

Toronto's water is impure, because Toronto's sewage makes it impure.

When Toronto's sewage is rendered pure by any of the well-known methods for the purification of sewage and sterilization of disease germs in the sewage, then Toronto's pure water supply problem will be for ever settled.

As long as Lake Ontario in the neighborhood of Toronto is used for purposes of purification of sewage by "oxidation," "sedimentation," and "dilution," then Lake Ontario water, depleted of its oxygen, sedimented with a bed of filth, and diluted with sewage, will remain unfit to serve as a source of pure water supply to Toronto, filtered or unfiltered.

Mayor Geary attempted to face the question as a Controller. Just how he handles it as Mayor depends the resultant efficiency of his term of office.

THE "TELEGRAM" AND TORONTO'S PURE WATER SUPPLY PROBLEM.

The Toronto "Telegram" has done noble work in bringing before the citizens the problem of Toronto's pure water supply.

At their own initiative they have procured data and evidence that it is possible to extend the water pipe into deeper and 62 per cent. purer water than at present, thereby helping on the problem to a satisfactory solution.

The basis of the "Telegram's" argument has, however, we think, not been broad and wide enough. They appear to say: "**The sewage contamination soaks and penetrates so far and no farther.**"

Of course, there is a limit to the zone of contamination, but that limit fluctuates with winds and currents, and it is impossible to fix definitely the limit.

The "Telegram" argument appears to be based on the assumption that Lake Ontario is quiescent, and that penetration of sewage is merely a question of quantity and distance, whereas sewage, either floating, sedimented, or mixed, "bloweth where the wind listeth," at the mercy of every current and wave roll.

If the "Telegram" will help to teach the people of Canada the maxim, "**Prevention is better than cure,**" then our streams and lakes, even to the shore line, may be preserved pure and undiluted, and the paper add to its giant services to this people.

GREATER TORONTO AND TORONTO'S PURE WATER SUPPLY PROBLEM.

Toronto's pure water supply problem must be based on the faith that Toronto will grow into Greater Toronto.

It may be only a proposition at the present time to discharge 30,000,000 gallons per day of crude liquid sewage into Lake Ontario $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the water supply intake.

It will become a serious problem emptying 100,000,000 gallons per day of crude liquid sewage into Lake Ontario $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from an intake drawing 100,000,000 gallons of water for human consumption.

The adoption of a policy that the lake shore water can take care of Toronto's sewage problem by "oxidation," "sedimentation," and "dilution," and continue to supply pure water, is but the policy of a moment.

What is more crucial to the continued welfare, health and prosperity of Toronto than a ready and abundant supply of pure Ontario Lake water, independent of the temporary failures attached to all methods of water purification?

What is more absolutely apparent than that with Toronto's progress Lake Ontario water will become more and more impure by an increased discharge of unpurified sewage?

The policy of requiring the people to continue to contaminate its beautiful lake with crude liquid sewage, and use it as a sewage disposal area from which filtered water must be drawn for human consumption is a policy which requires reviewing.

SEPTIC TANK PATENT CLAIMS.

We publish a circular copy of a letter sent out to Ontario municipalities by the Ontario Provincial Board of Health. The circular appears to speak for itself. No demands are made for benefits from septic action in the past. Those who wish to continue enjoying the benefits of so-called "septic action" may, however, pay 5 per cent. on the cost of the works. Those who agree to clean their tanks out periodically and so avoid the benefits of so-called "septic action" would appear to walk out of prison free men.

The statement is simply forwarded for the information of the municipalities. It appears, however, to constitute an easy "get out."

Dear Sir,—Information having been received that the holders of the American patent in respect to septic tanks have intimated to municipalities their intention of entering action for past infringement of the aforesaid patent, I beg to notify you that upon instructions of the Hon. the Minister a conference was held with a representative of the Cameron Septic Tank Company, and an offer was received from the company by which municipalities could effect a settlement, the basis being as follows:

The company is willing to waive any penalties for past infringement. Those municipalities which have installed the septic process and those contemplating such installations to pay the Cameron Company 5 per cent. of the cost of such plant as a license fee to cover the remaining life of such patent.

This statement is simply forwarded for the information of your municipality. Yours truly,

(Signed) C. A. Hodgetts, M.D.

Chief Health Officer of Ontario.

Toronto, March 9th, 1910.

NEW INCORPORATIONS.

Saskatoon, Sask.—Maddaford & Lawson Company. Canadian Land & Investment Company.

Beauharnois, Que.—J. W. Kilgour & Bros., \$300,000. J. W. Kilgour, J. Wilson, R. W. Kilgour.

Regina, Sask.—Regina Transfer Company. Eggo-O Baking Powder. Constructors, Limited.

St. John, N.B.—New Brunswick United Typewriter Company, \$5,000. J. J. Seltz, T. Byrnes, A. H. Goodenow.

St. Catharines, Ont.—Ontario & Western Co-operative Fruit Company, \$75,000. M. Moylan, I. Sudaby, R. Gowans.

Doaktown, N.B.—New Brunswick Turpentine & Tar Company, \$1,000,000. A. W. Kendall, B. Stein, F. H. Kendall, Montreal.