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CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE.

Editorial:	PAGE
The Great Lakes and Typhoid	483
The Hudson Bay Route	483
The Medical Health Officer and The Engineer	484
Leading Articles:	
New Bridge at Trail, B.C.	467
Interesting Drainage System over Three Hundred Years Old	468
Algae and Their Relation to Public Water Supplies ..	469
Design and Construction of Smokestacks	471
River Improvement by Regulation and Dredging ..	473
Large Submerged Sewer Outlet	479
Winnipeg and its Water Supply	481
Information Regarding Water-Powers	486
Rail Plateway	488
The Value of Sawmill Refuse as Fuel in Gas Producing	490
New Technical School in Winnipeg, Man.	492
A Complete Sewage Disposal Plant for a Public Institution	493
Presidential Address to the 6th Congress of the In- ternational Association for Testing Material ..	496
Storm and Surface Water Drainage in Relation to Sewage Disposal	498
Quebec Railway, Light, Heat and Power Company.	499
American Road-Builders' Association Convention..	500
Personal	501
Coming Meetings	502
Engineering Societies	502
Market Conditions	24-26
Construction News	71
Railway Orders	78

THE GREAT LAKES AND TYPHOID.

The boundary waters between the United States and Canada are rapidly becoming polluted, as is evidenced by the typhoid death rate of some of the cities located on them. We are glad to note, therefore, that the International Joint Commission has been instructed by the governments of both countries to investigate the question of pollution of boundary water. The questions laid before the Commission are as follows:—

"1. To what extent and by what causes and in what localities have the boundary waters between the United States and Canada been polluted so as to be injurious to the public health and unfit for domestic or other uses?"

"2. In what way or manner, whether by the construction and operation of suitable drainage canals or plants at convenient points or otherwise, is it possible and advisable to remedy or prevent the pollution of these waters, and by what means or arrangement can the proper construction or operation of remedial or preventive works, or a system or method of rendering these waters sanitary and suitable for domestic and other uses, be best secured and maintained in order to insure the adequate protection and development of all interests involved on both sides of the boundary, and to fulfil the obligations undertaken in Article IV. of the Waterways Treaty of January 11th, 1909, between the United States and Great Britain, in which it is agreed that the waters therein defined as boundary waters and waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other?"

The Secretaries of the International Joint Commission have, by the direction of Chairman Tawney in the United States and Chairman Casgrain in this country, sent requests to the mayors of all the cities along the international water boundary for data regarding their water supply and sewerage systems, with the expectation that much of this information will be ready to submit to the Commission when it meets in Ottawa the first Tuesday in October.

A great deal of valuable information, no doubt, will be received. The result of the investigation will be awaited with interest. One result, no doubt, will be the co-operation of the two countries in forcing cities and municipalities to purify their sewage before allowing it to be discharged into the Great Lakes.

THE HUDSON BAY ROUTE.

Preliminary reports from the Hudson Bay survey parties on board the Government steamers which are investigating ice and navigation conditions in Hudson Bay and the Straits this summer in connection with the proposed Hudson Bay Railway are not very encouraging as to the safety and feasibility of the route, so it is reported. The ice conditions, especially in the Straits, have been found to be unusually bad, exposing vessels to both serious danger and delay. While the desire for another outlet for Western wheat and another ocean route to Europe, is natural, surveys and investi-