CURRENT COMMENT

A New Wood Pulp Policy

A new policy in dealing with our provincial resources in pulp timber was behind the agreement with the Spruce Falls Paper Co., a United States firm, of which F. J. Sensembrenner is president. The company is taking over the Munday & Stewart concession of 1500 square miles, with an additional 24,000 acres in O'Brien township adjoining. A flat rate of 75 cents a cord for all timber cut is to be increased under the new agreement to $1.15 for spruce, and 95 cents for other wood. Sawlog timber must be paid for at current rates. In certain other acres not reserved for settlement along the railway spruce will be cut at $1.60 a cord and other timber at $1.30. All brush must be cleaned up and destroyed in every case. Permission to develop power on the Kapuskasing is another phase of the agreement, 2000 h.p. from a 50-foot head being counted on. This is to supply a pulp mill of 75 tons capacity, which is to be ready in January, 1922, at latest, but is expected much sooner. Of the output, 15 per cent. at least must be supplied to Canadian consumers. The Government intends to lay out a townsite on the concession and keep it in public control. This would seem to be about as much as the Government can do to provide a supply of paper, short of going into the manufacture of paper itself, for the newspapers. If the newspapers could agree to take a pulpwood concession, develop power, and build a mill and make their own paper, this would be another solution, but it is not considered that this plan is feasible until the lion and the bear are prepared to lie down together with the wolf and the lamb.

Canada and the West Indies

Closer relations between the West Indies and the mainland have been inevitable for a generation or more. The purchase from Denmark of the Virgin group by the United States accelerated the realization of this and our slow-going methods, which are content to wait till the perfectly ripe fruit drops off the tree, have delayed till the last prudent moment the conclusion of an agreement between Canada and the British West Indies covering trade operations. Among the measures included are the increase in various instances of the 20 per cent. preference to 50 per cent.; an extension of the free list; a weekly steamship service between the eastern islands and Canada, and a fortnightly service for the western islands, including the Bahamas, British Honduras, and Jamaica. The laying of British owned and controlled cables is also contemplated. Why this strengthening of the imperial ties has been so long delayed it is difficult to understand, as the islands so thoroughly complement Canada in respect of their tropical products, while we in Canada have everything that they require from temperate or frigid zones. This is specially recognized in the case of sugar, in which the preference ranges from 46.080 per 100 lbs. to 96 cents; cocoanuts, free when imported direct; onions, free; grape fruit, a preference of 50 cents. The Islands give Canada a preference of one shilling (25 cents) a bag (196 lbs.) on flour. Spirits and tobacco have special regulations, not more than 50 per cent. of the duties imposed by other countries. The steamer service is not to discriminate against the smaller islands, and the passenger accommodation is to bear a reasonable proportion to the freight. A regular service to the West Indies should increase the popularity of those beautiful islands as a holiday resort. Bermuda, Barbados, Trinidad, British Guiana, outward, and Trinidad, Grenada, St. Vincent, Barbados, Lucia, Dominica, Montserrat, Antigna, Nevis, St. Kitts and Bermuda are to constitute one voyage and a reverse route on the alternate voyage. The result of this agreement should be a very definite expansion of trade between these kindred members of the Empire and Canada.

Great Fairs of the World

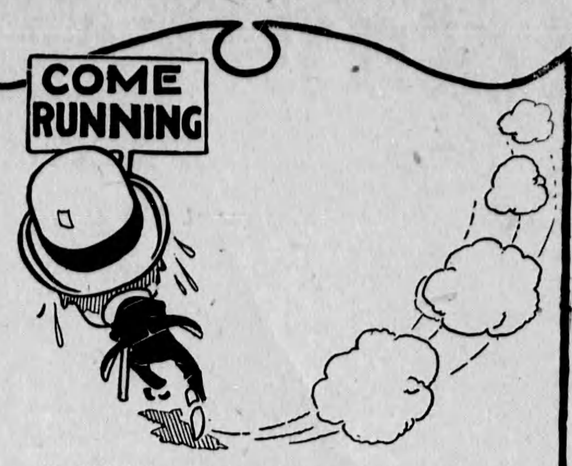
Fairs are among the most ancient of human institutions and long antedate their official recognition by governmental authority. The oldest chartered fair is that of St. Denys at Paris, for which Dagobert, King of the Franks, granted a charter in 642. The great fair of Stourbridge in England, near Cambridge, dates from 207 A.D., but was chartered by King John for the maintenance of a leper hospital. Weyhill fair in Hampshire is the great sheep fair held every 10th October. Horncastle, Lincolnshire, is the great horse fair. Nottingham goose fair is celebrated. Falkirk tryst is one of the largest Scottish fairs, and Ballinasloe is a great Irish fair. Frankfort-on-Main has two fairs, one beginning on Easter Tuesday, the other on Monday nearest September 8, and they continue legally for three weeks, but generally last longer. Leipziz has the three greatest of the German Fairs, and is famous for its display of books at the Eastern fair. The other two are at New Year and Michaelmas. In India the fair at Hurdwar on the upper Ganges is supposed to be the greatest in Asia, but the great fair at Nijni Novgorod on the Volga in Russia is generally supposed to be the greatest in the world, and is held every year in July and August. It only dates from the 17th century, when it was established by the Tsar Michael Fedorovitch. Upwards of 100,000 visitors came from all parts of Asia and Eastern Europe. The biggest annual fair held anywhere is the Canadian National Exhibition held in Toronto, and its record of about a million a year is one of which Canada may well be proud. The special new feature days this year are Victoria Cross and Veterans' Day on Saturday, August 28, the opening day; the Made-in-Canada, Electrical and Hydro Day, Saturday, September 4; and Wednesday, September 8. Imperial Press and Farmers' Day. The fair continues till September 11.

Irish Dominion Home Rule

Conditions in Ireland have not improved and the Government remedy of a new Coercion Act is worse than none at all. The attempt on the part of England to apply law or reason to a sentimental situation is akin to that of an aged husband trying to compel a very young wife, wedded against her will, to carry out his wishes. The experience of centuries should have convinced everyone by this time that Ireland cannot be coerced. An effort is being made to show that the Sinn Fein movement is entirely religious, and such episodes as the visit of Archbishop Mannix are used to establish a view which has some appearance of truth, but is mainly erroneous. Many of the most influential Sinn Feiners are Protestants, just as Wolf Tone, Smith O'Brien, Charles S. Parnell and other Irish Home Rulers were Protestants. The report that Lord Pirrie, the great Belfast shipbuilder, who is a sincere Home Ruler, was the bearer of proposals of peace from Arthur Griffiths, the Sinn Fein leader, to the British Government, indicates the attitude of many prominent Irishmen. Opposition to Home Rule in Ireland has been chiefly fostered in England, and the deputation headed by Sir Stanley Harrington, Commissioner of Education in Ireland, and Professor Wilbraham, Fitzjohn Trench of Trinity College, Dublin, is accepted as evidence of this view. This deputation urged the adoption of Dominion Home Rule for Ireland on Premier Lloyd George, so that Ireland would be on the same footing as Canada. Lord Pirrie's proposal was that "provided the independent status of Ireland is recognized Irishmen will be prepared to furnish international guarantees, properly incorporated in a peace treaty, to safeguard the strategic interests of the British Empire." Irishmen know very well that they could not have the same freedom under any other flag, not even the Stars and Stripes, that they enjoy or might enjoy under the Union Jack. An Ireland under the Green Ensign with the Union Jack in the corner would have been possible a generation ago, but events have embittered and aggravated the situation until only the most careful negotiation will avoid civil war, the more especially as many on both sides of the dispute do not wish to avoid it.

Against the Double Standard

Miss Violet Trench, who is a niece of Sir Henry Wilson, Chief of the Imperial Staff, and as Frederick Palmer says, the brainiest man in the British Army, made a distinct impression on her own account on her recent visit to Toronto. In several public addresses she gave details concerning the origin and development of the movement which has crystallized in England in the National Council for the Prevention of Venereal Diseases, which is now duplicated in some respects in Canada by a Dominion Society with provincial and municipal affiliations. The movement in England began before the war, forced on by the horrifying conditions that were everywhere becoming apparent. It was thought when war was declared that what was being done would have to be stopped, but in a few weeks it was found to be more necessary than ever that it should be prosecuted with redoubled energy. Since then the social workers everywhere have awakened to the urgency of the conditions and philanthropic leaders of every description have taken up or supported the work. Having been so long an absolutely unmentioned subject, great prejudice had, of course, to be encountered, but the tact and delicacy of speakers like Miss Trench overcome the fears and scruples of the most biased. While recognizing the necessity for explicit instruction and medical advice for those suffering from these social diseases, Miss Trench is firmly convinced of the danger of what she called "psychic shock" to the innocent and uninformed among young persons. Parents were the proper persons in instruct children, and where they failed only the best teachers should be employed. It was not merely the hard, cold facts of science that had to be imparted, but young people had to be taught that they were immortal souls using a body which should be kept pure as the temple of their worship, and sacred to the great functions of parenthood. She advocated the training of girls from this point of view so as to make them better citizens, better wives and mothers. There must be no double standard for men and women, but equal responsibility in the preservation of purity. Girls are not merely to preserve their own honor, but to help to inspire their young men friends to the highest ideals also.



The BIGGEST consideration with the average country shopper is the matter of PRICE.

PRICES asked for merchandise in this up-and-doing town and community of ours will be found to compare MOST FAVORABLY with prices anywhere—but there is an added incentive for trading here—

Our merchants rarely CUT prices, because they are not in the habit of INFLATING them.

They look for their profits along far-sighted LINES—through holding their customers on QUALITY and good honest SERVICE.

The SPIRIT of this town of ours is to PLAY FAIR and foster FRIENDLY FEELING.

Your dollar will GO FARTHER here. Make the TEST and see for yourself. You'll be dealing with a body of business men who will treat you in a manner that will make you FEEL LIKE COMING AGAIN.

They'll make your SHOPPING TRIPS to our town easy on the POCKETBOOK—and PLEASANT FOR YOU.

So hook up or crank up and COME ON IN—to this town of ours—the natural HUB of this region.

THE BRAINBOX

CONDUCTED BY E. GUNN RAMSAY.

Registered According to the Copyright Act,

Have you a Safety League in your town? Much good work has been done through this medium. The warning phrases posted up in offices, street cars and busy thoroughfares have helped to safeguard human life.

"Stop! Look! and listen." are pretty familiar words to us as we climb on and off a moving vehicle.

This motto of the Saftey League might very well be more universally adopted by everyone in the world today. Might more universally be addopted by everyone at all times and in all places. For it is a motto which is applicable, not only to the days when we move among traffic but most particularly to the days when we THINK we do not move. This old world to-day is tearing along at such a terrific pace that the trouble with most of us is, we do not Stop song enough to even Look. If we did this more often we would change or adapt the motto to something like this:—

"Stop! Look!—and Learn."

The man who stops long enough to take a good look at life and at himself, the man who periodically pulls up in his gait to analyze and scrutinize his every thought and action WILL LEARN and to the man who sets out in this way to learn for himself, to know himself, to know his world, to know his work, to study his place in the world, his duty in that work and towards his fellow creatures, such knowledge is power, infinite power. Such a man can face the world unafraid, unashamed. The world indeed is his. What are riches without knowledge? What is position where this is lacking? You may possess half the wealth of the world, yet if you have not learning—learning, I mean not in the academic sense, but in the larger, brader meaning which includes education, insight and common sense—then indeed for all your riches you may be but a poor fool and the world better without you.

The old saying that love of money is the root of all evil has often been turned by some misfortunate souls into this, "Lack of money is the root of most evil." There is a great deal of truth in the latter, but there is the more truth when one analyses facts down to bed-rock in this, that money without knowledge may often prove a curse and a stumbling block.

How often does one hear the sad expression "If only I had known before." Knowledge withheld is riches buried, therefore, "Stop! Look — and Learn."

How many would give all they possessed to-day to undo the thing of yesterday. The work you are doing to-day you will face in its results in the future. Yesterday can not come back to you, but its results can follow you. How do you stand?

ANALYSE YOUR ACTIONS.

Did you ever try self-analysis? Try this experiment one day when you have made time to Stop. Take a large sheet of paper and write upon it the brief history of your working life from the time you left school until the present day, marking opposite each step in or out of position the MOTIVE which you had in mind. Mark clearly certain positions, all the steps which have led to your present position, to that which you now hold. Put down the good and the bad, the selfish and unselfish. Having them down in black and white will help you a great deal to realize the men or women you are today, and as you are to-day so you will continue to be if left unchecked. Who is going to do the checking up for you? Read over your account slowly and carefully and see if you cannot find some holes in the fence which, had you adapted the motto of the Safety League ere this and Stopped to Look, you could have managed to make a bigger man of yourself than you are today.

The World needs more than anything else thinking people, people who know. If you would be one "Stop! Look!—

THE GREATEST PANIC.

New Reporter—What was the worst financial panic you ever went through, Mr. Moneybags?

Mr. Moneybags—Let me see! Coming home one night in the street car somebody dropped a nickel and seven women claimed it.

THERE ARE OTHERS.

Redd—Is that your dog growling so?

Greene—It sure is.

"What's he growling about?"

"Because meat is so high."

DOUBTFUL SUCCESS.

Amateur Singer—I was singing at the prison the other evening, at a concert.

Friend—Great success, I suppose?

Amateur Singer—Well, I'm not sure about that, for afterwards the prisoners complained to the governor that my singing was not in their sentence!

LOST FLESH.

"Well, Brown, how ill you look! What's the matter?"

"Oh, nothing much; losing weight, that's all. Lost a hundred and thirty pounds of flesh in one day."

"Impossible!"

"Fact, I assure you. My wife eloped with the next door neighbor!"

A MAIDEN'S PRAYER.

Little Lucy's father had denied her something she considered her just privilege. That night she intoned loudly: "Please, God, don't give my father any more children. He doesn't know how to treat those he's got now."

"I Read an Advertisement the Other Day--"

How many times have you heard those seven words spoken in the course of ordinary conversation!

The speaker then goes on to tell about a new invention to lighten housework--or a new table product-- or a new farm implement-- or a new idea in clothing--

Always something new!

Advertisements are an endless source of information--much of it directly interesting and important to you.

Read the advertisements. They tell you what is going on in the world. They tell you how you can live better. They tell you how you can live more economically.

Read the advertisements as you do the news columns

A Little Bit of Everything

REVOLT IN MATTERS SARTORIAL.

If the overall revolt really makes headway it will be the first modern instance of man's rebellion against his tailor. Women, however, have in several instances revolted against fashionable extravagance and the demands of dressmakers. At the time of the Napoleonic wars Queen Charlotte and her daughters set the fashion of embroidering their own dress for the "drawing-rooms." The Queen made dresses from stuffs maunfactured in her own country, and there was for a time a fashion for "stuff balls," which may be taken as analagous to the "overall" entertainments of the moment. There was a later period when "calico" balls were a rage for a time.

CHINESE ADOPTING ENGLISH.

An explorer who recently returned from China, states that wherever he went he discovered that the natives were beginning to regard English people with greater favor than was usual in the past. In chinese schools for some years past the Arabic numerals have been in use. The figures 0, 1, 2, 3 ,4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 are immitely easier to learn than the cumbersome Chinese figures and as both are taught in the schools, it stands to reason that the young John Chinamen are going to favor the easier method. The Braille system is in use in China for the blind, who owing to the prevalence of leprosy, are common in that country.

SPEEDING UP THE OSTRICH.

The ostrich has come to the notice of the efficiency experts, who believe that South African ostrich farmers can increase the bird's output of quill plumes by 25 per cent. The number of plumes from each wing averages thirty-six and occasionally runs as high as forty-two in the South African species and thirty-nine in the North African. The latter is the larger bird. The Grootfontein School of Agriculture is trying by proper mating to breed a race of forty-two plume birds. There are now about 1,000,000 birds on the African ostrich farms and the value of their exported feathers is about $15,000,000.

ORIGIN OF COIN NAMES.

When we read that sterling has fallen in exchange value who knows the origin of the term? Yet it is traced to the inhabitants of the Hansa towns, known as Esterlings, who were invited by King John of England to come to England and reform the currency, which had become very corrupt. From that date good English was known as sterling. The word money was derived from Moneta, one of the surnames of Juno, in whose temple the Romans first made coins. The word mint is supposed to be a contraction of the word Moneta through the Anglo-Saxon "mynet." The dollar has a German origin, having been the thaler, or more fully Joachim's thaler, the silver coin struck out of the silver found in the that or valley of St. Joachim, France. This was extremely pure and being coined into ounces gave the real basis of the silver dollar, which should weigh an ounce. The cent meant a hundredth, the French word for hundred, and the appopriate name for the coin, which is one-hundredth of a dollar. The quarter is easy for it is one-fourth of the dollar.

A LESSON IN DIETETICS

What bread needs to make it a perfect food—a perfect food is that which contains protein, carbohydrates, and fat in certain definite proportions—is something in fat in it. Hence bread "and butter," and bread "and dripping," and bread "and cheese." Pork and beans pair quite properly, because the beans supply the absent protein. When you eat beef and potatoes, or roast beef and Yorkshire-pudding, the pairing makes a perfect food. The pairing of condiments is not a matter of taste alone. Cabbage is peppered because it was discovered that pepper discounted the excessive action of greenstuff on the bowels. Mustard goes with beef, but not with mutton, because mutton is much more easily digested than beef, and mustard is a first-class digester.

BUILDING HOUSES IN CHINA.

All lumber for building in China is bought in the log, says H. K. Richardson, writing in "Asia." As soon as the logs begin to arrive the contractor tackles them with the sawyers. These men are paid piece rates which average about three cash or one-tenth of a cent per square foot of surface sawed. They average a better wage than a carpenter, getting about ten cents a day, as compared with 8 cents a day for the carpenter. At this rate they cheaper than any steam sawmill that can operate in China. In fact the only reason a saw mill can operate in China at all is because it can produce quickly and with more even thickness than the native sawyers. The necessary doors, frames and window sashes are all made by hand. Three Chinese carpenters at 8 cents a day with their native tools can accomplish about the same work done by one Canadian carpenter with all equipment. The work is well done if well supervised. In comparison, I should say that about five Chinese carpenters at 8 cents a day each are necessary to do the work of a Canadian carpenter who receives $6 a day and has all his wood prepared for him.

FLIES AFFECT MILK SUPPLY.

It is thought that in countries where flies, mosquitoes, and other insects are numerous, they may actually cause considerable loss to dairy farmers. One observant dairyman, who found his cows were so pestered by flies that they could'nt eat their fill, built a fly-trap, and as a result, he declares, got 11 gallons more milk a day from his 20 cows. He hung curtains across the middle of a shed through which the cows were driven. As they passed between the curtains the flys were brushed off by them. Then the doors were closed, and the flies clustered at a window, were shot to death by fly powder. The cows quickly learned to connect the shed with relief from flies, and then they went through it without any driving.

FISH AND THE ANCIENTS.

The ancient Romans thought very highly of fish, and at big banquets brilliant fish were shown to the guests, alive, as a relish, then were served cooked after the soup. Apicus offered a prize to any culinery artist who would invent a new marinade compounded of livers of the red mullet. Lucullus had a canal cut through a mountain so that fish might be transported more easily to the ponds in his gardens near Naples. Hortensius wept over the death of a pet turbot while the daughter of Drusus adorned a favorite fish with a collar of gold.

BIRDS THAT BURROW.

Persons are not accustomed to think of birds as burrowing animals, but the puffin answers to that description. It is a chunky little fowl, less than a foot high, with a large and powerful beak. For a home it scratches a hole in the ground sometimes as much as four feet deep. To capture a puffin one must go digging. It is rather a job; and, inasmuch as the bird bites and claws fiercely, one is likely to suffer in the process. Thus the creature has maintained its numbers on many a lonely rockery, where other species of wild fowl have been killed off and exterminated.

PAPER FROM A NEW SOURCE.

The ashinga plant which grows profusely in the soft beds of mud that line so many of Brazil's sluggish rivers is now known as the raw material from which cellulose is obtained for the manufacture of linen paper. Recent experiments show that the fibres may be transformed chemically into an artificial cotton fibre, of structure even superior to that of the genuine article. One mill is now busy with this new work, while efforts are being made to adapt abandoned sugar mills to the process.

LIONS UP-TO-DATE.

"The lion of the hour" or the "lion of a season" is a person being much sought after and not necessarily one noted for courage, as the term was generally used historically. The only case in England's annals is the well-known one of "Richard Coeur de Lion," a splendid equestrian statue to whom stands opposite the House of Lords at Westminster. Scotland also has her lion king, William the Lion, who was a contemporary of the Lion Heart. But he was not called by that name on account of his courage, like his brother of England, but simply because he chose a red lion, rampant, for his cognizance, a symbol which still survives in the arms of Scotland. There seems to have been rather an epidemic of "lions" just about that time, for one Louis the Lion was a boy of twelve when our Richard was slain. The French king was not notable for pluck, but the astrologers said he was born under the sign of Leo, and that was quite enough to give him the leonine appelation, Then Henry the Lion Duke of Bavaria and Saxony, married Richard's sister Matilda, so as was fitting, a lion and a lioness mated. Henry seems to have deserved the title, as he was both brave and arrogant.

WATCHES CLEANED WITH BREAD.

Perhaps the most novel use to which bread is put may be seen in some of the great watch factories, where more than 40 loaves of fresh bread are, or were before the war, used each day. From earliest times in the history of watchmaking it has been the custom to reduce fresh bread to the form of dough. This dough is used for removing oil and chips that naturally adhere in the course of manufacture to pieces as small as the part of a watch. There are many parts of a watch, by the way, that are so small as to be barely visable to the naked eye. The oil is absorbed by this dough, and the chips stick to it, and there is no other known substance which can be used as a wiper without leaving some of its particles attached to the thing wiped. This accounts for the continued use of bread dough in the watchmaking industry.

MIRACULOU S BELL.

A quaint-looking bell is known as the Miraculous Bell of St. Paul and is reported to be greatly venerated by the faithful folk of the Isle of Batz, France, to which spot is is reported to have been conveyed from England by a fish in the sixth century!

ANTIQUE GRAIN WILL NOT GROW.

The stories about the germination of wheat and other cereals, found wrapped with ancient Egyptian mummies, are declared to be fictitious by the United States Department of Agriculture. French tests show that grain more than a few years old will not germinate. German tests indicate that when seeds are kept under ideal conditions, wheat, barley, and oats may germinate up to eight or ten years, but few, if any, grains are alive after twenty years.

LAUNCHING A SHIP IN JAPAN.

When a ship is launched in Japan, the ceremonies are began with a religious service. Then the ship is released in the usual way, but instead of cracking a bottle of champagne across her stem, great quantities of cut flowers, usually chrysanthemums and the sponsor's bouquet and a number of live pigeons are scattered from a decorated globe suspended over the launching platform, the sponsor pulling a cord. The flowers fall about the launching party as the freed birds circle overhead.