

to draw our water supply from Lake Ontario, the pollution of the bay by sewage must not be indefinitely continued. The plans recommended, which are almost identical with those of our city engineer, will commend themselves to most people, backed as they are by the arguments and authority of one of the first living hydraulic engineers. Another thing we learn from this expert, by which, if water users will lend their aid, the city can make a great saving in the cost of the water supplied. About one-half the water pumped is wasted. That something like criminal waste goes on has long been known; the time has come when means should be taken to stop it. How the waste can be located is explained. Meanwhile every citizen who uses water has the means of doing something to check an evil from which no mortal derives the least benefit, and the city in its corporate capacity loses heavily.

It does not look as if the Ottawa Government would agree to the American proposal for putting an end to pelagic sealing. It does not accept the theory that the seals are decreasing at an alarming rate or decreasing at all.

IMMIGRATION.

The convention held last week in Winnipeg to discuss immigration showed that the importance of the subject had taken strong hold of a large section of the western country. Delegates were present from the north and east, as well as from the west, and lumberers, miners, fishermen and ranchmen were represented, as well as farmers and merchants. A clear note was sounded by the Governor of Manitoba, when he said that Canadians do not seek to fill up their country with workingmen from the cities of Southern Europe, whose socialistic ideas are a menace to peace, as they have proven to be in the United States. The people we want are the thrifty, energetic and industrious agriculturists of Great Britain and Scandinavia.

But again, as Mr. Kilroy put it, wisely, we must try to *keep* the people we get and the people we have, while using every effort to increase their numbers. In this connection a suggestion of some moment was made by Mr. Andrews, who objected to the subdivision of energy in immigration work among the railway officials, the Local and Dominion Governments, the Hudson's Bay and other companies owning land. Time, money and energy were lost by it, he said, and he proposed a central bureau of immigration. Let none but intelligent and experienced men be employed in the work, and let the immigrant be looked after, shielded from "sharks" and retained in the country. A permanent organization has been made under the title of the Western Canada Immigration Association, and from the variety of suggestions made at the three days' gathering a policy worthy of the occasion and of the object should be evolved. We are believers, however, in the efficacy of individual effort and correspondence in the matter of immigration.

ONTARIO TIMBER AND OTHER RESOURCES.

As usual, the debate on the Ontario Budget sought to peer into the possibilities of the next half century. What will happen when the Crown lands and Crown timber are exhausted and these sources of revenue dried up? One speaker limited the timber to a supply of fifty years. But there is no guarantee for the accuracy of the figures. Would not a new crop be far grown in half a century? There is no urgent reason for worrying ourselves over what may form the sources of provincial revenue, fifty, sixty or a hundred years hence. Suppose the worst predictions to be realized and all the revenue from these two sources

should dry up, other sources will be found. By that time the death duties, which are likely to develop in breadth as well as richness, will be considerable. But no public man of the day is called upon to form a budget for the year 1946. Whether the receipts from the sale of Crown lands ought, from the first, to have been capitalized, is a question of policy on which different opinions may be held. The rule has been, in Canada, for the last century, to treat them as revenue, and the United States has, from the first, followed the same plan. Some Australian colonies have followed the other plan. When Confederation was formed, the time would have been convenient, if it had been deemed desirable to change the policy; but though Mr. Sandfield Macdonald's Government was a saving Government, saving with it did not take this form, and his successors did not make the change. The Opposition, when they reach power, will be at liberty to do so. Another contested point is whether the amount to be paid on the annuities issued by the Government should go in reduction of the surplus, as a matter of accounts. The annuities, strictly speaking, constitute a debt, but the payments thereon, kept within the limits of the actual revenue, are provided for, and when the term of the annuities expires, the debt is cleared off and no permanent burthen remains. If the amount of the annuities were always maintained at the same level, by means of new issues, the practical effect would be to create a permanent debt of equal amount, with this difference, that it would always be in course of cancellation and renewal; and if the amount of the annuities were largely increased, some portion of the interest might be paid out of capital, though this would happen only if the revenue were not sufficient to meet the requirement.

THE MILLINERY OPENINGS.

If attendance be a fair criterion of the success of a millinery opening, then the late openings may be called successful. The present week's visitation of milliners in Toronto has been much larger than that of the previous week. In Montreal, where all the openings were delayed until the present week, two things interfered with them; the very stormy weather, and the fact that no arrangements for special fares could be got for merchants far away. Hence Ontario dealers from districts west of Ottawa and Kingston were but few, though there was a good representation of buyers from the Eastern Townships and elsewhere in Quebec.

The keenness of competition in wholesale dry goods circles has resulted in a wide separation of the retailers' buying and selling seasons, a fact that must be regretted by everyone interested in textile affairs.

The millinery houses have hitherto adopted a more sensible policy than the staple goods houses, and it is to be hoped that next year the trade will in unison adopt a date for displaying their season's novelties that will meet all the requirements of conservative and effective retailing of millinery supplies.

The models displayed at the opening of a millinery season may always be regarded as an exaggeration of the year's tendencies. Everything in the millinery line, that has been pronounced a favorite for the spring of 1896, is large; the shapes are large, and all the trimmings, such as feathers, flowers, ribbons, laces, are combined to give high and broad effect. Doubtless before the season is far advanced the normal line will be reached and the size of women's hats become more consistent with the best test. Dress sleeves are becoming smaller, the puffs are placed nearer the elbow, and this may be expected to exert a conservative influence upon the size of head-gear.

Ribbons are an important factor in the season's trim-