

their municipality to be kept in an untidy and insanitary condition for 52 weeks, and then make a grand display of civic incapacity by trying to get rid of a large amount of decomposing and other refuse at one fell swoop. Then with a loud "Hurrah" they proclaim the city clean. There is no necessity for this enlisting of school children, boy scouts and girl guides in spasmodic efforts at attempting to keep the town clean. We should not follow the deplorable example set us by the large American cities. Rather we should teach the boys and girls that keeping the home premises clean and free from refuse day by day is just as necessary as cleaning their teeth daily. What is wanted in Canadian towns and cities is *system* in the matter of refuse collection and disposal, and

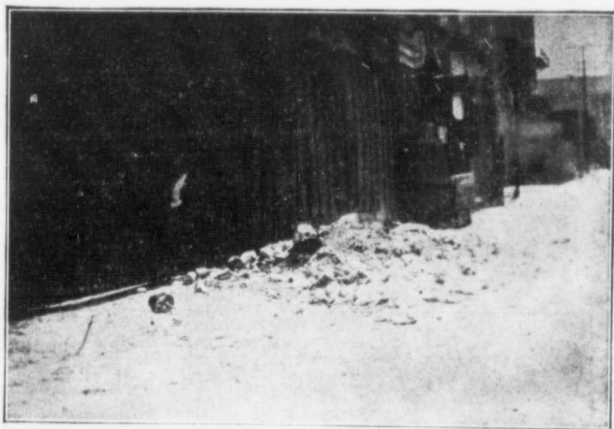


Fig. 6.—Lane in the Centre of a Canadian City at Midday: Uncollected Refuse

each child should be taught that it is better and easier to keep the premises clean than it is to clean up premises that are allowed to become defiled with rubbish of any kind.

It should be the duty of each ratepayer to insist upon it that the work be instituted under civic control, not only as a matter of economy and civic pride, but, what is of infinitely more importance, for the health and comfort of all. Men, women and children may "swat the fly" as hard and as often as they like, but should devote a little of that same energy to 'swatting' the councillors until they bestir themselves and inaugurate a system of refuse collection. More will be done in this way to rid our homes and our cities of flies than ever was thought possible.