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KIT FOX,
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CARAMEL,
TAN,
NAVY,
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sept28,25

Our Montreal Letter

(From Our Own Correspondent).
THE CITY BEING OVER-RUN BY
BANDITS AND VIOLENCE.

The metropolis of Canada is increasing rapidly in the history of crime. Daring hold-ups, robberies of all kinds and cold-blooded murders are carried out in a bold, defiant and heartless manner, and to add to the horror of these crimes, the perpetrators escape, leaving no clues for the stern hand of the law and justice to deal with them. It was thought that when the famous bandits now awaiting sentence of death at Bordeaux jail were captured, that the city was safe from the fierce storm of crime that swept over it for some time. But alas! it was only a lull in the crime wave, for it has broken out anew. A new gang, under some new leader or leaders, has appeared on the scene, and citizens in certain sections of the city and business places are robbed even in daylight. The gunmen take some awful chances, escape with robbery and murder left to tell the tale of their wicked doings. Have they some master mind leading them on, that the power of money can defy the power of the law, like the gang at Bordeaux jail had according to affidavits now in the hands of Alderman Dubreuil, and who has asked for an investigation into the workings of the Police Force. The Alderman has brought some very serious charges against some officials, and if proved and proven, will tell a tale of duplicity fraud and crime running rampant, and hidden and unpunished for the sake of the root of all evil—Money. So hangs a tale. Alderman Dubreuil asked for a Royal Commission to investigate the charges. His request was voted down by a large majority, and a special committee named from the Council, consisting of 12 members, was appointed to hear the Alderman's charges. Now, it appears, that Alderman Dubreuil refuses to let the committee have the affidavits, and while the committee will hold an investigation, the Alderman and several citizens are asking for a judicial investigation into the affair. Here are a few of the latest episodes of the bandit gang.

A captain of a barge moored in the Canal was walking along the Canal embankment, when he was set upon by two ruffians, who had revolvers, struck down unconscious, and robbed of all his valuables, including one hundred and seventy dollars.

A postman, who had the delivery of the business section of St. Paul Street for the past ten years, and who had resided at Verdun, working after hours in a grocery store which his wife looked after during the day, was robbed in his store and then shot to death by two men, who entered the store to make a purchase. After the robbery and the murder, the men jumped into an auto, which was waiting with two other men in it, and escaped. The auto was probably a stolen one.

Two men entered a jewellery store and at the point of revolvers grabbed \$8,000 worth of goods, but coming out, they came in contact with the proprietor on the sidewalk, dropped some of their loot and escaped in an auto.

Refusing to stand aside when ordered to do so by six men who leaped from a car and stopped him while he was walking along Western Avenue at an early hour in the evening with a young lady, Donald Gordon, 25 years of age, of 80 Stanford Street, received a shot in the leg from a revolver in the hands of one of the men.

The assailants made no effort to rob the couple but immediately after wounding Gordon they made off in the car. Gordon's injuries were not serious and he was enabled to return home after being treated at the hospital.

Picking up two fares at the corner of Beaubien and St. Denis Street at 10 o'clock at night, S. Wood, chauffeur for the Yellow Taxi Cab Co., was forced to submit to a search of his pockets while he was tearing the receipt from the meter at Bellechasse Street. The two men alighted from the taxi, paid the 55 cents registered against the drive, and one of them pressed a revolver on the breast of the chauffeur. The second man, took the chauffeur's \$15 from his pocket.

Under the heading of 'Going Back-

wards,' the Montreal Herald says editorially:—

Thoughtful people here must be struck—and saddened—by the current news dealing with crime. For a time the compelling fact was more increase in the number of criminal acts. Later events are tending to show that the character of the deeds of violence is changing in a manner that cannot but startle the balanced mind. In recent crime not only in Montreal but all over the continent there is evidence of a degeneration which must astound. Crime is something more than a simple violation of the legal code when it descends into such depths. We who have long prided ourselves upon the fancied difference between the people of our country and those of older nations have been given something to think about that is worth while.

The criminal brutality demonstrated by proofs of degeneracy hitherto foreign to our records cannot be blinked at. Whether we have touched the right causes may be a matter for doubt. But there is not the least question that we are swinging far from our old mental landmarks. But in making a brief survey of the differences between the new and the old-fashioned psychology, the discriminating observer sees much more than a mere difference in the degrading character of the acts of the criminal-minded. He sees a startling change in mentality everywhere. If among the changes he notes a cold-blooded indifference to old standards of the value of human life, he may set that down as merely incidental. For he has only to plot out his observations to see that mental operations are different among all men and women—and even children. The old code has gone. If we are startled now by the difference compared with the standard of a generation ago, we may look for other changes that may develop into permanencies, the reverse of what was once a rule of conduct. But at the moment the amazing thing which commands attention in the degeneracy apparent in the acts of crime. With that perched upon the topmost point mere crime increase becomes secondary.

AN INCREASE OF SCHOLARS IN ALL THE SCHOOLS.

All the schools in Montreal, both Protestant and Catholic, show an increase in attendance. Owing to inadequate accommodation in some of the Catholic Schools, some twenty-five hundred children are receiving only half-a-day's tuition.

OH! HOW SWEET IS LIBERTY.

Liberty is sweet to those who have tasted the bitter and galling yoke of slavery and starvation. This applies particularly to parts of Russia to-day where the inhabitants are fleeing to other countries to enjoy freedom and try to earn a living for themselves. With them it's, 'Give us Liberty or Death.' A stowaway who was being deported back to Russia, on a Canadian Pacific freighter, jumped overboard off Crane Island while a storm was on, and immediately was lost to view. It was too boisterous to launch a boat to try and rescue him. Six more Russian stowaways were sent to jail lately and, at the end of their term, will be deported to Belgium.

HUNTING SEASON IN FULL SWING.

"Give me a trail, a dog, a gun; To tramp is my delight, From early morn till set of sun; A glowing fire at night." And so sings the hunter in the forest. The prospects are very bright in northern Quebec since the opening of the deer shooting season which opens earlier than in any of the other provinces. Outfitters along the transcontinental section of the Canadian National Railways and those lines which tap the Lake St. John, Abitibi and La Tuque regions are already entertaining so many hunters that they are having difficulty in securing sufficient qualified guides to meet the demands. At La Tuque, Parent, Amos, Senneville and La Sarre moose, deer, bear and partridge have been reported in large numbers and at the head of Lake St. John, several large herds of caribou have been sighted on several occasions. In Gaspé, which is noted for its caribou hunting, these animals are reported to be found in larger numbers than for several years.

R. J. LOUIS CUDDHY.

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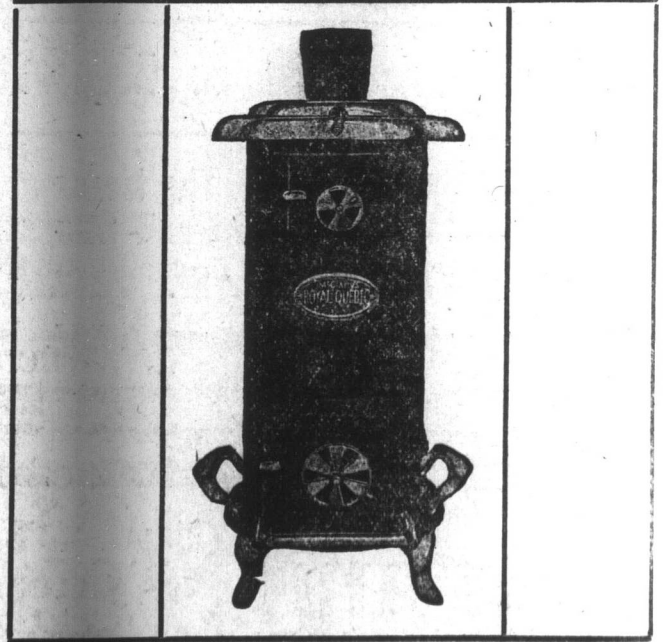
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