



Editorials

MONTREAL'S NEW BOARD OF HEALTH

MONTREAL has entered the New Year with a new charter of health. The City Council, ere the old year passed, approved unanimously of the personnel of the newly created Board of Health. By this action, one of the major recommendations of the Survey Committee has been made a reality. The heartiest congratulations of the Canadian Public Health Association are tendered to the Mayor, Executive Committee and members of the City Council, and to the citizens of Montreal on the acceptance of this plan for a comprehensive, city-wide health programme, and for implementing the programme by prompt action and generous support.

The urgent health needs of the city, the necessity for a new form of health administration, and the requirements of an adequate budget were determined by a careful study of existing conditions over a period of months, and the results of this study were presented in the Survey Report. This report to-day represents the first adequate health survey undertaken by any municipality in Canada. Nor has it priority in time alone, but, because of its completeness, thoroughness, and reasoned recommendations, the Survey Report justly occupies the premier place.

The new charter of health comes after nearly five years of un-femitting labour and patient effort on the part of a group of public spirited citizens in Montreal. It has come through voluntary effort maintained by private enterprise without cost to the taxpayers. In short, it was the dream of Lord Atholstan and became a reality through leading citizens joining together to form the Anti-tuberculosis and General Health League under the chairmanship of Sir Arthur Currie and the immediate direction of Dr. A. Grant Fleming. The success of the League's work can be attributed in a very large part to the genius and leadership of Dr. Fleming and it is most gratifying to know, that, as a member of the new Board of Health, he is in a position to assist in carrying out the further details of the Survey Committee's programme. In all his work Dr. Fleming was ably assisted by Dr. J. A. Baudouin.

The accomplishments of the Montreal Anti-tuberculosis and General Health League stand out as an answer to any who may doubt the place and effectiveness of a voluntary health agency. Without the League's