

The Toronto World

FOUNDED 1826
A morning newspaper published every day
except on Sundays and public holidays.
Company of the World Newspaper
Limited, 100 West Queen Street, Toronto.
Managing Director,
WORLD BUILDING, TORONTO
40 WEST QUEEN STREET
Telephone Calls:
Main 1593—Private Exchange connecting all
departments.
Branch Office—40 South Main
Street, Hamilton.
Telephone 1545
Daily World—25 per copy, \$5.00 per year,
delivered, or \$4.00 per year by mail, in
advance. Outside Canada, United Kingdom,
United States and Mexico,
Sunday World—50 per copy, \$2.00 per year,
by mail.
To other Foreign Countries, postage extra.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUG. 8.

Ontario Municipalities Today.

Today, at the city hall, a meeting of the Union of Municipalities associated in Hydro-Electric and Railroad Railway movement will be held at the city hall. It is probable that Sir Adam Beck will be present. The object of the meeting is to discuss the situation created by the failure of the government to carry out the provisions of the Aconworth-Drayton report on railway nationalization, and to go on record regarding the conclusions arrived at. What these will be may be judged from the resolution carried by a joint meeting of the executive of the Hydro-Electric Railway Association and the Ontario Municipal Electric Association on June 19th last, by a unanimous vote.

Ontario feels more bitterly than anywhere else the failure to consider the interests of the province in the construction of the Grand Trunk from the government plan of nationalization. The Grand Trunk is essentially an Ontario railway, and the province has suffered for years from its mismanagement and overhauling. A western authority charges Toronto with being the home of the "big interests." If this be the impression on the part of the province, it is a pity. The Grand Trunk is a railway that has cost the province millions of dollars, and it is a pity that the province has not been able to get the best out of it. The Grand Trunk is a railway that has cost the province millions of dollars, and it is a pity that the province has not been able to get the best out of it.

The Most Deadly Social Menace.

A highly important meeting was held at the city hall yesterday as the result of co-operation between the military authorities and the provincial government for the purpose of grappling with the deadly results of venereal disease in the city. Representatives of the editorial departments of the press, of the police and the legal authorities, of the Y. M. C. A., and of the provincial health department and the various military departments concerned, and about a dozen ladies representing the women's organizations, were present. During two hours' discussion, the whole situation was freely analyzed, and plans laid for further action.

Whatever may be said in parliament as to "The Fiddlers" having misrepresented the Canadian troops the tabulated reports of conditions in Toronto are much worse than anything alleged in "The Fiddlers." A synopsis of 100 cases was laid before the meeting as an example of the work being done, and 600 are to be tabulated for presentation to the National Medical Council.

Very strong language was used by several speakers with regard to the prudery of clergymen, women, and the public in general in refusing to recognize the deadly nature of the evil complained of. Many take the position that their morals or respectability might be affected if they discussed or were even acquainted with the facts. It was unanimously conceded that the time had come for plain speaking, that there must be an educational campaign, that children must be taught wisely, that an effort must be made to save the present generation of young people, and that legislation was required in order to isolate those suffering from the disease designated. Diphtheria, scarlet fever, smallpox, measles, are not nearly so dangerous as these two plagues.

The medical authorities stated that much was lost by the refusal of the press to speak of gonorrhea and syphilis by name in print, although advertisements of alleged cures for these diseases were appearing daily. One lady said she had been familiar with the advertisements from childhood, but saw nothing printed in warning or instruction.

Gonorrhea is responsible for nearly all the blindness that occurs, and 40 per cent. of congenital blindness is due to this cause. Most of the operations to which women have to submit are the result of this disease, and fifty per cent. of the cases of female sterility are due to it. It is the most common of infectious diseases except measles.

Syphilis is the most deadly of diseases, and men who subject themselves to it are poor risks from the insurance standpoint. Diseases of the circulatory organs, such as angina pectoris, are the cause of death in fifty per cent. of syphilis. The most terrible results accrue to the offspring of those affected, a point that is made evident in Eugene Brindley and a play, "Damaged Goods," which Hon. T. W. McGarry refuses to allow to appear in Ontario, preferring disease and death to abandoning a prudish prejudice. The disease is transmitted from parent to child, and it is either born dead, or lives to be a chronic invalid, possibly transmitting the disease to a third generation.

Locomotor ataxia is the result of syphilis. Insanity flourishes on account of it. One-quarter of all the patients in the Hospital for the Insane on West Queen street are sufferers from it. Paresis is a regular consequence. It predisposes to tuberculosis.

In Toronto it was found that in the first three months of this year, of the patients admitted to the general hospital, 288 suffered from this disease. There are approximately 1500 cases in the military base hospital a year. How many of the general public suffer from it it is impossible to say. Of the patients who enter the general hospital twelve per cent. of all the public ward patients are found to be infected. And gonorrhea is six times more prevalent.

The social and economic results are about the most terrible from which the nation suffers. The war has brought home to the authorities everywhere except in a few belated cases the necessity of prompt and drastic action. The United States Government is taking strong measures, and the need for men is waking up the military authorities to the necessity of conserving the army by stamping out the disease. How many more may be affected out of the 100,000 conscripts now required?

There are thousands of women, the medical authorities state, in Toronto affected by these diseases. They are on the streets nightly, a menace to society worse than smallpox. Their disease is contagious. It can be cured. But measures must be adopted. If the public will drop its prudery and support the authorities the evil may be checked. The press and the legislature must speak out.

ONTARIO HARVEST PROMISES WELL

Provincial Department Issues Weekly Report on Farm Conditions.

LABOR BADLY NEEDED Fruit-Picking and Fall Plowing Will Likely Be Affected.

In some localities half of the fall wheat has been cut, while in other places harvesting of that grain is just beginning. The yield per acre is likely to be about an average. Winter barley is also a good crop. Some barley has also been harvested, having come in about a week earlier than the wheat. The yield per acre is likely to be about an average. Winter barley is also a good crop. Some barley has also been harvested, having come in about a week earlier than the wheat.

The new fall wheat area is likely to be restricted by the lateness of harvesting generally and the great scarcity of labor. At present the soil is very hard, plowing being difficult. The first part of the season, and the dry and intensely hot weather prevailing for the past few weeks.

Potatoes are doing better than was expected a week or two ago, as the fine weather has checked the blight considerably. Many farmers also have been using Bordeaux mixture.

Roots of all kinds are doing well, more especially turnips. The hay crop is heavier than was expected, and the quality of the later portion of the crop is good. The main portion of the crop is cut and stored. The second cutting of alfalfa is under way. Cherry and raspberry picking have been general during the week, but owing to the scarcity of pickers some of the fruit will have to be left untouched.

The general condition of live stock is first-class, apart from the discomfort of heat and flies. Comparatively few animals of any class have changed hands recently.

Pastures have been so affected by the very dry and hot weather of the latter part of July that the falling off in the yield of milk is noticeable. Farm help continues to be very scarce, but the open weather has been favorable for cut outting and saving, and for general farm work.

Some of the reports of the high rates of wages asked by some, whose quality of work is indifferent. Applications for the use of government tractors are many times more than can be filled.

OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

The Toronto World invites correspondence on subjects of local interest. Letters must be short and to the point—not more than 200 words at the outside. The editor reserves the right to cut any letters that make them conform to space requirements. Names will not be published if the writer wishes them withheld, but every letter must be signed with the writer's name and address, to ensure authenticity.

Revelations of a Wife

By ADRIAN GARRISON
What Happened When Dicky Met Madge With Dr. Pettit.

My first emotion upon seeing Dicky standing by the gate guard at the Long Island station was one of stark fright. I knew his uncontrolled temper so well that I was afraid he was still raging because I was in Dr. Pettit's company.

Of course, I knew that it was only a matter of time when he would come to himself and realize how unreasonable he was. For he, himself, no other, was to blame for my being with Dr. Pettit. If he had not gone to the rescue of the girl artist whom he had seen struggling in the crowd around Madison Square Garden on the night of the president's speech there he would not have become separated from me, and I would not have been cast upon the tender mercies of the young physician.

My feeling of fear, however, soon gave way to righteous anger against Dicky. I felt that I could not soon forgive him for the part he had played in the matter. What was the matter, I wondered? I felt that I could not soon forgive him for the part he had played in the matter.

"Yes, I know," Dicky nodded. "And I'm eternally grateful to you, old man, for taking care of her. Won't you come on down with us for a day or two? We can put you up on a day, can't we, Madge?"

"Of course," I returned conventionally. "And we shall be very glad to have you come." I wondered if Dr. Pettit guessed my feelings in the crowd just after the president's speech. I felt that I could not soon forgive him for the part he had played in the matter.

"Thank you," he said, courteously. "But I could not possibly go. Some other time I should be most charmed to accept your invitation. And now the train is waiting, which partly explains my being here. I will bid you good evening." He lifted his hat with a formal bow which included both us, and turning walked swiftly away.

"I guess that he was putting a restraint on his feelings," I reflected, glancing at Dicky to ascertain whether or not he also detected the young physician's hidden emotion. "I was angry any longer, but on the contrary, was bitterly ashamed of his actions in the garden."

But, Dicky-like, my husband gave no indication in his speech of embarrassment or remorse. On the contrary, when he caught sight of us he allowed just the right expression of relief to appear in his face and hailed us joyfully.

"Hello there," he called out, advancing toward me and stretching out a cordial hand, which I partly shielded us from the hurrying commuters. "I've been waiting for you."

"I'm glad to see you," I said, and then I turned to Dicky and said, "I'm glad to see you." "I'm glad to see you," I said, and then I turned to Dicky and said, "I'm glad to see you."

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TORONTO ENGINEER NOW IN GOOD SHAPE

Tells of Troubles Which Started While He Was in the States.

ALMOST DOWN AND OUT

Merritt Has Been Feeling Fine Ever Since Tanlac Straightened Him Out, He Says.

"Yes, sir, I know Tanlac of old, for I tried it in the States and it did me a world of good," said Robert A. Merritt, who resides at 226 Ryding avenue, Toronto, in an interview a few days ago. Mr. Merritt was a locomotive engineer in the United States for thirty years, pulling passenger trains on the "Big 4," Lake Erie and Western, C.R.I. and P. and the Monon Route. He has been a resident of Toronto now for several months, and is employed as assistant engineer by the Harris Abattoir Company.

Continuing his statement Mr. Merritt said: "I found out about the value of Tanlac while I was engineer on the Lake Erie and Western. I had been feeling bad for some time, and my stomach was so out of order that nothing I would eat agreed with me. I would come from my runs all fagged out, and when I went to the table to eat, the very sight of food would make me sick. What little I did manage to force down would lie in my stomach, and I was constantly belching up sour gas and acid. I was feeling bad for some time, and my stomach was so out of order that nothing I would eat agreed with me."

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TO FIGHT AGAINST SOCIAL DISEASES

Military Authorities Take Steps to Cope With Impending Dangers.

SITUATION SERIOUS

Startling Information Discloses Imperative Need for Prompt Action.

Startling information was disclosed yesterday by Captain Gordon Bates, C.A.M.C., of the base hospital, Toronto, who read a paper on "The Control of Venereal Diseases" before a representative gathering of police, military and other organizations of the city. The paper revealed the gravity of the situation, and the need for prompt action.

The meeting was called by the military authorities, and representatives of the following organizations were present: National Council of Women, Local Council of Women, (Women's Liberal and Conservative Associations, Daughters of the Empire, Board of Trade, Rotary Club, National Council of Y. M. C. A., Toronto Y. M. C. A., the provost marshal, Crown Attorney Corry and others. At the close of the meeting all agreed that it was time to educate the public in the matter of this menace to society.

Suggest Women's Patrols. It was suggested that women's patrols be formed in order to round up those who were harboring the disease and aiding its spread. It was further announced that lectures would be provided at any time who should lecture on venereal diseases to any organization that desired their services. The following committee was appointed as a permanent organization to carry on the work of combating the social diseases: A. B. Paul, editor Saturday Star, A. E. S. Smythe, The World, Mrs. A. E. Fivest, Mrs. E. H. Torrington, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, The Globe, Provost Marshal, Capt. Alex. Sinclair, Mrs. L. A. Hamilton, Dr. Margaret Patterson, Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, G. A. Futnam, Major J. G. Fitzgerald, Major W. J. S. McCullough and Capt. Gordon Bates.

Recently the military authorities appointed a special officer in each military district to co-ordinate all forces in an attempt to stamp out syphilis and gonorrhea, and yesterday's meeting marked the close of the investigation conducted by Capt. Bates.

Letters from Major-General W. A. Logie, Mrs. A. E. Gooderham, and Mrs. Smith, of Ottawa, all endorsing the movement, were read.

Controlling the Parli. In his report on the control of disease, Capt. Bates said in part: "The question of the control of venereal disease is so large that it is difficult to attempt to deal with it in a brief paper. One may roughly divide the disease into two main categories, the control of prostitution and the control of venereal disease itself. Both of these are perfectly legitimate public health fields."

One cannot but feel that in regard to these subjects we are hampered by our ignorance of both their extent and seriousness. I am unable to find any extensive Canadian statistics, and to the prevalence of prostitution, and only lately has the work of a few investigators using the Wassermann reaction given us the idea that dealing with venereal disease we are attempting to solve a problem of extreme gravity."

With the idea of arriving at some conception of the sort of situation before us we have lately instituted at the base hospital, in addition to a medical case where the doctor, sheet for the investigation of venereal cases. It is obvious that if we are ever going to deal with these subjects as they are, we must have the cooperation of the police, and other authorities the exact name and address of the woman acting as a source of infection was asked, and in not a few cases obtained.

Many Cases Reported. As I have said the admissions at the base hospital are approximately 1500 per year. In Toronto General Hospital Wassermann tests done by Dr. Pettit prove that for the first three months of 1917 twelve per cent. of all public ward patients had positive Wassermann reaction. By such means 278 new syphilitic cases were discovered. This is at the rate of 352 cases yearly. I need not point out in this connection that gonorrhea is perhaps six times as prevalent as syphilis.

Questions one is inclined to ask oneself are these: If in one general hospital nearly 1000 syphilitic cases are discovered in a year, how many (treated and untreated) are there in the community outside the hospital? If in a military district three which troops are passing and in which the average number of troops is certainly over 1000, how many venereal cases (mostly fresh) arise—again in what state of health so far as venereal diseases are concerned, is the community at large?

The medical results of such conditions are found in the fact that 35 per cent. of the male admissions to Toronto Hospital for the Insane are suffering from the results of venereal diseases.

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Canadian Aviation Fund

The honorary secretary reports the following donations in addition to previous announcements (\$15,500). The donations are to the general fund, except as otherwise stated as being gifts of equipment.

Reported by Capt. A. A. Cameron, manager Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto, honorary treasurer for eastern Canada.

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Wm. Stevenson, Port William, \$5.00
J. M. Shuttles, Port William, \$5.00
J. D. Burpee, Orangeville, \$5.00
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J. LeBlond, Grant, Trinidad, \$5.00
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Miller's Stores, Trinidad, \$5.00
Smith Bros. & Co., Trinidad, \$5.00
Ed. Gransaul, Trinidad, \$5.00
B. Tomas & Co., Trinidad, \$5.00
Stephen's Stores, Trinidad, \$5.00
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A. Senior, Trinidad, \$5.00
J. W. Corry, Trinidad, \$5.00
Miss M. A. Copeland, Florence, Ont., \$5.00
Dr. S. P. Miller, South Woodville, \$5.00
W. P. Hogg, Englehart, \$5.00
S. H. Barlow, Englehart, \$5.00
W. H. Powell, Englehart, \$5.00
W. Hendon, Englehart, \$5.00
H. Kert, Englehart, \$5.00
J. Murray, Englehart, \$5.00
F. A. Skinner, Englehart, \$5.00
D. Korman, Englehart, \$5.00
J. Martin, Englehart, \$5.00
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Gift of three acrophores by Jas. Carruthers, Montreal, \$5.00
Reported by the honorary secretary as expended for the fund and given to the fund.

Reported by Lieut.-Col. C. W. Rowley, manager Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto, honorary treasurer for western Canada.

Wallace Anderson, Toronto, \$5.00
Col. E. F. France, Toronto, \$5.00
Collection box, Bank of British North America, Wynyard, \$5.00
Wm. Brooks, Etobicoke, \$5.00
W. Smith, Agassiz, B.C., \$5.00
C. H. Wheeler, Vancouver, \$5.00
Mrs. E. A. Crouch, Wynyard, \$5.00
Imperial Bank of Canada, \$5.00
Bank of Montreal, \$5.00
Canadian Bank of Commerce, \$5.00
Belleville, Ont., \$5.00

Teachers Win Certificates

In Manual Training Course

The results of the summer courses in manual training conducted by the department of education have been announced. In the course of a few days results of other courses will be issued.

The following teachers have completed the courses for certificates in elementary manual training: Hemphill, A. T.; Ridgeway, Lucille A.; Robertson, J. E.; Sirra, E. J.

The following teachers have successfully completed Part I of the course in manual training: Brohman, A. G.; Campbell, R. J.; Courtney, A. W.; Eshelby, Agnes; Keys, G. P.

LARGE BRITISH CROPS TO RELEASE TONNAGE

Mr. Prothrope Hopes to Release Ships to Carry U. S. Cotton.

London, Aug. 7.—In a speech winding up the debate on the corn production bill in the house of commons today, R. E. Prothrope, president of the board of agriculture, pointed out that if the bill succeeded to the extent anticipated in adding to the home-grown wheat acreage, there would be released sufficient tonnage to bring from America the entire cotton supply required by Great Britain last year.

Since this method of history taking has only commenced, it is only able to report the result of the examination of 100 cases. Since, however, venereal admissions to the base hospital are approximately 1500 yearly, probably a more comprehensive report will be possible next year. The method of case-taking is simply to ask each venereal patient if he has obtained exact information that is undertaken.

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toronto Hospital for the Insane in a series of lectures on general insanity and the results of gonorrhea and syphilis which play a large part in keeping up the population of our hospitals and asylums. The lecturer will go into that subject on this occasion.

The social results connected with the expense of disease, the death or disability of the bread winners of families—these results are just as serious as the outbreak of the disease itself. The question for us to face is whether we are going to permit this condition of affairs to continue when it is possible to eradicate venereal diseases, just as it is possible to stamp out typhoid fever or malaria.

Education Needed. As to the means to be adopted, it would suggest first a broad and energetic scheme of public education. Lectures, pamphlets, moving pictures—anything is commendable which will destroy the outworn attitude of indifference to venereal diseases, and will make public and even many physicians—the attitude which is exemplified by the either the "damaged goods" in Ontario.

Some system of investigation of the social facts of prostitution in our midst would be of value if widely adopted, but the facts should be given wide publicity. The truth in regard to venereal diseases will eventually rotate the public to a realization of the fact that low wages, the lonely housing, poor education and late marriage in men and women are social factors which eventually hold them in their power to remedy.

From the purely medical standpoint we must look forward to the time (I hope not far away) when the reporting of venereal diseases is practicable. Both from the statistical standpoint and the standpoint of control this is important as in any other communicable disease. It will come when public education has advanced sufficiently to the point where the patient, especially dark field examination and the Wassermann reaction, should be possible for every patient, and I am glad to know that within the past few weeks the provincial board of health has arranged for free Wassermanns in Ontario. The free treatment of all venereal diseases should also be available, and it should be possible to isolate or quarantine infective cases which report.

The issuing of instruction cards to all patients, laws against the treatment of venereal diseases by quacks or druggists and the elimination of specialists, better control of the feeble-minded and because it is practicable, treatment of all infected cases before they are discharged from the hospital, these are some of the measures that should be taken immediately before us. These and others are no less capable of solution because their solving means so great an advance in the health and welfare of the community at large.

PROCRASTINATION

THE THIEF OF TIME AND MONEY

You recognize the importance of saving money, and some of these days you intend to begin to do so. But you are waiting till you can open an account with what you consider a "respectable" amount. Meanwhile the smaller sums you might be saving are slipping away, and your financial position is getting worse and worse. You are waiting till you can open an account with what you consider a "respectable" amount. Meanwhile the smaller sums you might be saving are slipping away, and your financial position is getting worse and worse.

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