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Our Montreal Letter.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
A LARGE SUM SPENT ON CHARITY WORK.

Through the Agency of the Public Assistance Department in its 19th Annual Report of the Superintendent, Albert Chevalier, the sum of \$1,149,996.13 was spent on charity work, including \$339,000 for assistance and \$810,996.13 in refunds of taxes to charitable institutions. The net expenses of the Department were \$174,248 in excess of last year. A few items of the annual report may serve interest.

(1) In all 13,421 cases were given help with food and lodging, 1,500 less than 1922.

(2) There were 1,298 applications to place children without guardians. 761 were found to be actually without relatives capable of caring for them and were kept by the city at a cost of \$74,000.

(3) 1,561 children interned in Industrial Schools at the end of last year. 501 were boys sent to Montford and 550 girls at the Good Shepherd Convent at Sarat de Rapides.

(4) There was 478 cases of juvenile delinquency, of which 297 were sent to St. Vincent de Paul, 151 to the Good Shepherd, 23 to the Boys' Farm at Shawbridge, and eight to the Girls' Cottage.

(5) The City's share of amusement taxes was \$315,352 given to the Department.

(6) The Juvenile Court cost the city \$6,500 last year. The total cost of the upkeep of young delinquents amounted to \$29,902, of which the city is asked to pay \$12,571. The balance of \$17,331 the city objects paying owing to the origin and responsibility of the city in respect to those children.

(7) 537 patients were interned in insane asylums at a cost of \$206,908.

(8) Of 133 applications for treatment from incurables, 51 received hospital treatment at a cost of \$25,248.

(9) There were 151 applications from tuberculosis indigents. Of these, 102 received treatment at city expense of \$21,858.

(10) The city looked after 915 cases of poverty and 129 beggars. Burials at city expense totalled 190, costing \$1,542.50.

(11) There were 29 tag days authorized by the Department.

(12) The report shows that there are 150 charitable institutions in Montreal for which 59 persons are authorized to collect alms.

(13) The city gave \$54,350 in grants for charitable institutions.

(14) 7,398 cases coming under the Public Assistance Act were treated in hospitals and elsewhere at a cost to the city of \$379,330.

(15) In the Mourling-Refuge there were 72,972 beds given, during the year, while in 1922 there were 90,843. Persons sheltered numbered 2,416, against 3,221 in 1922. Last year on

an average one person received 20 nights' lodgings. The age average of those given lodging was 47, and there were 27 different nationalities.

(16) The Refuge handled 16,650 cases of illness of 47 different kinds.

(17) 138,998 meals were given to applicants at an average cost of two cents per meal. In 1922, 175,761 meals were handed out, costing three cents a meal. The Refuge washed 187,837 pieces of laundry for inmates at a cost of \$1,886.

THE HOT WAVE ON HAND.

The weather has become extremely warm of late. One effect of the heat wave is an appreciable increase in water consumption. Since June 30th, Montrealers consumed some 5,000,000 gallons of water more daily than in the same period last year.

CAMPS AND COUNTRY PLACES CROWDED.

The different camps in the Laurentine Mountains and elsewhere are crowded with the younger element, who are enjoying life in all its glory, while the country resorts are all crowded with city residents, and golf enthusiasts.

THE FOUR HANDS OF DEATH.

The four hands of Death, autos, dope, guns and moonshine, are still busy taking the toll of human lives. The six handits awaiting execution in the jail here could tell a tale of their mad career in which guns, dope and autos played a very important part. While the supposed good people play and dicker with deceit, lies, fraud, hypocrisy, greed of riches and bootlegging, the bad ones go after the dope, guns, moonshine and autos.

THE NEW YORK SUN, under the heading of "Unconquered Tuberculosis," says:—

"The victory is very far from won," says the New York Tuberculosis Association in making a statistical report on the national and world status of tuberculosis. The "needless scourge," it states, is only "to some extent being cut down," and any real victory will require long and hard fighting.

The opinion is supported by figures for the forty-one years from 1881 to 1922. These show that the absolute number of deaths of tubercular origin throughout the world is appalling, large. Even those who will not be surprised to learn that 18,420,000 people are officially recorded as having perished from tuberculosis during that period (an unofficial estimate of 100,000,000 is made by the association).

It will be depressed to know that in the United States 90,462 persons died of the white plague in 1922, while Germany lost 78,577, Austria 31,825, Japan 32,903, England and Wales 23,919, Italy 55,871 and France 60,264. For seven nations—484,811 in a single year. It is understandable how the past toll of tuberculosis can represent the total of all wars ever fought.

CITY TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Star says editorially: The Star says editorially: urer of Montreal for the past year is distinctly gratifying. It shows that in population, area and wealth this city is advancing by leaps and bounds. It is well worth quoting a few words from the report relating to Montreal's "importance" as estimated at the present moment:

"Montreal is one of the largest cities in North America; it is the terminus of two of the largest railway systems in the world; as for its harbor, it is one of the finest equipped in the universe, while the water powers in its vicinity are unsurpassed."

Other glowing tributes might be quoted, but enough has surely been cited to create pride in any resident of the metropolitan city of the Dominion.

In the year 1910 the total revenue

But the decline in death from year to year will also disappoint those who have believed tuberculosis to be an obsolescent disease. "Decline" may be used to describe what has taken place, and for while in some cases the figures show an increase they must be considered in comparison with larger populations and a tendency on the part of doctors to report deaths more fully and to include many as tubercular which were once given other classifications. Still, all this considered, it will be encouraging to Americans to learn that deaths in the United States in 1910 (75,211) were more than 15,000 fewer in number than those in 1922. And even in England, where the decrease has been practically continuous, a drop from 28,334 in 1910 to 33,919 in 1922, even with all modifying circumstances considered, does not indicate a prospective disappearance of tuberculosis. All this is the darker side of the picture, but it is the more to be kept in mind because of the possibility of successfully combating the disease. Tuberculosis, where communal assistance and private co-operation exist, is a "needless scourge." Experiments on an extended scale have often proved that it can be readily made a relatively minor cause of death. But this hopeful fact will continue to have its grim irony while 8 per cent. of all deaths in the United States must still be classed as tubercular.

WHERE A GAY LIFE LEADS.

The avenues of life are many and sometimes lead to paths that bring shame, dishonor, disgrace and an untimely end. The following, taken from the "Evening News," of New York, should serve as a warning to the gay and the young to weave life well, for it's the path to glory or the path to hell.

It is only a few blocks from 8 East 30th Street to the white lights of Broadway.

It is only a few blocks in the opposite direction—to the city morgue. Ruth Hollister lived at that address—Ruth of the bright lights—Ruth of the chorus. Many men visited her there lately. Up to a little time ago there had been only but one—Jacob Peister of 18 Linden St. Newark.

There was a party in Ruth's apartment to celebrate the 4th of July. And many men came, up to a late hour. When Peister let himself in with his key Saturday, he found Ruth dead.

She lay in her evening gown, her diamonds on her, and her rings. Her feet lay on the head of the bed, her head was on the floor, and a litter of cigarette stubs and ashes, and empty bottles.

There was a prayer book near by on the carpet, wet with gin and smeared with ashes—and through the window Peister could see the Cross on the Church of the Transfiguration. "The Little Church Around the Corner," touched with the red of the setting sun.

It's the old story of the country girl who came to Broadway—the moth and the fire.

Ruth, whose paths had always led from her apartment to the Great White way, was taken in the opposite direction—to the morgue.

Her mother came to the city yesterday from the home in Portsmouth, N.H., and identified the girl and made arrangements for her burial.

"This is my daughter, Mrs. Estelle McCullough," she said—but would reveal nothing of the romance that had changed her daughter's name from Estelle Flint.

Peister had little to say. He had "picked her up" in a movie, he said. He had liked her. He had lived with her—until recently.

A nice little kid she was—but he had left her. He did not say why. He had heard she was trying to be merry. Parties. Lots of men. And lots of liquor. A broken heart? Peister sneered. Peister was ordered held without bond by Magistrate Thomas F. Andrews, when Detectives John Sheedy and Frank Smith took him in to custody. It was believed Ruth might have been poisoned.

But it is alcohol poisoning, Dr. B. M. Vance, assistant medical examiner, said last night. And it is probable Peister will be released.

It's only a few blocks to Broadway—and perhaps some other girl will rent Ruth Hollister's little flat, with the view of the golden cross on top of the little church.

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of Montreal was but seven millions; it is shown, in the report in question, that in 1923 the revenue climbed to over twenty-six millions. As to the population, it was but a quarter of a million in 1901. In the vicinity of nine hundred thousand is the mark at the present time.

A commendable endeavor of the existing regime at the City Hall is the marked effort being put forth to provide more ample sinking funds for the debt. It is very lamentable that most weak business methods have been in evidence in the past in the matter of seeing that loans were liquidated with the passing of years.

R. J. LOUIS CUDDIHY.

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The Best Ideal before applying Face Powder. Specially selected and tested with THREE FLOWERS VANISHING CREAM.

Destroying the Enemy of the Caribou

Edmonton, Alta., July 16.—Government wolf-hunters this season will again penetrate the Barren Lands and wage war on the bands of timber wolves which prey on the caribou herds. Last year the hunters killed off several hundred of the predatory beasts, in the country northeast of Great Slave Lake.

B. Lorange, who headed the first expedition, will conduct the hunting operations again this year. He is taking with him a number of men and the party will leave for the territory of the Caribou migration by his schooner from Fort Smith, N.W.T., making his headquarters on the Lockhart river, where the Caribou cross in millions and where the greatest number of wolves were destroyed last year. Several canoes are being constructed specially for the expedition.

Pow-Wow of Trail Riders

MONTREAL, Que.—(Can. Press)—One hundred and fifty men and women, from points scattered throughout North America, from Vancouver to Ottawa and Banff to New York, devotees of the trail, of game hunting, mountain and out-door enthusiasts generally, are gathering at Takikaw

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Falls, Yoho Valley, British Columbia, for the first annual Pow-Wow of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies on July 17.

"It will be a great event," said J. M. Gibbon, Honorary Secretary of the Organizing Committee, who left Montreal earlier to prepare for the gathering, to be held at the Sun Dance Lodge, which is being erected for the occasion. In addition to the accommodation at Yoho Bungalow Camp, a camp of teepees is being put up, and these teepees will be decorated by the Stoney Indians. Members of the Alpine Club will pass through Yoho a week in advance of the Trail Riders' gathering, on their way north from Lake Louise.

The list of Trail Riders who are expected to attend the gathering includes men and women in high places in public business and professional life. A few of the 150 expected are: Dr. Charles D. Walcott, Honorary President, Washington; Madge MacBeth, the Canadian Actress, of Ottawa; H. B. Clark, Chicago, President of Rand McNally Company; Col. W. W. Foster, of Vancouver, President of the Alpine Club of Canada; Belmore Browne, of Banff, artist, and the first to climb Mount McKinley; Dr. Russell Fowler, of New York; Lawrence J. Burpee, of Ottawa, President of the Canadian Historical Association; Frederick Nyman, the Novelist, of Nelson, B.C., and Robert Hood, novelist of Vancouver; Frank N. Walerman and Robert H. Mainzer, of New York. Twenty girls from a Detroit school will be included in the gathering.

Horse-back is the mode of transportation that will be used by some of the members travelling long distances to the pow-wow. Henry A. Riviere will ride on horseback from Ft. Assiniboia, 250 miles; Buffalo Child Long Lance, the Cree Indian, writer of tales of his own people, will travel horseback. Madeline Turner, the woman guide, will journey 160 miles on horseback, and Mrs. "Mill" Brewster will ride 130 miles from Kananaskis.

Pearline for easy washing.—July 17, 17

Unknown to Natural History

MYSTERY CREATURES OF THE JUNGLE.

To those who imagine, as many do, that Nature has no further surprises in store for us in the shape of new animals and birds, the news that an expedition in South America is attempting to capture the hoazin, a very rare species of water fowl, will come as a surprise.

But the hoazin, with its cockatoo crest and its formidable powerful beak, is by no means the only mystery creature known to exist to-day. In the heart of Central Africa, where the jungle in many places has never been penetrated by white men, there is to be found a strange leopard-like animal, striped after the fashion of a zebra, but so far has evaded classification by natural history experts.

AN ANIMAL THAT FLIES.

What is known to be the hippo-horse is another mysterious beast that roams the African wilds. The natives have long spoken of it, but it was not until a few months ago that a white man, Mr. H. E. Lee, made its acquaintance.

He saw the animal half-immersed in a pool. Its mouth, cheeks, and ears were like those of a horse, but its head was like that of a hippopotamus, with two long, erect horns on its snout.

The New Guinea forests are believed to be the home of more than one animal unknown to natural history, while the dense jungles of Borneo and Brazil contain others, among them a long-haired tree creature that is said to be capable of flying.

The Giant Bush Pig of Kenya is another beast that is so rarely seen that its existence is doubted by some, although several reputable travellers claim to have observed it.

Keeping the Doctors Busy

A Disease That Costs \$40,000 a Day.

In the course of a conference on tuberculosis held a few years ago, it was stated that this disease alone costs Great Britain no less than thirteen and a half million pounds a year. Think of it—more than a million a month, or about \$40,000 a day!

Rheumatism is not usually counted as a serious malady; yet it cripples or partially cripples so many of us that it is reckoned that the labour lost through the affliction in this country is worth between five and six millions yearly.

Influenza is with us every year, and when a really bad epidemic strikes the country, as happened in 1919, about one in five of the whole population suffers. The sick roll from influenza in that year was nine millions, and there were nearly 150,000 deaths.

The Nation's Sick List.

The cost of treatment and value of lives lost did not fall far short of ten millions sterling, and absence of work and dislocation of trade must have cost as much more. So that one visit-

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