

Conservation

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Baby Welfare Week Held at Montreal

Various Associations Co-operate to
Secure Success of Particularly
Instructive Exhibit

As an evidence of the widespread interest in, and the many varied public activities directing their efforts towards, the grand work of "saving the babies," the recent exhibit held in the city of Montreal stands out prominently.

The exhibit demonstrated that the infant mortality rate was incalculably high and the reasons for it were made equally plain; nothing in respect to the unsatisfactory conditions conducive to this high mortality was concealed. A particularly gratifying feature was the outstanding fact that so many organizations were harmoniously co-operating to prevent the existing conditions, to assist the mothers and babies who need help, to educate the mothers in their sacred calling, while, at the same time, arousing that great, lofty, abstract entity—public opinion.

It is impossible to do justice to each of the organizations which were represented by a separate booth, where the ladies of Montreal were in attendance to set forth the importance of their particular sphere of work. What struck the visitor was that not one seemed to strive for pre-eminence; they seemed agreed that "team work" was the thing for Montreal if the victory was to be won for the babies. In this we may heartily concur. Such a demonstration is a sure indication of success and the citizens of this great city should assist this deserving work to the utmost of their financial ability.

Without in any way wishing to detract from other features of the exhibit, but with the hope that the idea may be copied in other places, reference must be made to "The Motor Traveling Clinic," which was first operated in the autumn of 1918. This is a motor bus equipped with scales, measuring board, diagrams, literature, case-cards, etc., which visits the lanes and byways in the poorer section of the city. The need for a properly equipped motor ambulance to carry on the work of "first aid to the babies," particularly during the summer months, has been made apparent and it certainly commends itself as a means of carrying on this most useful and efficient work.

The booth in which a demonstration was given of the proper class of foods most suitable for the feeding of children after the first twelve



MONTREAL BABY WELFARE WEEK
Booth in which demonstration was given of proper feeding of infants
Cut No. 148

Water Storage on St. Maurice River

New Power Developments made Possible
by La Loutre Reservoir

The great benefit derived from water storage is soon to be further demonstrated on the St. Maurice river where a large water-power undertaking will soon be started.

The increased power made possible at the various sites on this river by the La Loutre reservoir, the largest but one in the world, is a strong incentive to prospective power users. It is estimated that the conserved water thus made available represents a total increase of over 500,000 h.p.

The proposed development above referred to is reported to be in connection with the operations of the St. Maurice Paper Company, the latter having leased two sites in the lower portion of the river, known as Les Forges and La Gabelle. It is intended to combine these two giving a total effective head of 33 feet, while the regulated flow from the La Loutre reservoir increases the power now available at this site, namely 20,000 h.p., to 42,000 h.p.

Another proposition reported in this connection is the construction of a hydro-electric plant utilizing the combined sites of La Gabelle and Les Grés, the latter site being controlled by the Shawinigan Water & Power Company. The latter power company would carry out the development and supply hydro-electric power to the St. Maurice Paper Company under a special contract.

Insects and Fungi Injuring Forests

Ravages Greater than by Fire—Balsam
Threatened with Destruction

We are beginning to realize at last that our Canadian forests are disappearing very rapidly, but very few, even among those of us familiar with our woods, appreciate how fast this process has actually become. Fires, insects and fungi are the greatest enemies we have to deal with. The fire problem is rapidly being solved. The injuries by insects and fungi, on the other hand, have, until recently, been practically unrecognized. The actual conditions, however, indicate that these injuries are annually much greater in our forests than those caused by fires. We have a most disheartening example of combined insect and fungous destruction sweeping through the balsam forests of Eastern Canada at the present time. Upon hundreds of square miles of forest the balsam has been very seriously injured or killed within the last eight years, and on large areas of this practically all the balsam is already dead. The injury appears to be spreading rapidly in the balsam and a similar trouble is affecting the spruce in a much smaller degree. How far this is to spread we do not know, but certainly all balsam in infested forests is threatened with destruction. This subject is of the utmost importance to the lumbermen and provincial authorities of Eastern Canada and should receive immediate and very serious consideration.—J. M. S.

Some Don'ts for Realty Buyers

Things to Avoid in Buying Land

The following are a number of "Don'ts" for the benefit of buyers of real estate:

1. Don't buy land for speculation, but for use.
2. Don't be misled by the fallacy that of necessity it is better to be a landlord, with a mortgage hanging over your head, than a tenant.
3. Don't buy a bare lot in instalments or with borrowed money, unless you have reasonable expectations that you will have sufficient capital to erect a home in the near future.
4. Don't expect to get a loan from the Government, or from any other source, to build a house unless you have enough at least to pay for the lot on which to build it.
5. Don't imagine that land always increases in value even in the city, or that, even if it does increase, the tax collector will allow you to get the benefit of it.
6. Don't buy a lot on which to build a house unless you have some security that houses as good as your own will be built upon the adjoining land.
7. Don't be carried away with the idea that land is worth more to you if you have the right to do with it as you like, as this means that your neighbor will have the same liberty to use his lot as he likes. If you do not do something on your lot to injure his property he may do something on his to injure yours.
8. Don't buy land having no local improvements without calculating that it will cost you \$10 per foot front, more or less, to make it fit for use for residential purposes. Even if the city does the work and charges for it as an improvement tax, you have to pay.
9. Don't buy water-logged land or land with heavy clay sub-soil or land which is not provided with sewers and watermains, unless you are certain that these can be provided at reasonable cost whenever you want them.
10. Don't think that because land fronts on a car line, it is therefore a "sure" site for a store or is more valuable than land not fronting on a car line. It may be worth less for that very reason.
11. Don't pay more for your lot than one-tenth of what you expect to spend on building your house.
12. Don't pay more for a lot than half the price you think it is worth for a home-site if you will not be ready to build on it in less than six or seven years.—T. A.

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