

# The Chronicle

## Insurance & Finance.

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### Antidote to Typhoid.

The prevalence of typhoid in many parts of the country, not in cities chiefly, but in small towns and suburban communities, gives importance to any reasonable and ready antidote. That typhoid is a disease ordinarily communicated by bad water, or milk from cows that have drunk impure water, is beyond question. The "Review," London, has the following:

"Dr. S. Rideal claims that sulphuric acid, when properly employed, is a certain preventative of typhoid fever. In a paper read at Glasgow, before the British Association for the Advancement of Science, he stated that last year the alarming outbreak of enteric fever among the troops in South Africa induced Dr. Parkes, of Chelsea, and himself to experiment with a view of finding a chemical salt which could be added to infected water by soldiers on the march, and would insure the death of the typhoid organism if present in the water. They had succeeded in finding such a salt in acid sulphate of soda, which, when added in the proportion of one gramme (15 grains) to the pint, after 15 minutes contact, rendered the water free from infection. He further found that sulphuric acid added in the proportion of four grammes to the gallon rendered sewage or drainage waters from isolation hospitals free from typhoid organism."

The medication of water on a large scale, as in the case of a well, or public service from a reservoir, is impracticable. Medical men, however, may find the above suggestive of measures that would be protective of the public health.

### Wreck Statistics.

Lloyd's Register shows that, great as the annual loss of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom appears to be, it is seen to form a very moderate percentage of the mercantile marine of the country, and to compare favourably with the losses sustained by other leading maritime countries. The merchant

navies which exceed a total of 1,000,000 tons are those of the United Kingdom, the British colonies, the United States of America, France, Germany and Norway. Of these countries the United Kingdom and the British colonies show the smallest percentage of loss, viz., 2.39 and 2.34 per cent. respectively of the vessels owned. Germany follows with 3.39 per cent., and Norway is highest with 6.39 per cent. As regards steamers, while the percentage for the United Kingdom stands at 1.95, the averages of the percentages of loss for the other five countries is 2.53.

### Wholesale Heating.

Dawson City has the credit of having a wholesale heating apparatus in operation which is a distinct advance upon any known to us in Canada. It has been put in by the Northern Commercial Co. The father of the idea is stated to have been Mr. Jos. H. Burke, and the electrical and mechanical engineer who supervised the construction is Mr. Eugene Rush. The apparatus distributes heat over a radius of six blocks, a distance of half a mile. It warms a score of business premises, makes comfortable half a hundred living and office apartments and diffuses heat through 625,000 cubic feet of space. The mains employed which distribute the steam from the boilers are two in number, four and six inch, laid parallel and in such shape that in case of fire the steam can be cut off from the larger one and it can be used as a water main. The supply of steam is derived from four boilers having a capacity of 250-horse power. The same boilers also furnish power for the Yukon sawmill, A. C. machine shop and a 600-light dynamo. This mode of wholesale heating is claimed to almost eliminate risk from fire. Our Dawson correspondent regards it as an unqualified success. It is certainly a highly interesting enterprise.