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Picturesque Humours of Montreal

MONTREAL has been suffering from a calamity due to a lack of water. Toronto has had trouble with her water supply. So has Winnipeg. In most Canadian cities some public utilities have not kept up with the demand of a peak load in population and progress. Twice during the past six months Montreal has been partly and very generally without telephone service for several days at a time, when a big city had to revert to conditions of thirty years ago. The cause in both cases was fire. Toronto has frequently had similar trouble with light and power, owing to defective transmission from Niagara. Every little while a big city, with all its complex modern equipment of wires, tunnels, tubes, sewers, poles and all finds itself somewhat in the condition of a big village in the days of the corner store.

The recent calamity in Montreal proves that too little water is almost as bad for a city as too much. For five or six days 350,000 people in main Montreal were deprived of water except for casual supplies as depicted on this page. On Christmas Day a break occurred in the nine-foot conduit where the old water canal was being excavated for a new steel tube. A 60-foot crack developed suddenly in the conduit. This was caulked with oakum and plugged with old boards and earth, about as rotten an expedient as the conduit must have been in the first place. A fissure sixty feet long and two feet wide flooded Montreal with useless water that froze on the streets. The waterworks department has been severely cen-



One of the 160 Water-carrier Sledges Rushed Into Service by the Waterworks Department to Supply 350,000 People in Montreal Owing to a Break in a Nine-foot Conduit.

sured—as usual. Water was temporarily supplied by 160 sleighs from Thursday until the following Tuesday. Private vendors got out on their own account. Indignation meetings were held. Prominent citizens, including Huntley Drummond, C. B. Gordon, President of the C.M.A., and Hormidas Laporte, President of the Chambre du Commerce, publicly expressed their disgust with the condition of affairs, which seems to be chronic in Montreal.

The Gypsies

MOST of the human curios of civilization travel over the C.P.R. in the course of a year, and most of the world may sometimes be seen within a few days at the Windsor station in Montreal. Oddest of all the midway tribe recently was a large band of gypsies as pictured on this page; thirty in all, originally from Egypt, but long since travelling in many lands. There were nineteen children, five women and three men. The queen was a marvel of coin-necklaces, jet-black braids of hair, bright ribbons and a flame-red scarf. They were all dirty and as merry as spring robins. The tribe spent a day in the immigration rooms and then pulled camp for some spot where there were fewer police.



Families Helping Themselves at the Hydrant.



Captain H. G. Kendall Who, When he Was Skipper of the Montrose, Detected Dr. Crippen, the Notorious Murderer of Ethel Leneve. He is Now Captain of the Ruthenia and is Here Seen on the Bridge Clearing From Montreal en Route to Trieste and Naples. The Captain is Only Thirty-eight Years Old, But Has Been Twenty-five Years at Sea.



A Band of Spectacular Vagrants at the Windsor St. Station in Montreal.