

## Our Montreal Letter

(From Our Own Correspondent)

## TO START WORK ON THE NEW HILL BUILDING.

Construction on the new Arts Building, McGill University, is expected to start in December. Tenders for the architectural design will be received shortly and the long-awaited project will soon be a reality.

This project means more adequate accommodation for the ever increasing arts classes. It will mark another turn in the internal expansion of Canada's great centre of learning, thus rendering "the Gates of Opportunity." The building will be ready for occupation next October, the session of 1926-27.

It is proposed according to the present plans to install a demonstration theatre in the edifice to be known as the "Moyse Hall," capable of seating 500.

## NO INSURANCE AS BUILDING IS FIREPROOF.

Not a cent of insurance is to be taken out on the Quebec plant of the Ontario Gypsum Company, Ltd., which has just been completed in Montreal East. The two buildings, construction of which was started last July, are valued at \$800,000.

The plant is of gypsum construction and the company is convinced that it is absolutely fireproof. Raw material brought from Nova Scotia will be manufactured into gypsum board, wall plaster of all kinds, plaster of Paris and insulux.

## THE SPEEDERS GET HEAVY FINES

Judge Perreault reminded an American visitor from Cleveland, Ohio, that there were laws in the Province of Quebec and that they had to be observed when he fined the culprit \$75 and costs for going at the rate of 40 miles an hour on Sherbrooke Street, between Guy and University Streets at 10.30 in the evening.

A local man was hitting it up at 30 miles an hour along Sherbrooke Street also, and he bit the dust to the tune of \$25 and costs or 15 days in Bordeaux Jail.

Both gave as excuses they "were not thinking," but the Judge gave them something to think about, the loss of a part of their roll of bills.

## RECORDER SCORES TWO OFFENDERS.

For impeding the lives and morals of young children, offenders who appeared in the Recorder's Court recently, were lectured in no uncertain terms by Recorder Semple. When Louis Oberlin was arraigned on a charge of selling cigarettes to minors, the Recorder scored him as one of those who endangered the social fabric, by starting youngsters on the downward path and ignoring the laws made for the protection of family and home.

A Duclos received an equally stringent dressing down, for driving his automobile at a dangerous speed in the vicinity of the Maisonneuve school and so risking the injury of the children of the vicinity. A constable testified that, when arrested the motorist was going at 25 miles an hour. He was fined \$40 and costs and warned to mend his ways or suffer severe penalties.

## OCTOBER A MONTH OF DISAGREABLE WEATHER.

October of 1925 will go down in the history of the city for the most disappointing for years. Rain, frost, snow and wind caused many to feel unpleasant and also brought much sickness.

## HEALTH LAWS NOT ENFORCED IN SOME EATING PLACES.

A project, introduced by Ald. Maurice Gahias, of St. Cuneoed, ward, some time ago whereby he asks that all employees of restaurants be compelled to undergo a physical examination, has again come to the fore. The alderman has asked the executive committee what has become of his motion, which was approved by the council. Ald. J. A. A. Brodeur in reply stated that he and his conferees were studying the project, but did not state what action they would take in the matter. In explaining his motion Ald. Gahias said that many small eating houses were in a deplorable state of uncleanliness, hygiene is conspicuous by its absence, while the health laws are laughed at. He asks that the hired help do not wait on table in a slovenly state. The manner in which some of the meals are cooked should also be supervised.

## GETTING RID OF SOME OF THE JUNK.

Eight of the smallest Canadian Government Merchant Marine ships have been sold, six to the James Playfair Company for service between Canada and Cuba, and two to N. M. Patterson, grain merchant of Fort William, Winnipeg and Montreal.

The six ships acquired by the James Playfair Co. are the Canadian Adventurer, 1,201 tons; the Canadian Sailor, 1,235 tons; Canadian Signaller, 1,455 tons; Canadian Sower, 1,201 tons; Canadian Trader, 1,283 tons, and the Canadian Warrior, 1,453 tons. All of

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these ships were built in 1919 by the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co. or the Collingwood Shipbuilding Co. They have been in operation on the Great Lakes and are now lying at Midland, Ontario. It is said that they have not been in service this season.

The ships purchased by N. M. Patterson are the Canadian Pathfinder and the Canadian Engineer, sister ships of 1,495 tons register, built by the Collingwood Shipbuilding Co. They will be added to the fleet already in operation by Mr. Patterson.

## THE AFTERMATH OF THE ELECTIONS.

The Federal Elections of 1925 have come and gone, and with the parties practically deadlocked, owing to the barrier in the way the Progressives from the West. But they are dwindling, and in this election they lost nearly two-thirds of their following.

It's about time that third parties were consigned to oblivion in both Provincial and Federal elections. Your correspondent remember well when they came into existence in Ontario over thirty years ago when Liberalism was at its greatest strength, power and glory under the sterling leadership of the late Sir Oliver Mowat. At that time Toryism was so weak that for years Liberalism swept the Province. The farmers tried their strength at the polls under the name of "The Patrons of Industry" and had a few elected. A second venture brought a larger gathering under the leadership of Haycock, and they formed a third party in the House. Sir Oliver Mowat had no need of their services for his Government, as the combined forces of the Tories and

the Farmers fell short by fifty or sixty to defeat it. Yet, on all Government questions, the "Patrons of Industry" always supported the Government being Liberals at heart. They finally passed out of existence until they formed again and got control of the Ontario Government, under the name of the "United Farmers' Association" and left a legacy of debt and stagnation, and were in session only one term when the Conservatives at the last Provincial Elections under the present Premier E. M. Ferguson swept them from power. They have invaded the Dominion Parliament under the name of "The Progressives," and had Premier King's hands tied for three years. And now they form a stumbling block if the St. Hon. Arthur Meighen will be called upon to form a Government. At the present time the standing of the parties is: Conservatives, 118; Liberals, 100; Progressives, 24; Labor, 2; Independent, 1. The Progressives under no consideration will vote with the Conservatives.

There were many surprises in the returns. Hon. E. L. Patenaude, the new leader of the Province of Quebec and hailed as a leader equal to the late Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Savior of his country, was a frost as well as a fiasco, not only being defeated himself but failing to get one French-Canadian Conservative elected in the Province. The moneyed men of the Party gave him a free hand. He campaigned the whole Province with a special car, orators and reporters, and had the Montreal Star at his disposal with page after page of glowing reports of his wonderful receptions and ovations, many of them being fiascos.

Under the heading of "A Mistake in Strategy," the Montreal Herald says editorially in part: "That the Government exercised mistaken judgment in appealing to the country at this time is apparent. It could have remained

in office for another year, and by that time the full effects of returning prosperity would have been apparent. Already there were signs on every hand that we had turned the corner and that business was on the up grade. The Conservatives recognized this, and because they could not afford to wait they issued their challenge for an election before the time had passed when they could still use their 'blues' and 'reds' cry. And when the election came they were able to exercise the old maxim 'Divide and Rule,' for in many constituencies where Progressive and Liberal candidates divided the Liberal vote, the Conservative candidate was able to romp home with a minority. The Liberal Government was defeated on a point of strategy when it acceded to the Conservative demand for dissolution and it is paying the penalty of that initial mistake. The question now is whether the returns will give the Conservatives a working majority, and that at the moment appears doubtful."

THE OPINIONS OF THE FRENCH PRESS.

La Presse: "The general election can hardly be said to have advanced the country as regards the essential objective—a stable government. Neither of the two great parties have succeeded in obtaining a clear, decisive majority. No party, therefore, is in a position to govern in an independent and stable manner. In a word, we are back to the position occupied in 1921—a precarious majority for the party that assumes power. This is not satisfactory for everybody, was in accord in acknowledging that what Canada needs most is a government possessing a majority at once substantial and capable of successfully carrying out a well-defined policy."

"But if the general result is indecisive we can see now the characteristic existence in the country of two compact groups—that of Quebec becoming a Liberal bloc of sixty members in opposition to the Conservative bloc of Ontario numbering sixty-nine. This is neither satisfactory nor encouraging from the point of view of the best interests of the Dominion, for necessarily the antagonism between the two provinces championing the two parties, Liberal and Conservative, will run a very great risk of envenoming the old rivalries—rivalries of language, religion and interest. Nothing could be more deplorable."

nothing is pleasing, however. It is that the Progressive Party coming out of the fray in a crippled condition. The country therefore seems to be returning to a division of two parties. We are bound to appreciate that fact. It is too soon, perhaps, to draw definite conclusions from Thursday's results. We must wait until all doubt as to the final outcome is officially removed. But one thing it may be permitted to say. It is that before very long, perhaps in less than a year, it will be necessary to consult again the electorate with the object of obtaining a clear mandate for one or other of the two great parties."

Le Devoir sees as the outcome of the elections only a big point of interrogation. "If Mr. Meighen is called to power will he at once advise a dissolution of Parliament or will he attempt to govern for a few months, or weeks? And how, in this event, will he constitute his Cabinet? Those Conservatives who visibly wanted to get rid of him, will they resign themselves to his rule once more? Thursday's success is surely not of a nature to develop in the mind of Mr. Meighen a spirit of resignation. We are in the centre of a crisis, and the prospect of another general election in the near future."

La Patrie says that in Quebec the result is very disappointing to the Conservatives, notwithstanding that Patenaude had unlimited pecuniary assistance and spent it lavishly throughout the Province. The Patenaude movement aroused suspicion owing to the men behind the work. Hence the failure to capture at least fifteen seats.

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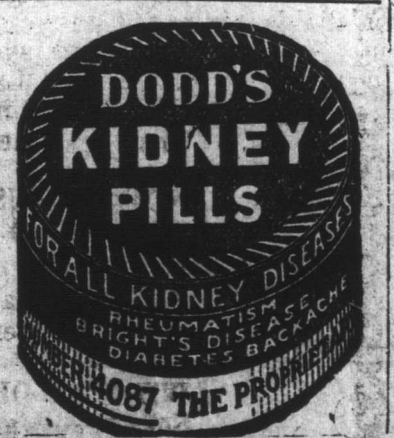
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—By Bud Fisher

