

depletion of our forests by exportations of pulp-wood to the United States.

Our neighbours are playing a game in this connection which needs watching. Most of the pulp companies in Northern New Hampshire are preserving their own supply of timber, preferring to draw upon an outside source, chiefly Canada. The wood consumed by the pulp-mills of that district have for a length of time been drawn to extent of 37½ p.c. from Canada. The combined holdings of timberland by pulp and paper mills in Northern New Hampshire are 488,290 acres. "The owners," says the United States Bureau of Forestry, "are thoroughly alive to the importance and far sightedness of a policy of perpetuating their supply of timber and, as a means to this end, with a view of cutting as little as possible from their own land at present, they are getting a large part of their supply from Canada." The policy of our neighbours is avowed to be, to do what they can to exhaust our supplies of pulp-wood as then they would enjoy a monopoly of the trade on this continent. This is a situation that calls for prompt attention and measures to protect the supplies of wood-pulp from exhaustion. If that condition ever arises all our pulp industries would be destroyed as it is quite certain there would be no supplies available for Canada in the United States.

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MONTREAL CHARTER AMENDMENTS.—It is to be regretted that the City Council has acquired the habit of going to Quebec year after year to obtain amendments to the City Charter. By this course opportunities are periodically afforded to those who have axes to grind, such as, expropriations of properties needed for street widening, etc. We venture to say that if the Consolidated Charter had been given a chance to show its advantages and had been left unaltered the city would to-day be in a better position than now exists. Under this Charter the city could not be compelled to carry out any expropriation until the requisite funds for the purpose were on hand.

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PROPOSALS FOR MORE BORROWING SHOULD NOT BE ENTERTAINED.—When streets require repair, or new pavements are needed the first idea that enters the minds of the Aldermen is to rush to Quebec to secure power to borrow money for these improvements. The city's borrowing power arrangements should not be altered. The time has come when Montreal, which is one of the wealthiest cities on this continent, should adopt measures to enable it to pay its way out of current income.

The city debt is already sufficiently high. It would be a dangerous innovation to alter the debt limit. There ought to be no hesitation on the part of aldermen to get the tax revenue increased, one

source should be an additional one quarter of one per cent. on real estate which would yield a revenue of from \$400,000 to \$500,000. This being added to the \$300,000 which the city has the power to borrow under the increased assessment valuation, should be ample for all legitimate purposes.

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EXEMPTIONS.—In addition to the plan for increasing the revenue by increasing the tax on real estate by ¼ of 1 per cent. some scheme should be adopted for reducing the number of exempted properties and requiring them to contribute a fair share of taxation.

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THE GAS PLANT PROPOSAL.—The suggestion that the City Council should secure power to borrow a sufficient sum for installing a municipal gas supply plan is so indefinite that no Legislature would be justified in entertaining it.

Municipal ownership of a gas supply plant in Montreal would be a "happy hunting ground" for those who batten upon the public purse. Business principles in the management would be conspicuous only by their absence. Professor Bemis declares that over \$5,000,000 would be needed to instal a gas supply plant equal to the needs of Montreal. We trust the day is far distant when the business of making and distributing gas in this city will be in the hands of the municipal authorities.

The city owns a water works system which cost \$10,000,000, and more is needed to put the works in good condition—and look at its cost to the citizens! As to the city building conduits, the council had better leave this work to be done by the companies.

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THE DISPLAY OF PUGILISTIC BRUTALITY at New York, so graphically described in a daily paper, which some sporting members of the Stock Exchange are alleged to have patronized, was an affront to the civilization of the age.

These exhibitions of low animalism are brutish, dehumanizing, unworthy of human beings. They are more disgraceful to humanity than the gladiatorial combats of ancient Rome, or the bull fights of Spain, or the dog fights which are carried on to gratify the brutal tastes of the very basest elements in the population of to-day.

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A COMPLIMENT TO CANADA.—The very generous and kindly offer of the British Admiralty to carry to Canada the remains of the late Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, on H. M. S. "Dominion" is a tribute of respect to the late Minister, and a mark of courtesy to Canada which is very highly appreciated throughout the Dominion.

This is the second occasion on which this melancholy honour has been paid by the Imperial Government to a Minister of the Crown in Canada.