not know it was illegal to carry a pistol, and an empty one at that. I would like to ask through your paper are there two laws. I am writing to Ottawa and putting my case before them. I think this is a great injustice to the white people. All I ask for is fair play. Can you inform me if I can appeal against my fine, or is it too late? The judge said the fact that I had a pistol in my possession was sufficient cause for a fine of \$20, or a month in jail. Through having to pay \$20 I am at the present time destitute; while the man that brought me over is living in luxury. I called on his sister, Mrs. ———, where he lives, for help, and was told that I would be locked up if I annoyed her. Can you inform me what I am to do? I cannot get a situation, because of having been in the police station. I have the wedding ring he gave me, A— to B—, engraved on the inside. Can you inform me if I can get a ticket from the English consul here to my home in London, England? I am a button-hole worker by trade. My mother lives in Liverpool. I have no friends here."

With regard to the fine, I would remark that it appears to me that the Magistrate was very lenient, when he imposed a fine of only \$20 for carrying concealed weapons. The offense is a serious one, and should be punished severely. The fact that the pistol was empty is no excuse whatever. "Not loaded" pistols have killed more people than any other kind, and \$20 for the privilege of carrying one appears to me quite reasonable.

There are certain subjects with which a paper conducted on the lines of THE HOME JOURNAL is loath to deal. Very often a great amount of good could be accomplished by exposing viciousness, which is known to exist, but, to do so, one would have to lay bare matters of which the impressionable youth, at least, should be kept in the dark. Of course the damning phari-

saical doctrine of the superior virtue of Victoria will be advanced, but what can that profit us. Every one knows, or should know, there are houses in Victoria which are used for immoral purposes. It is a well known fact and much to be deplored that men claiming to be respectable, for the sake of gain, are renting their houses and buildings for immoral purposes. In one block alone, situated in the heart of the city, men and women by paying the required amount, can secure rooms, and "no questions asked." Yet the owner of this block moves in good circles and associates with the most respectable people in the city.

The spread of the social evil has become alarming. Respectable people are compelled to live next door to women of evil repute. Here is an instance of the annoyance to which some are subjected: Shortly after 11 o'clock, last Thursday night, a hack containing two men drove up to the door of the house of a respectable man of this city. The men got out of the hack and held up a light to the window of the room in which the lady of the house was sitting. They then rapped loudly on the door, and, in a boisterous tone, inquired if this was "No. so and so," referring to a number a short distance away occupied by evil women. The lady of the house, who is of a nervous temperament, quite naturally became frightened at the intruders, and is now suffering from nervous prostration. The arrival of a gentleman on the scene reassured her, and the lascivious brutes took their departure. If any one doubts the truth of this statement, they can get at the facts by inquiring at THE HOME JOURNAL office.

If prostitution is a necessary evil, and I am far from thinking that it is, why are these women not compelled to live to themselves? Are respectable people to be annoyed at all hours of the night by men of the character referred to above? Are young children to be made familiar with the scenes to be witnessed every evening in and around brothels? I am far from accusing the police with neglect of duty, but I do think that people who are disposed to live respectable should be guaranteed some protection. If a change is not made in the system of managing the social evil in the city of Victoria, and that soon, the courts may have a tragedy to deal with before long.

The Montreal Star has begun a crusade against blasphemy and cruelty to animals. The arguments of the Star are so applicable to Victoria, that I take the liberty of adapting them. What is most sorely needed just now, is the arrest of a few persons flagrantly guilty of one of these two most common forms of public offence. There is no way of convincing the criminal class of the existence of law at all comparable with the Kindergarten method of showing them the law in operation. The filthy minded ruffian who pollutes the air at the street corner probably fancies that there is no law in the land to protect the passer-by from his deliberate and, oftentimes, cruel ruffianism. His own arrest, conviction and stern punishment would quickly convince him of his error; and not only that, of course,