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MONTREAL HEALTH SURVEY COMMITTEE

3640 University Street,
Montreal, January 31, 1929.

Alderman A.A. DesRoches,
Chairman of the Executive Committee of the City Council,
Montreal.

Dear Mr. DesRoches,

Several members of the Montreal Health Survey Committee have brought to my attention a letter received from you concerning articles appearing in the "Montreal Herald". As Secretary of the Committee, I am writing to advise you formally that the Committee has, in no way, directly or indirectly, inspired or been responsible for what was written. Our sole relationship with the "Montreal Herald" has been the same as with all other Montreal newspapers; that is, we furnished them with copies of the report.

May I take this opportunity to re-state the policy of the Survey Committee? The Health Survey was made with the objective of presenting to Montreal citizens a statement of health conditions and to offer a plan for their improvement.

The Committee has acted upon the assumption that the authorities are not only willing but desirous to improve conditions. The Committee is highly appreciative of the advances that have been made in the Department of Health since the Survey was completed. The increase in personnel and expenditures is very practical evidence of the good intentions of the administration. We understand that the authorities can only go as far as public opinion supports them. The Committee is, therefore, striving to create a public opinion favourable to health work. You may be assured that in doing this, whatever the Committee has to say will be said openly.

It is our intention to further this public interest and to support the efforts of the authorities under your chairmanship to improve health conditions by participating in a Health Exhibit within the next few months. The Department of Health of the City will be asked to take part in that Exhibit in order to show the citizens what health work the City of Montreal is actually doing. We appreciate that confidence in the Department of Health is fundamental, because in the building up of that Department lies the chief hope of reaching the goal we all seek - better health conditions in Montreal.

We would appreciate it if you would communicate this letter to the City Council, and you are also at liberty to use it in any other way you desire.

Yours truly,

(Signed) A. Grant Fleming
Secretary

Montreal Health Survey Committee