

and this has
standpoints of lesser cost and non-interference
with existing buildings of value. It could be
linked up east and west of the city with Sher-
brooke street as extended, and would provide
the same recreational advantage as a boulevard
through the congested portion of Montreal, at
a tithe of the expenditure. In any event, the
\$35,000,000 scheme should be dropped.

A NEGLECTED PIONEER.

In drawing attention to the neglected state
of Simon McTavish's monument and tomb on
the mountainside, Mr. S. M. Baylis has done
a real public service, and it is to be hoped that
the matter will not be allowed to rest with the
passing of a resolution by the members of the
St. James Literary Society, after listening to
Mr. Baylis's monograph on the subject, calling
upon the Historical Sites Commission of the
province to take remedial steps to rescue this
valuable relic of the past from the oblivion
which menaces it. Time and the elements have
erased the inscription from the monument, which
stands close to the upper reservoir, near the
winding road leading from Fletcher's Field
along the face of Mount Royal to the Lookout,
and thousands have seen the quaint shaft and
wondered at its purpose, with no means of learn-
ing that it is a memorial to one of the men
of indomitable courage and unflagging energy
who so well and truly laid the foundations of
Montreal's present supremacy in commerce,
finance and transportation. Never was it so
expedient as it is at the present time to hold
up to the newer generations examples of hard
work, devotion to duty, rectitude of conduct
and judicious husbanding of material things
coupled with their generous bestowal on worthy
objects, and seemingly Simon McTavish cul-
tivated these virtues in the rising metropolis
of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth
centuries. Rich as is Montreal in reminders of
the city's association with events of a still ear-
lier storied past, she should not suffer the decay
and loss of such a valuable memento of a
notable citizen and an important epoch in her
progress.

Murchie Gazette Feb 23/23

Property—For Sale

ats, situated a short distance West of
ated garages in rear. Price \$45,000.
increased. Particulars upon request.

UST COMPANY

DEPARTMENT

MAIN 8400.

SALE

R PLACE, Cote des Neiges Road,
ms, residence, on this select, central,
modern and artistic features, having
d up-to-date housekeeping. Beauti-
nding superb outlook.
rs, Mr. Gault.

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St. Evenings: St. Louis 3706-J.

MES STREET

POSSESSION — TO LET

27 ft. x 125 ft., suitable for banking
ss concrete basement—also additional

RAGGE, Agent

PHONE MAIN 1105.

TO LET

Manufacturing Space

herine and Mountain Streets

00 Square Feet

er System, Elevator Service

& Power, Consolidated

Mr. Whatley

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Recent Ravenscrag Sale Recalls Famed 'Haunted House' of District

Simon McTavish Residence, Never Completed, Demolished 80 Years Ago This Month— Basis of Many Tall Tales

By EDGAR ANDREW COLLARD.

Eighty years ago last month—in December, 1860—workmen were demolishing a massive ruin which stood near Pine avenue, in the grounds in which the Allan home, Ravenscrag, was subsequently built. The demolition of this ruin removed a grim landmark which had overlooked the city for more than half a century, and which Montrealers had come to know as the Haunted House.

Most persons, even the sceptical, preferred to avoid this forbidding ruin—at least after nightfall. The curious, who visited it in broad daylight, would peer with awe through its gaping doors and windows. The Haunted House was, indeed, a delight only to cabmen, who would drive tourists up the winding country road which led to it (for in those days a wide stretch of open country still separated the city from the mountain), and there, in surroundings sufficiently wild and lonely, they would tell their eeriest tales.

There was certainly much that was strange in the history of the house. It had been planned as the most magnificent residence in Montreal, but, when almost completed, it had been abandoned and left to fall into decay. Barrels of hardened plaster, lying among the floor-beams, were evidence of how suddenly the construction work had ceased. The house did, indeed, stand as a symbol of the ruined hopes of its builder—Simon McTavish.

Simon McTavish, who was described by one of his contemporaries as a man of "enormous energy and decision of character," was the chief of the Montreal fur traders, at a time when the fur trade was the biggest business in the city. In 1795 he had been mainly responsible for combining many of the Montreal traders into a single organization, known as the Northwest Company—an organization which soon became the Hudson Bay Company's most formidable rival.

McTavish was masterful and domineering, demanding absolute obedience from all those who were associated with him. He became known by such titles as the Marquis, the Premier, or the Emperor, and sometimes as the Old Lion of Montreal. He was a very difficult man to work with, and before long a number of his partners withdrew from the North-West Company, and, forming an organization of their own, finally chose Sir Alexander Mackenzie as their leader. The very name they selected—the X. Y. Company, signified their intention of fighting McTavish; for the bales of the North-West Company were marked N-W., and they had taken the next letters of the alphabet.

The fact that he was now faced with two rival companies seemed to call forth all McTavish's combativeness and organizing ability. Assisted by his nephew, William McGillivray, he pressed forward the trading activities of the North-West Company to the South Saskatchewan and the Missouri rivers, and even invaded the ancient sphere of the Hudson Bay Company by establishing posts on Hudson's Bay itself.

This intense competition led to practically open war in the interior. Blood was shed, and violence and sharp practice became the order of the day. All three companies began to feel the fatal drain. McTavish, however, refused to hear

of any compromise, and was determined to fight it out to the end. Amalgamation was obviously the only solution, but so long as McTavish lived, no amalgamation was possible.

It was altogether characteristic of Simon McTavish that when he planned a home, he should have insisted that it must overshadow any other home in the city. He wished to live in surroundings commensurate with his importance, and where he might extend that princely hospitality for which he was renowned. He wished, too, to establish a McTavish clan on Canadian soil, and he intended that his mansion should be inherited and enhanced by his descendants down through the years.

About the year 1800 he purchased an estate in the open country which then lay between Mount Royal and the city. The huge tract of land which comprised this estate is today divided into two nearly equal parts of Pine avenue. The lower half now includes that section of the city which extends from Pine avenue down to about Dorchester street, and which is bounded to the west by about Drummond street, and to the east by about Mansfield and McTavish streets. The upper half now includes a considerable section of Mount Royal Park, in addition to the Ravenscrag property which was recently donated to the Royal Victoria Hospital by Sir Montagu Allan.

McTavish chose to erect his mansion at the most dramatic spot, where the abrupt face of the mountain might serve as a background, and where the lower slopes might be developed into a terraced lawn. The construction work was begun early in 1804, and by the spring of that year enough progress had been made to allow the roof to be laid. The exterior was virtually finished, showing a massive structure, somewhat resembling a French chateau. It had a frontage of about 126 feet, with a semi-circular tower at each end. The main section of the building was three stories high, with the ground floor intended for the kitchen and servants' quarters. The dining-hall, which occupied the whole of one of the wings, was circular and arched overhead, and surrounded with many windows. The roof was constructed on the old-fashioned "high" principle, draining to all four corners from the ridge into which the rafters were fastened. The dressed limestone with which the mansion had been built made it quite unique; for at that time nearly all the buildings in Montreal had been constructed only with rubble-rough stones of all shapes and sizes which had been fitted together with a generous use of mortar.

Just as McTavish's home was nearing completion, orders were given to suspend all construction work, and nothing further was ever done, beyond boarding up the doors and windows. For in April, Simon McTavish had suddenly taken ill, and he died early in July, when in only his 54th year.

McTavish's unexpected death, when he was still in the prime of life and in the midst of constructing his mansion, soon gave rise to many strange rumors. One version

(Continued on Page 10, Col. 3.)

Gazette
Jan 2/41

ADREN

From Our Readers

Daylight Saving.

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—We note in your issue of March 1st, a letter from Antagonistic on the subject of daylight saving.

We belong to the class which Antagonistic terms selfish, and fully admit that we are in favor of daylight saving because it gives us more time for recreation, which is essential to our health and well being.

We fail to see where any misery or inconvenience is caused and would be grateful if Antagonistic would point out just why we are so selfish in trying to get the benefit of a little more of God's daylight.

LIVERPOOL

Montreal, March 1, 1923.

Simon McTavish.

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—I read your remarks about the late Simon McTavish some days ago, and quite agree in thinking that the efforts of Mr. Samuel M. Baylis in trying to restore the monument and keep the memory of the old hero alive should be encouraged. I would suggest that a meeting be held soon, and a committee named to take up the matter.

It seems that all the persons who are descendants of Mr. McTavish are dead, and the property now belongs to the Crown. I think the property should be handed over to the trustees of the Mount Royal Cemetery, to be held by them in perpetuity, fenced in and cared for; and some appropriate monument erected on it, with a suitable inscription, so that the memory of one of the founders of Canada's greatness may not be soon entirely forgotten. I shall be very much pleased to join with others in considering the best way to proceed in carrying out the work that has been so ably done by Mr. Samuel M. Baylis, and hope that the movement may be successful.

J. M. M. DUFF.

DR. CUNNINGHAM DIED AT ST. ANNE'S

Served Overseas and Was In-
validated Home Shortly
Before Armistice

EMILE HANDCOCK DEAD

Death Occurred Suddenly of
Mrs. J. H. Dixon, Widow
of Former Rector
of St. Jude's

Captain Rutherford B. Cunningham, M.D., D.D.S., L.D.S., Canadian Army Medical Corps, died on Saturday afternoon at St. Anne's Hospital, Department of Soldiers' Civic Re-establishment, where he had been a patient for some time. Captain Cunningham offered his services during the early stages of the Great War and served overseas. In 1918 he contracted an illness and was invalidated to Canada shortly before the signing of the armistice.

Captain Cunningham was a son of the late Mr. J. J. Cunningham, formerly Assistant General Freight Agent of the Grand Trunk Railway System. He graduated in medicine from Bishop's College when the Medical Faculty of that institution was located in Montreal. Afterwards he took up the study of dentistry and graduated in that subject from McGill University.

Mrs. Cunningham, formerly Miss Hilda Courtney, of Montreal, and a young daughter, survive Captain Cunningham. Miss Maggie Cunningham, of Brandon, Manitoba, and

drag me before the courts for pointing out defects in teaching and for reporting the true condition of the school to the commissioners."

Radical though changes have been in education within the last few decades, if Quebec is to keep in step with educational advance in the sister provinces, it is a safe venture to say that there are still more revolutionary developments in store within the immediate years to come. To be able to envisage that future course, in light of past experience and present achievements, this book will provide valuable reading for those intimately, and even remotely, interested in educational matters.

SALE RECALLS TALE OF 'HAUNTED HOUSE'

(Continued from Page 9.)

had it that he had hanged himself in his new home, and that this accounted for a fearful gurgling sound, which was said to be audible within its walls.

Another version, however, was more widely circulated. According to this, an apparition, which had appeared to McTavish himself, had led him to order that the construction work should cease, and had hastened him to his untimely grave. He had undertaken to build his spacious new home (so the version ran) in preparation for the arrival of his wife from Scotland. For many years she had hesitated to leave her homeland, and now that she had at last decided to join him in the New World, he had wished to do everything he could to reconcile her to the change.

Late one night, however, he had felt a mysterious impulse to visit the mansion he was building for her. When he had entered the door, he stood aghast to see his wife's lifeless body dangling in the moonlight from one of the high beams. The vision faded, but deeply disturbed lest it might be a premonition, he ordered that no further work was to be done. When the ship arrived on which she was to have been a passenger, it bore only the news that she had been unable to bring herself to leave her native land, and had taken her life by hanging, on the very night he had seen the vision. Broken-hearted at the tragic frustration of his plans, McTavish had lost all desire for life, and soon wasted and died.

This story, grim and detailed enough, was somewhat spoiled by those who pointed out that McTavish had never had a Scottish wife, but had been married for more than 10 years to a French-Canadian woman, who survived him, and took an English army officer as her second husband.

Not all the stories about McTavish's house, however, were based upon mere rumor and hearsay; for there were some persons who claimed that they themselves, when passing the ruin by moonlight, had seen ghostly figures standing on the roof. But a farmer named McMartin—the one man who had been courageous enough to take over McTavish's property—had had occasion many times to pass the ruined mansion by moonlight, and he offered what he believed to be the explanation of the "ghosts." It was his opinion that while the moon was in a particular phase, it shone on a piece of the remaining tin roof in such a way as to produce a strangely diffused light, which, in the eyes of those who did not choose to approach too near, might easily seem to be something supernatural.

The facts about McTavish's unfinished house may not have included matters supernatural, but they were still tragic and ironic enough. McTavish had died as a result of the very eagerness with which he had planned his new

ed, taking his card from Capt. G. Little, comptroller of the viceregal household. Aides-de-camp included Col. H. Willis O'Connor, Cmdr. Edson Sherwood, Capt. T. R. C. Goff, Lieut. the Hon. Ernle Chatfield, R.N., and Lieut. D. Lantier.

Baron Robert Silvercruys, Belgian Minister and dean of the diplomatic corps, was first of the representatives of other countries to greet the vicaroy, followed by Hon. F. E. H. Groenman, Netherlands Minister; Hon. Rene Ristelhueber, French Minister; Hon. L. Diermont, Mofat, United States Minister, and Hon. Seijiro Yoshizawa, Japanese Minister.

Empire representatives included Sir Gerald Campbell, United Kingdom High Commissioner; Sir William Glasgow, Australian High Commissioner, David de Waal Meyer, accredited representative of South Africa; and Hon. John J. Hearne, High Commissioner for Ireland. Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding of the Royal Air Force, former chief of the British fighter command, now visiting Canada and the United States on an official mission, also attended.

Mgr. Ildebrando Antoniutti, Apostolic Delegate, and Archbishop Alexandre Vachon of Ottawa represented the Roman Catholic Church, while Bishop Robert E. Jefferson represented the Church of England.

BABY BORN 12.15 A.M.

Loses New Year Honor — Records on Standard Time

Ottawa, January 1. — (P)—First baby born in Ottawa after the bells pealed in the New Year was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Germain A. Surette—but officially he's a 1940 baby.

He was born at 12.15 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time. But Government statistics are based on standard time, and baby Surette—so far as the records go—was born in 1940.

First baby born here this year according to the records is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Gannon, of North Low, Que., born at 2 a.m. E.D.T.

home. It seems that he had insisted on supervising every detail of the construction work. On one occasion he remained too long in the damp spring air, contracting a cold. This cold developed into the inflammation of the lungs of which he died.

Moreover, his hope that his estate might become a great home for his descendants was likewise doomed to go unfulfilled. Though he left four children, they all died very early in life; so that within a few years after his own death, there was no direct descendant to become his heir.

To make the reversal of his plans complete, his partners in the North-West Company took advantage of his death to enter into an immediate amalgamation with the X.Y. Company, and, a few years later, they sold out to the Hudson Bay Company.

In an obscure corner of what was once his estate, almost hidden among the trees which have grown up about it, there still stands the tall column which was erected to mark McTavish's grave. This monument is located in Mount Royal Park, close by the old stone wall built to mark the western limit of the Ravenscrag property. McTavish used frequently to sit for hours reading on this spot, and it was here, when on his death-bed, that he asked to be buried. The inscription tells how the monument was erected by his nephew, William McGillivray, to commemorate "his manly virtue." But there is irony even here. At McTavish's death, William McGillivray had made his home with Sir Alexander Mackenzie, and thus, while he was erecting this monument to his uncle's memory, he was actually living with the man who had been the leader of the X. Y. Company and his uncle's bitterest enemy.

offer' would be accepted. Rent \$70 a month. Verbum sap.

VIGILANT.

Montreal, March 7, 1923.

The McTavish Monument.

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—My attention has been drawn through your columns by Mr. S. M. Baylis in connection with the neglected state of Simon McTavish's monument and tomb on the mountainside, and it is hoped that the matter will not be allowed to rest until action is taken to put the tomb and all in connection with it in every detail in perfect order. Mr. Baylis has expressed the hope that anyone having further information throwing light upon this very important subject may communicate with him. My acquaintance with Mr. Baylis has been of long standing, and I had a long interview with him, and was quite surprised at the amount of data, photos, etc., he had in connection with it; but he had never seen the interior of the tomb or the contents of the same.

This carries me back to 1855, when my father had orders from one of the trustees to arrange the main gate in the wall and door of the tomb. It was a lovely summer morning, and I went with him. My memory is very clear in this matter. On the removal of the door of the tomb, the first thing to attract my attention was a coffin on an iron stand. The bottom of the coffin had, with age, fallen on the stand, and was covered with a dark fine dust. There were no bones. It had been the body of a young person. There were

other remains in the tomb in the same condition. The tomb is about 10 feet square inside and dark; no windows.

I would suggest the city take hold of the site and put it in thorough repair at once; it will not be a costly matter. Time and the elements have erased the inscription from the monument. The repairs should be gone into at once.

I can remember when I could stand on the site of the cathedral and see the old haunted house, built as a residence for the McTavish family, with its towers, one on each end, and crowded with windows; and beautiful farms and gardens with fruit in abundance. In those days there were no houses west of Phillips square on St. Catherine street. You could stand on the steps of the haunted house and see pretty well over the city; it was small then. There was the Burnside House. In fact, the McGill property covers a lot of that property today. I would not be positive, but I have a faint recollection of Sir William Dawson coming over to the McTavish tomb. He was connected with McGill.

Mr. Baylis has taken up this question of renewing the Simon McTavish monument and tomb. The cost of putting it in order is not going to be an expensive affair. Mr. Baylis has gone to no end of time and trouble. Let the citizens interested have him call a meeting and see what can be done to put it in order.

WILLIAM PERRY.

848 Maplewood avenue,
Montreal, March 5, 1923.

[I have mentioned either the city or the citizens putting the tomb and monument in repair; that can be decided at a meeting called for the purpose.—W. P.]

18
my constituents in Brandon could spend a session in the House. There would be fewer critics among them. The movement is democratic, and party bosses will not be admitted within its ranks."

Speaking of the question of broadening out, Mr. Forke said he did not think that Progressives should have what is known as a class movement. "We cannot attain our end without the assistance of all right-thinking people," said the speaker. "So far we have received very little newspaper support throughout the Dominion. I am not finding fault, but the tendency of newspapers today is to support other interests. The Progressives have been reported as on the verge of a break-up, but let me assure you that they were never more united than they are today."

Referring to the members of the Progressive party who went over to the Liberal party some time ago, Mr. Forke said:

"God bless them. Let them go. We have forgotten all about them. Had we made a fuss over them, they would have got the impression that they were important."

Settlers for Australia

Melbourne, February 10.—(By mail.)—What may grow into a movement for settling retired British officers of the Indian army in Australia was begun recently with the arrival of 60 such officers in Victoria. They have settled in the state by an arrangement with the Indian Government, and brought with them funds aggregating \$1,000,000.

Gun to Load Cargo Into Launch

OFF JERSEY COAST

Supercargo, Suffering From Effects of Shots, Taken Away by Raiders—Vessel Reaches Halifax

(By Canadian Press.)

Halifax, N.S., March 11.—"Get ready!"

Ten guns were flashed on an astonished crew. Deck and rigging were splintered by a fusillade of bullets, and the Supercargo Philip Knowles fell unconscious when three shots were fired point-blank at him.

Such is the story of piracy and gun-play off the Jersey Coast March 2, told on her arrival here today, by the crew of the Yarmouth schooner Eddie James. The rest of the story tells of the carrying away of Knowles, in what condition his shipmates did not know, and of the taking at the point of the gun of 600 cases of whiskey and \$8,000 to \$9,000 in cash.

The Eddie James is from Nassau for St. Pierre. On March 1 as she lay becalmed off the Jersey Coast

of the Anti-Saloon League of America and of the World League Against Alcohol, has intimated that he expects to be present and will give an address at the mass meeting to be held in St. James Methodist Church, on Thursday evening, October 11. Having just returned from temperance and reform gatherings in Europe, he is expected to describe the more important phases of the world movement towards moral and social reform. Several other prominent speakers will give addresses during the sessions of both days, and a business men's luncheon is planned to which prominent citizens will be invited.

TWO AUTOISTS KILLED

St. John, N.B., September 20.—Death has claimed a second victim from among the five persons injured when the motor car in which they were travelling from St. John to Fredericton this morning was struck by a Canadian Pacific Railway train near Welsford.

Miss Matilda McAfee died soon after the accident, and this evening her brother, James McAfee, succumbed to his injuries. Their sister, Miss Maud McAfee, who was driving the automobile when it was hit, escaped with a fractured collarbone. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Gibson, who were seriously injured, are in the General Public Hospital in St. John in a critical condition, but both may recover.



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Dr. Ernest Cherrington, secretary

Topcoats
25% to 33 1/3% off
A full line of
Spring and Fall



DEFECTIVE TEETH

Sept 21/23

GAZETTE. MONTREAL.

LEVELLING ROAD FOR TRAM LINE

Municipal Officials Inspected
Work on Route to
Mountain Top

REPAIRING RESERVOIR

Larger Water Main Being In-
stalled at High Level Basin
—Monument Needs
Repairing

Work on levelling the Shakespeare road was found, in a tour of inspection conducted yesterday by municipal officials, to have reached a point where a good idea may be obtained as to what kind of mountain tramline is to be constructed there for the benefit of Montreal. This roadway extends towards the mountain top from the Cote des Neiges road, near the entrance to the Catholic cemetery. Ordinarily it would not be noticed at all by the casual visitor, but now, with the underbrush removed and the cutting down of the heavy grade well advanced, it presents a better appearance. The chief engineer of the city, Mr. H. A. Terreault, declared yesterday that he expected to have the levelling and grading completed in about a month, by which time the Montreal Tramways Company could begin the laying of the double track along that road to a point in the rear of the park-ranger's house.

Not far from the intersection of the Cote des Neiges road the first grade was encountered, where gangs of men operating scrapers drawn by horses were found at work. This cut in the deepest part is about 12 feet below the level of the roadway, gradually tapering off at each end. The cut is 22 feet wide out of a total width of 60 feet. Facing the north side of the roadway, and separated from it by a high iron fence, is one of the sections of the Cote des Neiges cemetery. On the other side is the dense underbrush of the mountain park. Further up the roadway could be seen another crest, of rock, which will require blasting, as it is to be reduced about six or seven feet in order to make the grade more suitable for the tram lines. The city is spending about \$30,000 in levelling this road for the purpose of the construction of the mountain tram line.

When the high-level reservoir at the head of Peel street was reached, the municipal delegation made a cursory inspection of the work going on there. The reservoir was empty and the interior, both walls and bottom, had been freshly cemented, and men were still at work on the job, which will be completed probably by the end of the week.

Workmen were engaged yesterday in replacing the 12-inch water main that fills the reservoir, with a 24-inch main, which is needed on account of the greater demands of the locality.

MONUMENT NEEDS REPAIRS.

Nearby the reservoir is the McTavish burying lot, which the civic delegation decided to examine. It was found necessary to use a 12-foot ladder to descend inside the high-walled enclosure about a rounded stone column about 20 feet high, resting on a square pedestal on the south side of which is the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Simon McTavish, Esq., who died July 6th, 1804, aged 54 years." This monument was erected by his nephews, William and Duncan McGillivray, to commemorate their high sense of his many virtues, and as a grateful tribute to his many acts of kindness to them.

After a more careful examination, a large cairn of stones, on top of which thick underbrush was growing, was noticed immediately in front of the memorial. The ground

was strewn with dead and decayed tree trunks and branches, and the monument seems on the point of falling into ruins. The opinion of the city delegation was it would require prompt repairing and plenty of cement or mortar to save it. The appearance of the monument and the strength of the walls indicate a considerable outlay of money for one who was a prominent citizen of Montreal in his day. The guardian of the reservoir told the delegation that descendants of the family had visited the lot this summer, and he understood some repairs were contemplated.

Miss Ful-
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BRANSBY WILLIAMS BRINGS GREETINGS

Dickensian Actor at Kiwanis
Luncheon Notes Stage's

SUN LIFE STAFF'S MUTUAL GREETINGS

Plans for Acquiring Homes
and Saving Money Mooted
by T. B. Macaulay

Christmas greetings were exchanged by the president and staff of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada at an informal gathering in the gymnasium of the Men's Club yesterday afternoon. Cheers and songs echoed through the building in witness of the holiday spirit animating those who assembled, laden with parcels suggestive of Christmas gifts. Three cheers followed by a rousing "tiger" greeted the appearance of the president, T. B. Macaulay, who extended his hearty wishes for Christmas to all present. Mr. Macaulay also spoke of the marked "esprit de corps" of the institution.

Mr. Macaulay expressed it as his hope that every male member of the staff would own his own home, saying that a plan is being arranged by which each man may acquire a home without putting up so much money as would otherwise be required. Arrangements are also being made by which employees will be assisted in saving money, he stated.

An address voicing the appreciation of the staff, together with their Christmas greetings to the president, was read by Miss MacSween. A huge bouquet was then presented by Miss Elsie Steele to Mr. Macaulay, who thanked the staff for their gift and handed it to Mrs. Macaulay, who was also present. After singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and giving a final three cheers and "tiger" for the president, the gathering dispersed.

Saturn's rings are not more than 40 miles thick, according to an estimate.

That Joy, Happiness and Good Fortune, in measures pressed down and running over, may be yours on this Christmas Day, is the sincere wish of

**CROWN
LAUNDRY CO.**

4220 St. Catherine Street
Westmount



The Daintiest of all
**Christmas
Novelties**

are to be found at

Castle Blend

REPAIR MONUMENT NOW 121 YEARS OLD

for Ald. J. A. A. Brodeur Asserts
That City Is Indebted to
Simon McTavish

PIONEER FUR TRADER

Stone Erected by Nephews in
1804 by Reservoir Has
Fallen Into
Decay

One of the links with the past of this city, the McTavish monument, which for long has been falling into ruins, will be repaired and maintained in the future by the city authorities, according to a statement made yesterday by Ald. Brodeur, chairman of the Executive Committee. This stone memorial to one of the merchant princes of the day, being hidden away among trees and enclosed with a high stone wall at the head of Peel street just on the border of Mount Royal Park, is seldom seen by Montrealers. A year ago last summer the chief engineer of the city accompanied by press representatives descended into the enclosure by means of a ladder placed inside the wall from the reservoir embankment. The hewn stones forming the pinnacle of the monument, having no mortar to hold them together, seemed ready to topple over at any moment. The whole memorial, erected by nephews to perpetuate the memory of Simon McTavish, showed that the tooth of time had been busy for many a year to reduce the monument to the level of the mound beneath it, all overgrown with shrubbery and weeds. The ground was also carpeted with dead leaves into which the foot sank nearly up to the ankle, and the decaying branches of trees lying about added a sombre touch to the isolated spot.

Since then nothing has been heard about the conservation of the monument till Mr. S. M. Baylis, vice-president of the Antiquarian and Numismatic Society, took the matter in hand. An interesting study of the career of Simon McTavish recently appeared in La Patrie, with illustrations, giving a summary of the facts that have been rescued from the dust by Mr. Baylis. In this study the wealthy fur merchant of Montreal appears as one of the notabilities of the day. His portrait in oils, preserved in the national archives at Ottawa, shows a fine face with a high brow and a mass of white hair or a wig falling almost to the shoulders. McTavish, in fact, has the bearing of a colonial governor.

ASKED CIVIC ACTION.

Realizing that the task of making permanent repairs to the monument was one beyond private means, Mr. Baylis had recourse to the civic authorities, whom he found sympathetic to his appeal, on which point Ald. Brodeur yesterday afternoon made the following interesting announcement:

"As regards the McTavish monument alongside Mount Royal Park, the city of Montreal has decided to put it in a state of repair and maintain it in the future for the perpetuation of the memory of a prominent citizen of old Montreal. The citizens of Montreal owe this tribute on account of the prominent part Simon McTavish took in the development of the trade of Montreal over one hundred years ago, and further as regards the gifts he made to various good works. What we propose to do is but a slight token of gratitude, and one I think that Montrealers will approve. If the work of restoring the monument can be undertaken this winter, it will be done, and if not in the spring. The city engineer has already received instructions to that effect. Mr. S. M. Baylis saw the executive in this matter, and we readily concurred with his suggestion."

The inscription on the monument,

as it appeared in La Patrie, is as follows:

"Sacred to the memory of Simon McTavish, Esq., who died July 6, 1804. This monument is erected by his nephews, William and Duncan McGillivray, to commemorate their high sense of his manly virtues, and as a grateful tribute for his many acts of kindness shewn them."

Franklin, Mass.—The amount of used to put the "rick" in boat

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est, and keeled t over. The two victims were taken to the Western Hospital and treated in the outdoor department. The taxi was badly damaged, but only the right front mudguard of Brodeur's car was broken.

MISS REID TAYLOR DIED IN 73RD YEAR

Was Only Daughter of Former Member of Montreal

Gazette Bar June 1973

The death of Miss Reid Taylor occurred yesterday afternoon at her apartment at 214 Bishop street. Miss Taylor was the only daughter of the late Hugh Taylor, in his lifetime a leading member of the Montreal Bar. At the time of Mr. Taylor's death in London, Eng., in 1893, he was said to have been the Empire's oldest member of the Colonial Bar. Miss Taylor's mother was Amelia Hobart Buchanan, daughter of Jas. Buchanan, H.B.M., Consul at New York. Her father, Mr. Hugh Taylor, lived at one time on his property, "Elmwood," the ruins of which were until recent years to be seen next what is now Dominion Park. On the death of his aunt, Mrs. Reid, widow of the late Chief Justice Reid, he inherited and removed to Park House, the property now known as Sohmer Park. Miss Taylor is survived by one brother, H. Herbert Taylor, living in Scotland, and a nephew, A. W. Taylor, living in France.

TAYLOR—On the 18th June, 1923, at 214 Bishop Street, Elizabeth Mary, daughter of the late Hugh Taylor, Esquire, Advocate, of Montreal, in her 73rd year.
Funeral private.

Automobile

REDUCE

Apply:

The British-Canadian

90 St. James St.

Here's Roof

If you knew how
Surfaced Shingles
others, you would

When they are
by their patent
or cold cannot

RUBER

are the only Le
in red or green
A beautiful, fi
tionally low cos
Ask us for sam
dealers.



THE RUBER

Works at Montreal, P.

Roofing Products
Industrial Paints



W. J.

Wrote him July 3/24

From Our Readers

Reminiscences of Old Montreal.

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—I was born in the city of Montreal eighty-nine years ago, and my boyhood days are more vivid to me than the events of a month ago. My mother, during the trouble of 1836, carried me in her arms from Lachine to Montreal walking. The first school days I remember were when I boarded at the St. Sulpice Seminary, where the Rev. Mr. Villeneuve was the head, and at the same time I attended services at Notre Dame and enjoyed much the "Pain Benit."

I have walked from Notre Dame to the Bishop's Church on St. Denis street on Corpus Christi Day in the procession, when little girls, prettily robed, scattered beautiful flowers on the street pavement.

My next school experience was at the Montreal Academy, northwest corner St. Urbain and St. Catherine streets, a large stone building where I was a boarder. A little later on it was moved to Beaver Hall terrace. I saw St. Patrick's Church in the process of construction while there, and one day we boys were shocked, when it was nearing its completion, to see a man who was on the tower, or spire, lose his footing, fall to the ground and die. Poor fellow, I wonder if anybody remembers him now or knows who he was.

Not far from that, on Haymarket square, on the west side, stood a Methodist Church, and one day excitement arose in the city when it was published that a Father Gavazzi, a former Roman Catholic priest from Rome, was to lecture on a certain night in that church. The then Mayor Wilson, a Roman Catholic, anticipated trouble. He asked the Colonel of the 26th Cameronians, then stationed in Montreal to send some troops to the square to preserve order. Like other boys, I wanted to see the soldiers and the trouble. In marching to the place the soldiers stopped at the fire engine house on Craig street and loaded their muskets with ball cartridges. They were drawn up facing the church, and in the middle of the square. As the lecture was over and the people were coming out of the church someone gave the order "present, fire," and a number of people were killed and wounded. Investigation followed, and every officer and man swore that the order had not been given by any officer, and it was put down as the work of a ventriloquist. This regiment is the one which fired on the mob in Boston during the Tea Riots.

I remember seeing them working on the tower of Notre Dame, and the stone yard occupied the Place D'Armes, and in crossing there one night some stone cutter left a box of tobacco on a rock and I stole it.

In earlier days, travellers were carried to La Prairie on the Transit, formerly carrying between Toronto and Niagara Falls, and were introduced to a marvellous steam railroad, which was laid on square timber with flat iron on top, and my attention was called to the great speed, about 12 miles per hour, by one of the passengers who exclaimed that one could not count the fence posts. The passengers' limit of travel was St. John's whence they could take steam boats to points on Lake Champlain.

The better class of houses was furnished with brass knockers, and the people depended upon tallow and sperm candles for light, and in every kitchen hung tin moulds where extracts of mutton would fill them for candles. Matches were six inches long and about a fourth of an inch square.

The favorite promenade for society was Notre Dame street, from the Place D'Armes to St. Denis street, and with young ladies in particular, extended to Dalhousie square officers quarter and theatre, and St. Louis street from the Champ de Mars, past the officers' quarters opposite the Seven Galleries.

While we boys were playing on the Champ de Mars one evening, we noticed a crowd gathering on the terrace at the west end so we took it in. It proved to be a political meeting to protest against the Governor's action that day, Lord Elgin, who had that day come down privately and signed the "Rebellion Losses' Bill" which had been introduced and passed by the Parliament against the protests of the former loyal Canadians. The leaders of this meeting proved to be Mr. Ferris, Editor of the Montreal Gazette, who had lost one leg and walked on a wooden substitute, and another gentleman whose name I have forgotten, but whose nose had been removed. At the close of the meeting, someone called out "To the Parliament House." A procession formed which included us boys, and on arriving there found the House in session—the Speaker on his throne and the Gold Mace on the Clerk's table. The noseless man walked up to the Speaker, and in a loud tone said, "I am Oliver Cromwell, and I dissolve this Parliament." Another man pulled out a jack-knife and cut out the life size picture of Queen Victoria behind the Speaker's throne. Several other men set fire to the curtains while the Speaker and members of Parliament ran out for their lives. In a short time the Parliament Building was burnt to the ground. The soldiers had been called

Anglo-Canadian citizen of Sorel, who had been working in brick yards in the States. Before we had gone ten miles the mercury had dropped down to thirty below zero. Ice islands and battures quickly formed. Captain St. Louis began to be uneasy, and fortunately for us, we were able to make a landing at the batture for a few minutes opposite Lanoraie, where we all went to a town and the Vulcan went on her way and found winter quarters two miles below Sorel, the bottom of the St. Lawrence. The next morning the Anglo-Canadian and I walked to Berthier. Seeing that the river was frozen across, we started out and crossed the islands, and walked on the slippery ice across the river to Sorel, and I met my mother as she came out of her church.

The next steam boat experience I had on the St. Lawrence, was as I was going to Three Rivers from Albany, N.Y., while suffering from a fractured knee, and was forced to use crutches. I was a passenger on the new steamer Spartan, when she struck a rock at the head of the Lachine Rapids, and went down in thirty-five feet of water. The life boats were manned by Englishmen of War, and I was landed at Caughnawaga, and slept on the hotel board floor, and the result helped to cause the amputation of my right leg close to the hip. I can remember a few names of my school boy friends, Green, who had a fur store in St. Paul street, G. F. C. Smith, the brother Addis, who had a grocery on St. Lawrence Main street, and Prowse and Duncan, and if any of them are living, I should like to hear from them, and among other things, ask them if they remember the dread we boys had of the McTavish haunted house near McGill University, in which the proprietor had committed suicide.

T. E. NORMAN,
2609 S. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo.

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The better class of houses was furnished with brass knockers, and the people depended upon tallow and sperm candles for light, and in every kitchen hung tin moulds where for

tracts of mutton were made in candles. Matches were six inches long and about 1/4 of an inch square.

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The last I saw of Lord Elgin was on the following day when he came to town. He was in his carriage and Colonel Bruce, his brother, was laying over him to protect him from the stones and eggs of the mob in the street. The last time I saw Lady Elgin, she wore a poke bonnet with a beautiful Bird of Paradise as an ornament.

I remember seeing the largest bell in America as it was brought from the ship, and deposited in the front of Notre Dame preparatory to being put in the tower.

I remember where the meat market was from Nelson's monument to St. Paul street, and it was remarkable for the number of bones scattered around, and the vegetable market was from there to the Bonsecours Church, now occupied by the present city building.

On the 25th of December, about 1848, I stepped on board the small steam boat, named Vulcar, a tender for the lighthouses, which was leaving to go into winter quarters at Sorel. There was not a sign of snow or ice anywhere. There were two passengers beside myself, a Mrs. Farnden, an officer's widow, and an

lawaga, and slept on the hotel board floor, and the result helped to cause the amputation of my right leg close to the hip. I can remember a few names of my school boy friends, Green, who had a fur store in St. Paul street, G. F. C. Smith, the brother Addis, who had a grocery on St. Lawrence Main street, and Prowse and Duncan, and if any of them are living, I should like to hear from them, and among other things, ask them if they remember the dread we boys had of the McTavish haunted house near McGill University, in which the proprietor had committed suicide.

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RURAL CREDITS PLAN LIKELY TO BE LEFT OVER

Emergency Legislation Reported Against by Committee

FAVORS PERMANENT PLAN

Redemption Fund Amendment of H. E. Spencer, Pro- gressive, Defeated

(Special to The Gazette.)

Ottawa, July 2.—Rural credits, a subject on which the House Banking and Commerce Committee has spent considerable time this session, will go over without further action until next year. This was the recommendation made today by a sub-committee that has been studying the subject, and without doubt the recommendation will be accepted.

Another sub-committee that has been studying the subject of relief for farmer debtors in the prairie

ant-Governor-in-Council of any province has authorized any officer of the provincial government, charged under a provincial statute with duties which in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council are analogous in any respect to the duties of custodian or trustee, to act as custodian and trustee under this act, the official receiver shall, in the case of an assignment by a person engaged solely in farming or the tillage of the soil, appoint such officer as custodian.

"(2) Any officer so appointed to the office of custodian by the official receiver shall thereupon, in addition to such office, be and be deemed to be, the authorized trustee as if appointed under sub-section (1) of section 15 of this Act, and shall continue to be the authorized trustee until properly removed under sub-section (2) of the said section 15.

"(3) In case any such provincial officer is appointed custodian or trustee, he shall not be entitled to be paid any remuneration as custodian or trustee, nor any of the costs enumerated as costs of custodian in part iii. of the general rules."

SPENT HOURS IN PAIN

Indian's Leg Almost Severed by Train; Died Later

Chatham, Ont., July 2.—Found lying on the Pere Marquette Railway tracks early Sunday morning with his right leg almost severed, Moses King, 26, an Indian whose home is at Perry Island, died as a result of his injuries in St. Joseph's Hospital this morning. Coroner T. L. McRitchie, this afternoon opened an inquest. The jury, after viewing the remains, adjourned to continue the enquiry next Tuesday afternoon.

King's cries attracted the attention of Ross Stringer, caretaker of the Maple Leaf Cemetery, who found him where he had apparently lain for several hours after being struck by a train.

EMPRESS HAS MANY NOTABLES ABOARD

Jewish Writer, Leading In- dustrialist and British Doctors Sail

(Special to The Gazette.)

Quebec, July 2.—The Canadian Pacific steamer Empress of Scotland, popularly known as the flagship of the C.P. fleet, sailed at 4.30 this afternoon for Cherbourg, Southampton and Hamburg. Internationally known industrialists, medical experts and authors took passage on the steamer and there was a large number of American tourists from all parts of the United States among the travellers.

Mr. Ludwig Lewisohn, a foremost classical writer, was a passenger and stated in an interview that he was leaving on an investigation tour of England, Germany, Poland, Palestine and France in the interests of the Zionist organization of the United States, and on his return would

question from his observations while abroad.

Sir Glynn Isaac, British industrialist, of London, accompanied by Lady West, sailed for home after a lengthy investigation of the hydraulic development possibilities of Newfoundland in which country he has also drawn up plans for a paper mill. There was also a party of 19 Sisters of the Providence Congregation, representing the principal cities of Canada, who left on the Empress of Scotland for a visit to the Mother House in France.

Sir Janner Verral, English physician, and Dr. Alfred Cox, O.B.E., secretary of the British Medical Association were other saloon passengers and are returning home after attending the convention of the Canadian Medical Association which was held recently. They were enthusiastic over the work accomplished during the convention in the interests of humanity, and were also much impressed with their brief trip to the principal cities of Western Canada.

TORONTO BERRIES CHEAP

Shipments Forced Price to Eight Cents a Quart

Toronto, July 2.—The market for strawberries in the Toronto wholesale fruit district was temporarily demoralized as a result of very heavy shipments. The slump, which started on Monday preceding the general holiday, was continued into Tuesday when arrivals after Monday's picking were burdensome. Lack of outlet for offerings caused a further and severe break, the bulk going at 8 to 10 cents per quart. Today the market started

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SECOND MINE EXPLOSION

Allan Shaft Was Sealed Up at the Time

New Glasgow, N.S., July 2.—Another explosion is believed to have occurred in the Allan shaft of the Acadia Coal Company's colliery, in which four men were killed by an explosion Monday afternoon. No men were down in the shaft, which is being sealed up, all the horses having been removed today. The future of this colliery is not known at present. It employed 400 men.

York, N.B., County Council

Fredericton, N.B., July 2.—The semi-annual session of the York County Municipal Council opened here today. The county could pay off its bonded debt from current accounts, it was said.

The excellent financial position of the county was reflected in the auditor's statement submitted by Robert Carter of Halifax.

RAILWAY BOARD TOO UNWIELDY, SAYS MINISTER

Rt. Hon. Mr. Graham Considers
It Too Large at Present

READJUSTMENT POSSIBLE

More Adequate Representa-
tion for West—Rubber
Stamp, Says Coote

(By Canadian Press.)

Ottawa, June 24.—Right Hon. George P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, expressed the opinion in the House of Commons this afternoon that the Board of Railway Commissioners was rather too large and unwieldy. A vote of \$239,359 for maintenance and operation of the board was under consideration. G. G. Coote, Progressive, MacLeod, asked whether the Government proposed to increase the number of commissioners.

Mr. Graham replied that in his opinion the board was, if anything, too large at present. There was no provision in the estimates for an increase in the number of commissioners, but he thought that some readjustment which would give the West more adequate representation might be feasible. This question was a large one and any change in the constitution of the board would require legislation.

Mr. Coote said he would like to see the board more representative of Canada as a whole. The West now had only one representative on the board, and with the Crow's Nest Pass agreement cancelled, would be completely at the mercy of the board. He asked the Minister if he thought the West was likely to receive justice at the hands of the board.

From Our Readers

The McTavish Tomb and Monument.
To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—I have dug up the facts and with pen and picture told the story of this historic plot, and I have been waiting for some one or somebody to do something to remove this reproach, indeed menace, which its ruined condition imposes upon our citizens and the civic authorities.

The wall is falling down, the monument is in urgent need of repair, the whole place has an air of shameful neglect, and the obligation to give it immediate attention is all too evident.

The vault itself is buried under a mound of debris, said to have been done by one having authority many years ago, to safeguard the mausoleum and the bodies it entombs. Two of these are definitely known to be Simon McTavish himself and his nephew, Duncan McGillivray, one of the builders of the monument. Two others are believed to be Chief Justice Reid, one of the executors of Simon McTavish, and his wife, Elizabeth McGillivray, niece of Simon McTavish, who built the west wing of the Montreal General Hospital in memory of her husband, and there are probably others, but of these no definite trace or record has so far been discovered.

The plot is practically "no man's land": its consecration placed it "hors de commerce," and title was specifically excluded from all deeds.

Succession in the direct line was interrupted by the death of all four children of Simon. There may be remote descendants of the legatee-nephew, John McTavish, in the United States, who, however, could only be traced with great difficulty, and even if found would, no doubt, prove quite indifferent to any legal or moral obligation if such attach. Others there are, here and abroad, who for sentimental reasons might be thought to have some attachment to and interest in the alleged burial place of Judge Reed and his wife, but it does not so appear.

It would seem to follow, therefore, that none of these sources can be looked to either for co-operation or objection, and that the way is clear for some public-spirited individual, or group, or the city itself, to step in and have the restoration done, and the care of the plot placed in trust so that this old memorial may be preserved as an attraction to the park and not an eyesore and danger to every passer-by as it is now.

SAMUEL M. BAYLIS.

Montreal, June 22nd, 1925.

VOL. CLIV. No. 154

ALL DIRECTORS OF HOME BANK WON APPEALS

Ontario Supreme Court Says
Crown Did Not Prove Charges

BANK DIRECTORS' DUTIES

Title Is Complete Misnomer,
and Should Be Changed,
Says Judgment

(By Canadian Press.)

Toronto, June 28.—The decisions of Judge Coatsworth in the Home Bank cases, which resulted in the conviction of the vice-president and five directors, and their sentence to various terms of imprisonment, have been set aside by the First Divi-

From Our Readers

~~Le Gallienne and Tennyson.~~

~~To the Editor of The Gazette:~~

~~Sir,—Mr. Boyd's good humor has taken the edge off my blade. I would like merely to add that if Mr. Boyd will go to the Fraser Institute he will find under Richard Le Gallienne's name several books which he may enjoy. As to the respective merits of Tennyson and Le Gallienne, I am afraid the memory of the former, like our sins, will be visited on our children to the third and fourth generation.~~

~~T. R.~~

The McTavish Monument.

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—I heartily agree with Mr. S. M. Baylis regarding the restoration of the McTavish monument, vault, and surrounding wall. This is the last resting place of one of the founders of Montreal's great commerce, and also of one of the founders and chief justices in our present system of law and order. It is a pity, therefore, if should be neglected, when it could be made such a beautiful and secluded historic spot. In our love for and our knowledge of our history and traditions lies largely our hope for the future. Unless steps are taken soon for its preservation, this landmark will pass out of existence.

A. H. MacCORDICK, M.D.

Montreal, June 25, 1925.

way until the advent of more prosperous times, and are enlisting the aid of their friends in fighting the landlords and the laws governing rent prices. On the other hand, the landlords claim that taxes take all their income from their houses, leaving them without a fair rate of interest on their investments, and on account of the housing laws they are required to take in any tenants assigned to their houses by the housing committee.

MOZAMBIQUE STRIKE

Vessels Tied Up and Rhodesian Trade Injured

(Canadian Press Cable.)

Beira, Portuguese East Africa Sept. 7 (via Reuter's)—The strike of the employees of the Mozambique Company, which broke out September 3, threatens to bring all commercial activity in the Manica and Sofala region administered by the company to a standstill. Fifteen ships are lying at port, being unable to discharge or receive cargo. Several ships cannot sail owing to the lack of pilots and no mails are being despatched or received. Lighting services are suspended, but the essential services are still being maintained.

The hold-up in the import and export trade is causing consternation among the merchants of Rhodesia.

GRENADA LOOKS FOR TRADE WITH CANADA

Pineapples Are Being Planted in Anticipation of Steamship Service

To promote a closer trade relationship between Canada and the British West Indies, the Chambers of Commerce of the various islands of this group are considering a united effort to make their native fruits become better known in this Dominion, according to J. Barclay, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Island of Grenada, B.W.I., and M.P. for St. George's, the capital, in the Grenada Legislature. Mr. Barclay arrived in Montreal yesterday, and, while in Canada, will endeavor to encourage more intimate commercial relationships between his island and this country. He will spend several days at the Windsor Hotel before sailing for London, Eng.

"When the new steamship service begins to operate between Canada and the British West Indies," said Mr. Barclay, "we hope the Dominion will take more of our tropical fruits and become independent of Florida products. In anticipation of this improved steamer service, for the realization of which we have sent delegates to wait on the Government at Ottawa, the planters in Grenada have begun to grow pineapples, hoping that Canada will be the customer for this fruit. Canadians are aware of the preferential tariff that makes products from the British West Indies more desirable than products from the United States.

"We would also like to see Canadians take an interest in the building of an hotel for tourists in Grenada. The island has everything a tourist could wish for in amusement. The trouble has been that Grenada is out of the beaten path of the average tourist, and he is not aware that the island, unlike other spots in the South Atlantic, is completely opened up with good roads for motoring all the year round. The finest sea bathing in the West Indies is enjoyed at this place,

LETTERS FROM

McTavish Monument Restoration

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir:—I am glad to think that the spade-work which I have been privileged to do in this matter has prepared the ground for early and fruitful results.

Thanks to the activity of Mr. Hugh Mackay, K.C., in interesting himself and some of his friends, a nucleus of the necessary funds for the restoration of this historic plot has been secured, and it only remains for the citizens of Montreal, upon whom the reproach has so long lain, to say when and how it shall be satisfactorily accomplished.

I have, with pen and picture, told the story which I have dug up from the musty records of a forgotten past, and it rests with those who are enjoying the prosperity of our great commercial city, which the enterprise of this old merchant-fur trader—Simon McTavish—and his associates among the coterie of British merchants, firmly established and made possible, to spare a trifle of their abundance to keep alive the memory of this pioneer and path-finder in danger of being forgotten, and to preserve his last resting-place from the impending ruin now threatening it.

Simon McTavish himself was the first to be buried, in 1804, at the early age of 54 years, in the tomb which he built to house the remains of a "family" which he hoped to found. His nephew, Duncan McGillivray, who was one of the builders of the monument, followed him to the grave four years later. It is also believed that his niece, Elizabeth McGillivray, with her husband, Hon. Justice Reid, friend and executor of Simon, to whose memory she built the West Wing of the Montreal General Hospital, and others, are also buried in the vault; and herein lies the obligation specially laid upon this institution and its friends to see to it that the ruined habitation of the honored remains of its earliest important benefactors shall be worthily restored and preserved.

The plot is practically "no-man's-land." By ecclesiastical consecration and transmission exemption it was early placed "hors de commerce." Succession was interrupted by the death of all direct heirs, and collaterals, if traceable, are indifferent. The last official act in connection with the plot was the covering up of the vault by a mound of earth and stones to protect it, and locking the gates, by Hugh Taylor, executor of John McTavish, legatee of Simon, on his departure for England in the 70's.

There is none to give or withhold consent to a public-spirited individual or group stepping in and doing the work. It is not a costly job and I had hoped that the city would have undertaken it ere this. To rebuild the wall in places, repair it throughout, point the joints of the monument, re-cut the inscription, clean up the whole plot and expose the tomb in its original form, would require possibly a couple of thousand dollars, and another thousand for embellishment. This done, it should be given in charge of the Historic Sites Commission, or preferably the city to be preserved as a beauty spot in the Park and not an eyesore as it now is.

Subscriptions reported to date are as follows: Hugh Mackay, K.C. \$200; Edward Mackay, \$50; H. A. Lovett, K.C., \$25; R. H. Jamieson, \$25; W. J. Henderson, \$25; J. C. Watson, \$25; S. M. Baylis, \$25.

SAMUEL M. BAYLIS.

Montreal, September 5, 1925.

[The Gazette will receive and acknowledge all sums sent in towards the Restoration Fund.]

March 8/1923

SHOULD WORK HARD TO REACH OLD AGE

William Perry at 85 Never Went Fishing or Saw Lacrosse or Hockey Match

WAS IN McTAVISH TOMB

Recalled Great Fires, Steak at Three Pence and Eggs at Ten Cents a Dozen

"I have always worked hard, and that is the reason I am so active today," said William Perry, marking his pronouncement with an emphasis that would have delighted Thomas Edison, another believer in hard work. "I have travelled a hard deal, but I never had a holiday in the sense of knocking off work to go for a week's fishing," was another statement made by Mr. Perry. Briefly, hard work and regularity constitute Mr. Perry's recipe for attaining longevity. Being now 85 years of age with his 86th birthday approaching on May 3 next, Mr. Perry may certainly be accepted as a real authority on the subject.

The conversation did not start on longevity, but on an entirely different matter. Mr. Perry had been reading with keen interest the suggestion of Mr. Sam Baylis that steps should be taken to restore the tomb and monument of Simon McTavish so that they should serve as a real memorial. "Do you know," remarked Mr. Perry "I believe that I am the only man in Montreal who can say that he actually entered the McTavish tomb," and that started a flow of reminiscences which led to a visit to Mr. Perry's home on Maplewood avenue near Decelles, and a subsequent delving into the past and turning over of the leaves of a living history.

"It was in 1855 that I visited the tomb," said Mr. Perry. "My father had received instructions from one of the trustees to go there, and repair the gates and locks so that vandals could not enter the place. Father took me with him and being curious I went directly into the vault. There was an iron table in the foreground and upon it rested a small coffin the bottom of which had broken away. There were four or five other coffins, and one at the rear was, I believe, that of Mr. McTavish himself. There was no window in the vault and I remember that that place was dark and dark. However, I did not get much farther because father, who was very businesslike, called me out and set me to work. We repaired the doors and the locks. I don't think the place has been disturbed since then."

HAUNTED HOUSE STORY.

"It was a beautiful spot and a wonderful view could be then obtained from the site on the mountain side. There were only two houses nearby, one the ruins of the old McTavish house, the other the McGill house. I can see the old house yet as though it existed. Of course, there were all sorts of stories about it being haunted. One was about an Englishman recently arrived who went for a walk on the mountain one winter Sunday. He met a man trailing a toboggan. The man jumped on and went down the slope sliding into a window of the ruin, and coming out on the other side, then turning sharply. But it was no longer a man who guided the toboggan, it was a skeleton."

From that start Mr. Perry recalled many happenings in Montreal saying "What a lot of changes. Even the girls have changed, they now paint themselves."

To begin with Mr. Perry said that he was born in Chudleigh near Plymouth in Devonshire, and when he was eight years old, in 1845, the family set sail from Plymouth port for Canada. "It was a slow old tub we were in" said Mr. Perry. "It took us seven weeks to reach Quebec. We got there on a Saturday afternoon, and there was a fire in the uptown. We then set off on the steamer for Montreal, the Lord Sydenham. It was another slow boat requiring twenty-four hours to make the distance. When we reached Three Rivers some of the people were so disgusted they disembarked, and walked the rest of the way to Montreal."

The Perrys were skilled in working in metals, and set up their shop in

ple of the time were not disturbed by anthracite coal, or the lack of it, wood being the fuel. The ashman bought the ashes that remained, and carted them to St. Constant street—the name has now been changed—where a soap factory stood on the site of the present drill shed.

MOVABLE BOOKSTORE.

Mention of the old volunteer brigade led Mr. Perry to say that he is the only surviving member of the old force. Until recently there had been three, Mr. Sam Mason and Mr. James Milloy, but the two latter are now dead. "Mr. Milloy was a fine man," said Mr. Perry. "Did he ever tell you about their book shop in St. Catherine street? He told me that it had been built on a lot in Laprairie and after being in use for a while was placed on runners and drawn to Montreal and placed where it now stands and is yet in use."

Mr. Perry recalled the fire that destroyed Christ Church Cathedral, then in Notre Dame street near St. Lawrence. "My, it was a cold morning. I remember when I got home having to stand beside the fire to thaw my clothes out so that I could remove them."

The conversation turned on amusements, and Mr. Perry said "We used to have lots of fun in those days, Oh boys," but a lot of his amusements would appear very simple to the present generation. One of the amusements was to pay sixpence to hear Sam Cowl, a comedian of fame in that time. He occasionally frequented the Theatre Royal, or as Mr. Perry termed it, "Mrs. Buckland's theatre." "Our coppersmith used to play the big fiddle in the orchestra, and I sometimes went there to turn the music." Mr. Perry declared that he never saw a lacrosse game or a hockey match. "Sometimes we played shinny on the Champ de Mars."

Walking and outdoor life generally appealed to Mr. Perry. "I remember when we came to live in Outremont forty-five years ago, our house was near what is now Bellingham road, we set out every morning to walk to Craig street to get there before seven o'clock and we walked back again."

That he was not a prohibitionist, Mr. Perry admitted, yet he is not even a moderate drinker. "The doctor told me to keep a little in case of sickness," he said. As to smoking: "Well, I used to smoke cigars. You could get three good cigars for a quarter, but one day I decided I was spending too much money on cigars, so I bought a pipe and tobacco. I was going to Sorrel to do some work there, and when my cigars gave out, I loaded the pipe and fired it, but I burned my tongue and my mouth, and I threw the thing away, and I haven't had a smoke since." That was 40 years ago.

Tales of the body-snatchers who used to provide corpses for the dissecting room flowed from Mr. Perry like an animated Dickens. He was acquainted with one of the gentry. "He was a rascal," laughed Mr. Perry, "but not a bad fellow." The cemeteries were then on what is now Dominion square, and the present Cathedral street was then Cemetery street. Armed men would take turns in guarding the graves but the body-snatcher frequently made a haul. "People were so fearful of bodies being removed that sometimes they would surround the coffin with boiler plate."

So the talk revolved about old days, old houses, old gardens, old taverns and old people. It was mentioned that Mr. Perry's mother died at 97, and his great-grandmother at 103, and as the newspaperman rose to take his leave Mr. Perry remarked "I am really more active, I believe I am growing younger."

FLAMES BROKE OUT IN CLIPPINGS BALE

Fire in Union Wool Stock Co. Premises on Vitre Street West Was Controlled

Fire of undetermined origin broke out yesterday afternoon at 4.27 in the premises occupied by the Union Wool Stock Company, dealers in tailors' clippings and rags, 37 Vitre street west. The blaze, which started in some stacked bales of cotton clippings on the second floor of the three-storey brick building, was spreading to the sorting room on the third level, but firemen under District Chief Doolan had it under control within half an hour. Most of the damage is due to water and is partly covered by \$4,500 insurance.

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The Perrys were skilled in working in metals, and set up their shop in Fortification lane; pumps, and especially fire pumps, being a specialty. One example of their work may be seen today at the entrance to the grounds of the Protestant Hospital for the Insane at Verdun. These gates in cast and wrought iron at one time guarded the entrance to the property of the late, Sir Hugh Allan.

As an apprentice Mr. Perry was paid the impressive sum of sixpence a week, being bound for seven years and commencing work every morning at seven o'clock. When out of his time and accepted as a journeyman, he received a dollar a day. "But things were different then. You could go to St. Ann's market and buy fine steak for three pence a pound and eggs were ten cents a dozen," said Mr. Perry.

St. Ann's market stood on what is now Youville square, and was demolished some years ago.

LORD ELGIN PELTED.

Eggs must have been cheap in those days because Mr. Perry remembers seeing Lord Elgin pelted with them as the latter drove along the streets. He also recalled that in the cavalry escort provided for the Governor at that time Captain Filgate was one of the members.

But it was the old volunteer fire brigade that stirred Mr. Perry's enthusiasm. "My, we used to have lots of fun. There's nothing like it today," said he. "The companies had names. There was The Protector, The Montreal, The Neptune, The Voltigeur, The Hero, The Queen and The Union. There were about 50 men to a crew, and it was considered a big privilege to be admitted. You were balloted for, and we were all so proud of our red shirts and uniform."

It appears that it was the custom to commandeer horses to draw the engine, physicians' horses alone being exempt. "I remember one day we took the ashman's horse and just as we swung around Victoria square where Greenshields building is now, the horse dropped dead."

The ashman followed a dignified occupation in those days. The peo-

ple used to play the big fiddle in the orchestra, and I sometimes went there to turn the music." Mr. Perry declared that he never saw a lacrosse game or a hockey match. "Sometimes we played shinny on the Champ de Mars."

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S. Issenman, joint owner of the Union Wool Stock Company with N. Rohr, was occupied with his auditor in the office on the second floor, when the latter informed him that he saw flames springing from a bale of clippings about 40 feet from the door of the office and three feet from the wall. Together with his son and the auditor he made a futile attempt to quench the blaze with babcocks, but, seeing that these efforts were useless, young Issenman turned in the alarm. Meanwhile the eighteen girls who worked in the sorting room on the third floor had been conducted from the building without undue excitement or mishap.

No reason for the outbreak can be adduced by firemen or members of the Union Wool Stock Company. Mr. Issenman states that no one had been among the bales of clippings on the second floor since Friday last, and no smoking was allowed in that part of the building. It was suggested that it may have been caused by rats concealed under the bales of clippings and dragging about matches or other inflammable objects. Mr. Issenman believed his insurance will fall considerably short of covering his loss. Although tarpaulins were spread on the merchandise in the shipping room on the ground floor, a quantity of water penetrated.

The company will be able to resume operations today.

Saskatchewan Rural Schools

Regina, March 7.—The advisability of providing for the establishment of the rural municipality as the unit of administration for rural schools in the province is to be investigated by the education committee of the Saskatchewan Assembly, it was decided upon by the Legislature yesterday.

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SILK IN BAGGAGE HELD BY CUSTOMS

Trunk Containing Material Valued at \$3,000 Sent to Ottawa for Inspection

MUCH SMUGGLING DONE

High Duties and Sales Tax Make Adventure Very Attractive to Those in Contraband Trade

Silk in bolts packed in a trunk which had travelled as baggage in bond has been "detained" by officers of the Preventive Service and forwarded to Ottawa for investigation. It was stated that the value of the material contained in the trunk would range between \$2,000 and \$3,000. The trunk reached Windsor street station of the Canadian Pacific Railway. There it attracted attention of the Customs officers and in time was inspected by officers of the Preventive Service, whose business it is to guard against infractions of the Customs Act. The last action was to send the trunk to the capital.

For some time past the Customs service has been busily engaged in a hunt for a set of men engaged in smuggling silk across the Canadian border. The high rate of duty has made this an attractive adventure. Silk manufactured in the United States and valued at about \$2.25 a yard has come across the line in large quantities and the competition of this contraband has made itself felt in the shops who have purchased their goods in a legitimate manner and paid the Customs impost. The duty on silk coming from the United States is at the rate of 37 1/2 per cent on the invoice value of the goods. To that is added the sales tax of six per cent on the duty-paid value, making a total impost of about 45 per cent, or, approximately \$1 per yard. If the smuggler can successfully evade payment of the duty and the tax he has a nice margin on which to work when offering the material for sale.

DRIVEN ACROSS LINE.

It is probable that very little of this silk reaches Canada by means of trunks despatched as baggage, as the probabilities of passing the Customs officers are indeed slim. It is said that the bulk of the material

which reaches this country by the underground route, is placed in motors or horse-drawn vehicles and sent across the line by the many roads. It has even been suggested that some of those engaged in "rum-running" make it a complete business by smuggling silk into Canada on their way into the country to obtain supplies of good Scotch and rye whiskey to carry back to the thirsty inhabitants of New York state. Here is material for an up-to-date smuggling story by a present-day Robert Louis Stevenson.

In the meantime the Preventive service finds nothing romantic in the matter and the officers have a busy time watching the numerous points of entry through which the silk smugglers may try to penetrate the Customs defences.

Montrealer Was Fined

Ottawa, March 7.—Marion Hermond, of Montreal, was fined \$400 and costs or three months in jail, on pleading guilty in the county police

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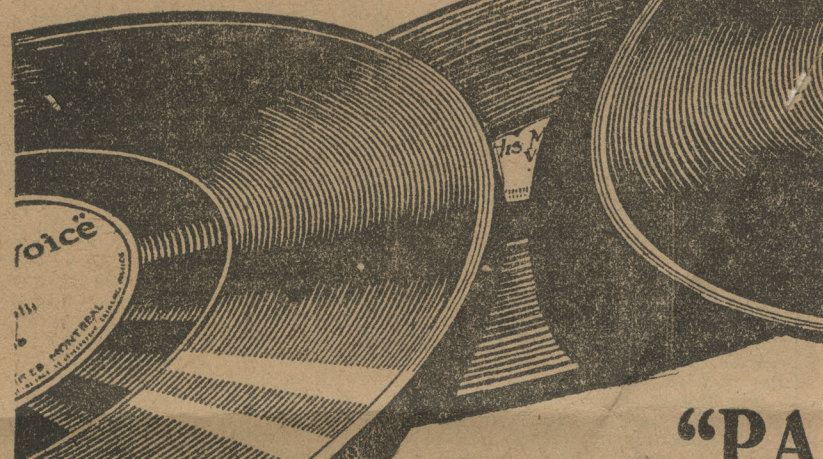
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AMBITIOUS PLANS CAME TO NAUGHT

Simon McTavish's Monument and Tomb Neglected and Memory Obscured

RESTORATION IS URGED

S. M. Baylis Tells St. James Literary Society of Pion- eer Merchant Prince's Career

At the conclusion of the discussion which followed Mr. S. M. Baylis' reading of a paper on "Simon McTavish: Merchant, Fur Trader, Adventurer Unafraid," before the St. James Literary Society last night, a resolution moved by Mr. J. A. Ewing, K.C., was carried unanimously. It called the attention of the Historical Sites Commission of the province to the neglected state of the McTavish monument and tomb on the mountainside, and urged that steps be taken for its repair and permanent maintenance as a memorial to one of Montreal's most distinguished citizens of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Mr. Baylis' paper gave evidence of painstaking research, embodying as it did much hitherto unpublished documentary and pictorial material of historical importance which threw considerable light not only upon the immediate subject, but upon the beginnings of the commercial development of Montreal. Despite the rise of Simon McTavish from obscurity to great wealth and a commanding position in the metropolis of Canada, said Mr. Baylis, little was known about him except the main facts of his life, and these were available only after persistent inquiry. Born in Scotland in 1750, McTavish came as a youth to Montreal, then a walled city of some 9,000 inhabitants, bounded approximately by the present McGill street, Fortification lane, Place Viger, and the river. The trade of the day was largely controlled by a coterie of British merchants, who laid the foundation of Montreal's commercial supremacy, and McTavish, in partnership with Joseph Frobisher, joined their number and became a power in the community. After establishing themselves, the partners took the lead in forming the North-West Company to compete with the Hudson Bay Company in the fur trade, a daring venture in view of the almost despotic power enjoyed by the older company.

MANY MIXED MARRIAGES.

Mixed marriages were common in those days, and McTavish followed the example of many of his business associates by wedding a French-Canadian girl, he being 43 years old at the time, while she was still a minor. His was one of twenty or thirty of such mixed marriages performed by the Anglican clergymen of the period, and his four children were baptized in the Anglican Church, where he maintained a pew, at the same time renting one for his wife in the French Catholic church. On his marriage he leased as a town residence a building occupying the site now known as Nos. 23, 25 and 27 St. John street, then the fashionable residential district of the city, this building being now incorporated in business premises. The rental was £130 per year but soon after he purchased it for £1,650, Halifax currency.

McTavish had meanwhile secured possession of a farm extending from the crest of the mountain to Dorchester street, its eastern boundary being the present McTavish street, this farm being paralleled to the east by the McGill farm, now occupied in part by McGill Univer-

sity. He began the erection of what was for that day a palatial structure, to be used as a summer residence, situated south of the present Pine avenue, between Peel and McTavish streets. This house, a farmhouse on the same property, and "Burnside," James McGill's summer residence, were the only structures between the mountain and the city walls. With a frontage of 120 feet and so large that it contained 100 or more windows, the McTavish house was an imposing mansion, worthy to be a seat for the family which it was evidently the builder's dream to found, but his ambitious plans were brought to nothing by his premature death in 1804 at the age of 54. The unfinished mansion was never completed, but gradually fell to ruins and was finally demolished and the materials used for other buildings. Before this happened, however, many weird stories of supernatural occurrences grew up about it, and it was known as "the haunted house."

McTavish in his will made ample provision for his widow, his children, his two nephews in Montreal, relatives in Scotland and elsewhere, various friends and religious institutions, and so that no worthy cause should be overlooked, he left an additional £1,000 to be distributed at the discretion of the trustees. The value of the estate was £125,000, an immense sum in those days. Part of his property was entailed, to be inherited in the male line. A provision in the will that no distribution to beneficiaries above a nominal sum was to be made for seven years brought about a suit which, started in 1811, tied up the estate and was not finally disposed of until 1839. The widow married an English officer in 1808, while all four children died in England before reaching the age of 25 years, and they are buried in Chiswick Church, England.

MONUMENT IS DECAYING.

While building a mansion for the living, McTavish also built a tomb for the dead farther up the mountainside. This tomb is now presumably covered with a rough cairn, supposedly by orders of one of the executors to prevent spoliation. It is not definitely known whether McTavish was interred there, but it is presumed that he was, and there are hints in existent documents of several other interments. Soon after the death of McTavish, the neglected monument which still stands a little north of the supposed site of the tomb was erected by two nephews, Duncan and William McGillivray.

Following the death of the direct heirs and the disposition of the estate after the litigation was ended, the McTavish farm came into possession of John McTavish, another nephew, who, leaving Montreal between 1808 and 1816, had married Emily Caton there and was British consul in Baltimore from 1834 to his death in 1852. In 1843 a portion of the farm was sold, and after passing through several hands was bought by the late Sir Hugh Allan as a site for "Ravenscrag." Sir Hugh having built a wall encroaching upon a semi-circular space reserved as an approach to the McTavish tomb, suit was entered against him and in 1848 he was obliged to demolish the wall and surrender the space in dispute. This road allowance is now practically incorporated in Mount Royal Park, although there is no record of the city having formally acquired it, while the last recorded owner of the burying ground, in which stands the tomb and monument, was Emily Caton, widow of John McTavish, her name appearing on a plan of 1861.

Mr. Baylis concluded his exceptionally interesting paper with a strong plea that the monument and tomb be rescued from their neglected and ruinous state, and the decay which threatens them, and the resolution which embodied this plea followed. Mr. Baylis also expressed the hope that anyone having further information throwing light upon the career of Simon McTavish should communicate with him.

Cape Town, South Africa, February 20.—Copious rains have broken the severe drought in the northern district of the Cape province.

as that in question in con- property held in right of ominion may naturalize Asiatic if it pleases; but the does not interfere with ince to make stipulations ds people of certain color not work. The province ds the Chinese. The posi- was not declared, the Judig that the appellants, hav- contrary to the terms of ht to claim a renewal, and of going further. The different footing, Canada's ing one of friendship and as well as of commerce. will not have much effect powers of the Dominion regulation complained of ive of the employment of lumbia to a minor extent. in law which forbids the women by Asiatic business Judicial Committee upheld, restriction was more an ace of public opinion than n, which only Parliament

R. FINANCES.

be a tempest in a teapot earnings of the Canadian Railway Commission re- deficit in 1922 of \$1,596,000, nton contends that instead an operating surplus last y \$3,000,000. The differ- o figures is, doubtless, a ng, in which respect there to be displayed. From t there is satisfaction to betterment of the railway to be reposed that the t year will show a still, alike from reduction in ase in income. It may be ional railway paid its way y, that operating receipts penditure, and if the view ntercolonial by interested ed to the National railway costs the country nothing. e in the fact that an oper- 3,000 in 1920 and of \$11,- urned into a small surplus of public ownership, did whole tale. Unfortunately s still the capital account m involving a formidable n of which is a device of lic ownership.

figures supplied by the the National railway sys- Canada last year \$56,942,- lows: Canadian Northern \$2,910,000, Grand 33,000, and Grand Trunk gures are wholly mislead- the policy of camouflage ized the public accounts of the Intercolonial. Cer- no reduction of the capital nment railways during the nd according to the report e Railways and Canals the Canadian Northern, the e, and the Grand Trunk to \$60,023,000, or three an set forth in the state- k.

as a right to know is the ways, not merely the oper- plus, but the aggregate paid for out of taxation.

that the capital cost of ld not be included in the road was not a commer- e price of Confederation nces, but a similar argu- to the other parts of the The construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific, adian Northern and I ventures will

the Cabinet, P.R. would have been the subject of at least a favorable reference in the intro- duction of the redistribution bill, and might even have found a place in the bill itself.

The action of the House was fairly in accord with the findings of the committee which exam- ined the scheme of proportional representation two years ago. That committee declined to recommend the plan for use in general elec- tions, but it did suggest that the transferable vote might be a good thing in single-member constituencies with more than two candidates in the field. The House has approved of this re- commendation in principle and may or may not go further with it. The effect of the proposed change would be, according to its advocates, to prevent the return of a candidate in a mixed field by a minority vote; the electors would vote first, second and third choice, and so on, and the transfer of the alternative votes would proceed until one or other of the candidates would have a majority. The principle is the same as in the wider scheme of proportional representation with large constituencies return- ing a number of members, but in the single- member ridings some of the practical difficulties which render the general plan objectionable do not arise. The apostles of P.R. will, doubtless, find comfort in the belief that the thin end of the wedge has been introduced and that time and insistence will do the rest. Parliament will do well to discourage that belief.

Practical considerations are thrusting this fad more and more into the background. The British House of Commons, despite the curious complacency of the Lords, has refused to adopt it, and the experience of continental countries where P.R. has been in operation has been un- fortunate. The theory is good enough, but, as pointed out by Mr. Meighen, the advantages of P.R., if any, are purchased at too great a cost. The scheme is formidable because of its com- plexity; the machinery is cumbersome and slow, and the result is minority representation carried so far that legislatures are split up into a multitude of groups, each representing some sectional interest, and government becomes im- possible. Things are bad enough now at Ottawa with only three groups; they would be infinitely worse with half a dozen or a dozen. In a public discussion which took place last week in Toronto upon this question, the statement was made that Portugal has had thirteen govern- ments in less than a year, that France has had nine premiers since the beginning of the war, and that Italy has had similar administrative instability, all under P.R. One of the notable things about this same discussion was that Mr. Gordon Waldron, K.C., a strong supporter of the Drury government, who had been invited to plead the cause of P.R., declared himself unalterably opposed to it. "If I were the Prime Minister," he said, "I would not resort to pro- portional representation, even if my government were condemned to opposition."

The system has been tried in Canada in the municipal elections of some western cities and, to a limited extent, in Manitoba provincial elections. Its operation has been severely criti- cised upon a number of grounds but chiefly because the system is unwieldy, so much so that thousands of voters have abstained from voting and a very imperfect expression of public opinion has, in consequence, been obtained. This has been said of results in Winnipeg and in Vancouver. To extend such a system to all parliamentary elections would be productive of unbounded confusion, the task of unravelling the returns would be practically interminable, and, in the end, no good purpose would be served. The country has gone quite far enough on the road of group government; it should go no further.

SIR THOMAS RODDICK.

The medical profession of Montreal, and of Canada, lost a distinguished member by the death yesterday of Sir Thomas George Roddick. From the day he passed out of McGill, where he had a notable record as a student, he took a foremost place in his profession. He ranked high among the able men who, a generation ago almost, laid the foundations of the high reputa- tions which the Montreal General Hospital in its sphere and McGill as a school of medicine have