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Montreal Letter.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
QUEBEC'S GREAT ELECTRICAL
DEVELOPMENT.

Quebec is to have the greatest electrical development scheme in the world. The hydro-electric work is now being carried on at the head of the Saguenay River. The development means the investment of American money to the extent of \$30,000,000 and the scheme will not cost the taxpayers of Quebec one cent.

Under the plan, dams will be erected which will raise the level of Lake St. John and extend its area from about 300 square miles to 400 square miles. The work is being carried out by the Quebec Development Company, which company was dormant for years although a considerable amount had been expended by it. There was litigation with Col. B. A. Scott, of Quebec, who was the original promoter of this huge development scheme, and when a settlement was effected with Col. Scott, not long ago, the company effected an agreement with the Quebec Government for an immediate start on the work of construction.

The agreement was drafted on behalf of the company by Mr. Alno Geoffroy, a well-known legal counsellor of Montreal. The principal promoter of the company, Mr. J. B. Duke, the American tobacco king, was able to guarantee all of the necessary capital for the colossal undertaking. Under the agreement, the company was to proceed immediately with the work at the site of the first dam at Isle Malgou, where the first unit of 30,000 h.p. is being developed with a head of 100 feet. It may be explained that this Virginia 550,000 h.p. which supplies all the power for the immense and numerous textile mills in that part of the United States, besides furnishing the necessary energy to light some 40 towns, and operate several street railways. The Quebec Development Company had already acquired all of the riparian rights and all the land around St. John that could be flooded.

Before the work was started, Price Bros. & Company agreed to take 200,000 h.p. Of this 140,000 h.p. will be used to generate steam and 60,000 h.p. for the operation of the pulp and paper mills at Kenogami where 60,000 tons of coal are now being used annually. When the development at Isle Malgou is completed, the same construction plant will be used for developing 900,000 horse power at almost at tidewater, making a grand total of 1,200,000 h.p. The total cost of the whole development and all the extensions of mills using it will be around \$30,000,000.

The Isle Malgou development consists of a power house, four spillways on the Isle Malgou, a dam at the head of Isle Malgou controlling the right channel of the Grand Deschamps, one earth dam, and three spillways at the head of the Little Deschamps.

The power house, which itself is the largest of the dams, and will contain twelve 40,000 h.p. units, is the

first part of the work to be built. It will be 700 feet long, 150 feet high from sub-foundation to top, and inclusive of wing walls will require 235,000 cubic yards of masonry.

A steel construction trestle 55 feet high will run the length of the power house, carrying three tracks, surmounted by three travelling cranes with two 85-foot booms, each of which will handle the excavation for the power house proper and place all the concrete therein. This trestle will eventually be concreted in and left in the structure.

Three miles of yard tracks are now graded and partly laid with rails, and foundations for all machinery and half the construction trestle ready. It is expected that the placing of concrete for the power house foundation will be commenced by November.

Work will be carried on throughout the winter season regardless of what the temperature may be, in order to take advantage of the low-water period. The programme of construction calls for completion of the Isle Malgou station in 1927. There are at present some 450 men employed on the work, and this number will soon be increased to over 1,000.

The camp buildings are situated on a high plateau immediately above the yard tracks, and are fitted with all modern conveniences. There are also comfortable four-room houses for married employees.

AUTOMOBILE THIEVES ARE BUSY

Automobile thieves are still very active in and around Montreal. A few evenings ago a costly car was stolen and the thief or thieves were joy riding until the early hours of the morning. Coming along St. Luke Street, the car was suddenly turned into Tower Avenue, when the engine exploded, and the car took fire. The noise of the explosion aroused all the neighbors around, an alarm was sent in and the firemen responded. The interior of the car was completely destroyed. The thieves were not found. The license on the car was 64-297 Quebec.

STARTING ON THE DOWNWARD PATH.

Charged with a series of burglaries in a St. Catherine street west office building, a fourteen-year-old lad born in Newfoundland, who also admitted that he had done some second-storey business in residential parts of the city, appeared before Judge Choquet in the Juvenile Court and was recommended for investigation to be made.

Detectives Finel and Pelletier caught the boy last night. He is specifically accused of having stolen from offices in the building referred to a gold sovereign, a \$10 gold piece, a length of silk, a diamond brooch and a flashlight.

The little prisoner told the detectives, too, that he had been into some houses in the western part of Montreal. He worked in the afternoon, according to his story. He would ring the front door bell, and if no one replied he would go to the rear gallery,

force a window, and pick up what he wanted from the various rooms.

FIRE IN THE GENERAL HOSPITAL BUNKERS.

Between five and six hundred tons of coal became ignited through spontaneous combustion in the coal bunkers at the Montreal General Hospital. Mr. Frank J. Dowling, Mechanical Superintendent at the Hospital, had his men fight the fire, and after twenty-four hours of hard work succeeded in getting it under control. Last year the same thing happened, but the authorities at the Hospital would not allow any water to be thrown on the coal. The men had to fight the flames by shifting the coal. For 3 days, they worked, covered with gas masks, and at the end of that time, succeeded in quenching the flames, though at a loss of \$1,000. While this year the work was done much quicker by using the hose and without any loss financially.

VERY MUCH TO THE POINT.

The Register, Denver, says:— It is a queer freak of human nature what terrible things some people can do without having the least qualm of conscience about them. We once knew a man who made up his mind to seek another man's job and set out to get it. He called attention to every flaw in the other man's work, and God knows anybody can find plenty of them in the labors of any one of us. It took about a year of this kind of business, then the other man was forced to resign and seek a job elsewhere. The man who had manoeuvred the dirty campaign got the job. He did not have the least qualm of conscience, seemingly, for what he had done. There are many people in the world just like him. They are capable of tremendous injustices, yet do not bother their heads in the least about them.

TRYING TO TAMPER WITH JUSTICE.

A few days ago in the court a man was being tried for keeping a disorderly house. Several witnesses testified against the proprietor who had threatened some of them with death for informing on him. The last witness startled the court by saying that he was offered \$10 to perjure himself. The judge asked who the person was that offered the bribe. A young girl of 15 years was brought forward and she admitted that she was the guilty one, but said that her mother told her to do it. The judge ordered the proprietor to vacate the house and to appear before a future date for sentence. When the case was over, the mother made a rush at her daughter to strike her for "letting the cat out of the bag," but was prevented from doing so by some policemen who do duty around the court.

THE JUDGE WAS WRATHY WITH THE JURY.

Judge Demers in sentencing a bad character found guilty of attempted armed robbery and inflicting bodily injury, to two years and five years for the two crimes to run concurrently, told the prisoner that the jury had been too good and sensitive to him.

The prisoner asked for the clemency of the court, based on the recommendation of the jury.

His Lordship said: "You belong to the category of thieves and apaches, with which this city is infested. You have no right to clemency. You have been judged by twelve men too good and sensitive for you, and they had to sentence you to two years and five years for the two crimes to run concurrently. The prisoner asked for the clemency of the court, perhaps out of pity, perhaps because the severity of the sentence possible, frightened them."

"Without that recommendation, I would have been very severe, but I have to respect the recommendation at the same time. I have a duty to rid society of brutes of your type. Therefore, in view of the jury's recommendation I will only sentence you to two years in the penitentiary on the first charge and five years on the second, to run concurrently."

The prisoner: "Right I ask whether the court took steps to check up how the information brought in evidence against me was got? No; you just take an innocent man and load him up with charges. Three-fourths of the people in prison are there on false charges."

PARENTS OBJECT TO COST OF SCHOOL BOOKS.

Parents are protesting against the high cost of school books, especially in the Protestant Schools. The suppliers say that in many cases, they are selling the books at cost prices without any margin of profit. According to the regulations of the Council of Public Instruction, new text books have been ordered for all the higher grades in the Catholic schools, involving a lot of extra expense on parents this year, though the books are sold at reasonable figures. When parents have to purchase books for three or four children from the same family attending school the bill mounts up to quite a sum. Many parents, owing to lack of proper employment, find it a hardship imposed on them to be obliged to pay for so many books, and fail to understand why new text books have to be purchased so often. The Protestant Board of Commissioners have promised to try and see if the books cannot be reduced in price.

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WHAT EXPENSIVE FUNERALS MEAN.

Visitors to Montreal often gaze in astonishment at some of the big funerals they see. Probably it never occurred to them the big expense attached to such funerals. There is the casket costing \$150, the fancy hearse, \$15, each coach \$7, the church service, \$50, the grave, \$10, making a total of \$353. Many times the undertaker is never paid, while the same has to be said of the church service. The cemetery authorities are the only ones that demand ready cash. Why so much expense, when no payment is made? The "exterior show," at the expense of

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honesty is a crime, a waste and a delusion, and only shows the hollowness of such work. The dead persons are dishonored with such work, and if their voices could speak from their silent tombs would cry, "Shame! Shame!" Reading over an article from the Messenger on "Costly Funerals," I found it very much to the point. It says:—

The Archbishop of Dubuque, speaking to the priests in retreat a few weeks ago, counselled that the faithful be persuaded to oppose the growing fashion of expensive funerals. Christians know, but they are kept from realizing, that when the eye is closed forever and the heart forever chilled, display of funeral finery can neither be a delight nor a comfort to the departed. The most expensive outfit can do is to minister to the vanity of the living. Every Catholic knows what manner of service can avail him after death, and he can have no sense of approval for the interpretation of his will which leads to meaningless waste of what may be needed by those who mourn him. "For sons, have come to me," said, his Grace, "asking me to secure a free grave in a cemetery after they had engaged to give an undertaker two hundred dollars and more for burial."

TARIFF WARS NO CURE FOR THE ILLS OF COMMERCE.
High tariffs and tariff wars between nations are no cure for the ills of

commerce, declared Gaston Gerard, Mayor of Dijon, France, to the Chamber de Commerce, pleading for free trade between countries and greater exchange of goods between Canada and France.

Mr. Gerard's speech dealt largely with subjects interesting to the great wine growing district of France. "Our Burgundy vines have suffered at the hands of many enemies, both human foes, insect pests and blights, but the greatest enemy to the prosperity of our vineyards is taxation, the result of the great war and the battle of tariffs that has resulted."

The recent Franco-Canadian trade treaty was a sample of what nations needed to better commercial relations.

Paul Emile Naggar, French Con-

sp. General at Montreal; Beaudry Leman, general manager of the Bank of Hochelaga, and Leon Lorrain were among those at the meeting, which was presided over by Joseph Daoust, acting president of the Chambre.
R. J. LOUIS CUDDIHY.

Household Notes.

rubbers are occasionally rubbed with vasoline and wiped off with a soft cloth, they will keep in good condition.

Quick-drying gasoline leaves a ring around the grease spot which it is used to clean. This can be removed by steaming it.

If the knob comes off the lid of your teakettle, insert a screw upside down in the hole and fasten a cork on the other end.

Brocade or tapestry covered furniture can be cleaned by rubbing it with warm bran and a piece of flannel. Brush well.

When using sardines for a sandwich paste plunge them into boiling water to remove some of the oil, and scrape off the skin.

Lemon juice flavors cranberry ice nicely. The four tablespoons of it in one quart of berries, and one-half cupful of grape juice.

When you are packing steel-bladed knives away for some time, rub the blades with emery paper to prevent them from rusting.

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