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Our Montreal Letter.

(From our own Correspondent.)

**BOOTLEGGING IN STOLEN AUTOS.**  
Smuggled and stolen autos to the value of \$2,000,000 have been seized at Sherbrooke, Quebec, and the surrounding territory by custom authorities. On account of the gigantic scale upon which the smugglers have worked their midnight crossings across the border line and dumped their cars in Sherbrooke, automobile sellers who have been finding a slow market in the town and who cannot sell any of their own legitimate purchases are up in arms and working in harmony with the officials. The cars are stolen in the States, driven across the border without paying the Custom duties, taken to some under-cover garage, numbers and parts are changed and painted and then sold as bona-fide second hand bargains. The Federal authorities are engaged in a country-wide war upon the thieves and smugglers. Several people in Sherbrooke, who bought cars are in trouble as the authorities seized the property awaiting their rightful owners. In this city, the R.C.M. Police have \$1,000,000 worth of smuggled and stolen cars placed away awaiting the owners or a cheap sale. A few of the cars have been identified by owners who live as far away as San Francisco and Los Angeles, Cal.

**THEY FOUND AN EASY VICTIM.**

Farmers very often are easy victims for confidence men and sharpers. In an unsuspecting manner they fall into the net set for them. When they are set free, it is to bewail the loss of large sums of money. A farmer from St. Eustache was easily caught by sharks a few days ago, and he's now bewailing the loss of \$4,000. The same was the afterthought of a well-planned bluff to talk business in connection with the purchase of Venne's farm land, the four prospective buyers, after negotiating for terms, suggesting to Venne that he join them in a game of cards.

Venne told Chief Lorrain, of the Provincial Detective Force, that he was \$3,000 ahead, when the last hand was played, and that one of the four took his winnings and his \$4,000 that he had drawn from the hand, and walked away with it. When he next saw them they were speeding away from L'Epiphanie in clouds of dust raised by the fast-travelling automobile.

**PROMISED THEM A GOOD SHRAP-  
PING.**

When two youths of 16 and 17 years stood before a judge here lately, they were told that they wanted a good dose of the old Canadian strap. "If you ever got a strapping," said the judge, "you'd faint." The two delinquents charged with stealing money from their parents, burst into tears, as the judge reprimanded them. They were ordered to report in September to see how they were conducting themselves, and if they had not changed their conduct the judge says he'll keep his promise and strap them well.

**A FEW FACTS ABOUT MONTREAL.**

The city of Montreal is thirteen miles long and nine miles wide, it has 753 miles of permanent sidewalks and 580 miles of sewers, while of the 344 miles of streets, within its boundaries, 516 belong to the city, 257 are paved and 128 macadamized. These



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facts and a lot of others of equal interest have been prepared by E. J. Courval, chief designer of the technical department of the City Hall, in view of the issue of a loan of \$10,000,000 soon to be floated.

The superficial area of the city in 1922 was 22,155.45 acres. It contains 72 public parks with a superficial area of 1,394.94 acres. The taxable property is valued at \$709,324,469 while the value of property exempt from taxation reaches the total of \$250,451,154.

The debt of the city is \$125,375,351 while the sinking funds amount to \$7,299,818. The revenue of the city for last year was \$24,868,555. The valuation of municipal buildings in 1920 was put at \$23,835,120 for buildings and \$44,298,130 for vacant lots. The gross revenue from the water-works last year was \$2,577,137. The property tax was \$7.85, the special tax amounting to 37 cents per 100. The school tax for Catholics was 70 cents. Protestants, \$1.00 and neutral panel \$1.00.

During the year the building permits issued were to the value of \$21,132,586. The city pumping station supplied 247,019,787 gallons in the course of the year, or 65,191,717 gallons per head of the population being 130.9 gallons a day.

**DRUNKEN CHAUFFEURS TO GO TO  
JAIL.**

No more fines for drunken chauffeurs, found guilty of driving automobiles while under the influence will be imposed by Judge Ferrault, who informed Alfred Simpson that there was no reason in the world why the advent of automobiles should speed up that business, and slacken the pace of the man who travels on foot. Simpson, who was drunk when arrested at the wheel of his car last week was sent down for two months and had his license for year 1923 cancelled.

"Speeding and drunkenness go hand in hand as a menace to life and property. There is no reason why imprisonment and cancellation of license should be separated and I will impose both condemnations."

**SEVERAL MIRACLES AT ST. ANNE  
DE BEAUPRE.**

Notwithstanding the great loss of the famous Basilica at St. Anne de Beaupre, which is now replaced by a large wooden structure, the number of pilgrims on the Feast Day was the largest received since 1897. It is estimated that 37,000 pilgrims and visitors were at the shrine. Several miracles took place. The most remarkable cures were:—

Stevens Motherway, of 17 Plymouth Ave., Springfield, Mass., a veteran of the World War and wounded to the extent that he was compelled to support himself on crutches since his return from active service, is said to have been comparatively restored.

Another returned soldier, from Winnipeg, left his crutches behind him and feels perfectly cured.

Mrs. Mary Bourke 27 years of Lacadie, N.H., who was an invalid and carried two crutches as the result of an accident a few years ago. She was able to leave her crutches and walk from the church. Miss Anna Keeney, of Chicopee, Mass., who was crippled from infancy and wore a large boot, was able to walk from the church without the boot.

Mrs. Charles Martin, of Pennsylvania, also left two crutches behind her.

Between 4 a.m. and 9 a.m. there were 10,000 persons who received communion.

**THEY WERE WEARING BURIAL  
SHROUDS.**

A despatch from Cleveland, Ohio, says: A woman fainted here yesterday when told that a new silver and gray gown she had been wearing nearly a month was a burial shroud that had been stolen from a freight car.

Two fifteen year old boys were sentenced to a reformatory for the theft of eight shrouds, of which the one was a part.

Another woman also secured one of the "dresses," and had worn it in blissful ignorance.

**WHAT SHE GAINED BY PERJURY.**

At Quebec in the Court of Sessions, a young girl of 16 confessed that she has perjured herself and had caused her mother to be sentenced to six months imprisonment on her evidence brought a sentence of 3 years in the penitentiary.

Two years ago an elderly woman was arrested by the police following a charge laid by a 14-year-old girl that her mother had enticed her into an immoral life. On the strength of the evidence of the young daughter the court imposed six months imprisonment on the mother. The sentence was served. A few days ago the young girl boasted that she had sent her mother behind the bars and an investigation having been made the girl was arrested and confessed.

**THOUGH YOUNG THEY LIKE AD-  
VENTURE.**

A ten-year-old boy ran away from home, and over a week ago he was found on the "train" coming from Montreal, N.B., to Montreal. When asked by the conductor for his fare the child replied that he had deserted

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a short time before by his father. The conductor took care of the boy until the train's arrival in Montreal, when he handed him over to the Andrews Church of England Home. In spite of all efforts put forth by the police and by the Home officials, no trace of the lad's people could be found. He reiterated his original story. He seemed to believe that he had numerous uncles and aunts in Montreal, but a search for people bearing the name he gave was unsuccessful. At last a business card with his father's name and address was found in his pocket. A detective set to work on the case, called at the home and waited all afternoon for the child to appear for an interview, but without success, as the boy had heard there was a detective coming and had hidden himself away in the building, so that a search from top to bottom by officials failed to reveal his whereabouts. The following day he was sent to the Juvenile Court where his address was discovered. His father told the police here that the boy had been in charge of a nurse maid for some time past, and liked reading dime novels. He believes that both things helped to make the lad run away to seek adventure.

**THE BLESSINGS OF PROHIBITION.**

Prohibition still continues to lead many victims into the depths of trouble, misery, dishonesty and degradation. Here are a few examples.

Joe Arthur, Toronto horseman in hard luck at a local race track was followed to the court house by the jinx who sat at the right side of Judge Mounet when Arthur came up on a charge of selling liquor and having it in his possession at table 15.

The Toronto horseman who told the judge that he only had one bottle and that he had been up against it for some time, was trying to collect enough money to get away from the jinx. He intended to sell his horse.

When he pleaded guilty to selling the booze he lost what courage he had left when the judge sent him down for one month. He got a knockout.

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**STEER BROS.**  
aug 11, 1923

ADVERTISE IN THE EVENING TELEGRAM.

R. J. LOUIS CUDDHY,  
Sagona Reports.  
Capt. Burgess of S.S. Sagona, now on the way to Stag Bay, forwarded a message yesterday stating that the ship anchored at Black Tickle all day owing to a heavy sea. The Sagona will bring a number of passengers from Stag Bay this trip.