THE BIG SEAPORTS OF THE DOMINION

EACH HAS ITS PECULIAR PLACE IN OUR ECONOMICS.

Montreal Ranks Second on American Continent; Vancouver Leads as Grain Exporter.

The post-war era in Canada has been featured by a very gratifying expansion in the trade carried on by the Dominion with foreign countries, the value of the total volume of trade transacted having increased in the decade between 1914 and 1924 by $822,175,439, or more than seventy per cent. With this development, and the greater bulk of trade coming to and leaving from Canadian seaports, has come a corresponding rise in the prestige of those oceanic outlets of the Dominion, and most of the ports of Canada have undergone somewhat of a revolution and occupy to-day a much more important place in world consideration.

Canada has five principal seaports, Montreal, Quebec, St. John, Halifax, and Vancouver. Each of these has its peculiar place in Canadian economics. Montreal and Quebec, being situated on the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, and reducing the rail haul from the great producing interior, are the great summer Atlantic ports whence the greater part of Canadian export trade leaves between May and November and most of the important trade is received. St. John and Halifax are the winter ports whose greatest activity commences when frost has gripped the St. Lawrence river. Vancouver is the great Pacific outlet and inlet for the increasing trade which is being carried on with the countries of the Antipodes and Orient.

Great Increase in Traffic.

The total volume of Canadian trade transacted by these five ports in the past fiscal year amounted to $690,648,168, or approximately 35 per cent. of Canada's total trade for that year. Montreal is easily Canada's first port with a total trade in the past year amounting to $380,984,136, of which imports accounted for $191,867,086 and exports $189,116,050. Vancouver is the second port in importance, having had a total trade of $152,407,534, of which $53,808,630 was import value and $98,598,904 that of export. St. John ranks third with a total trade value of $77,562,805, $20,622,689 being import and $56,940,116 export trade. Total value of trade at Halifax was $47,521,132, being made up of $17,051,617 representing imports and $30,469,515 exports. The total trade handled at Quebec had a value of $32,172,561, of which $16,240,993 was import and $15,931,568 export.

The great increase in the traffic carried on by Canadian ports may be realized in a comparison with the figures of the year 1914. In this ten-year period the total trade of these five ports has increased by some 86 per cent. It is gratifying to note that this increment has been to the greatest extent built up by increasing export trade, the increment in this case in the period amounting to 116 per cent. This is very clearly illustrated in the case of Quebec and Vancouver. Quebec, which formerly was doing a vastly greater import than export trade, has now drastically reversed the situation. In 1914 the exports from the Port of Vancouver were less than half the value of imports; in the past year Vancouver's export trade had nearly double the value of the import.

Take Places as World Ports.

That the trade of these ports is increasing at the present time at a remarkable rate, whilst naturally suggested in trade figures, is borne out by the value of business handled at these ports in the past few years. Taking the years 1922, 1923 and 1924, Montreal's imports have been $167,813,273, $173,938,311, and $191,867,086, and exports $158,518,544, $17,898,537, and $189,116,050 respectively. Substantial increases in import and export trade are recorded in the cases of Quebec, Halifax, and St. John. The annual increments in the case of Vancouver are outstanding, imports in the three years being $48,235,845, $46,965,214, and $53,808,630, and exports $42,367,051, $61,718,505(and $98,598,904.

In the strides they have taken since the conclusion of the war with the development of Canadian trade, the status of the ports of the Dominion has been in the continuous ascendant, and from having almost purely local standings some of them have come to take their places with the oldest and longest established seaports of the world. Added to this prestige are various developments under way at the present time or presaged which augur for them yet greater international importance.

Montreal, to-day, for instance, has become the fifth among the great seaports of the world, ranking after New York, London, Liverpool, and Hamburg, or taking a place after only one port on the American continent. Vancouver has rapidly overtaken other ports on the Pacific coast, until in tonnage handled it is exceeded by two only of them, and leads the entire coast as an exporter of grain. At both these ports developments are under way for a vastly greater traffic presaged, calculated to further enhance the prestige of Canada's great ports in the East and West.

A Little Green Lane.

A little green lane goes through my mind,
A lane that my heart runs back to find;
A lane here the air is cool as dew,
And the ferns are high and the rocks are few,
And every branch of the tallest tree
Would whisper a fairy tale to me,
And every bird had a golden note
In the song that came from his crimson throat,
And life had a hundred gifts to give,
And I had a hundred years to live.

A little green lane goes through my mind,
A lane that my heart goes back to find—
My heart—for never my feet will go
To walk that lane that I used to know,
For maybe my eyes would fail to see
The vision that memory holds for me,
And I'd miss the fairy tales I heard
And the song of the crimson-throated bird,
So I'll keep the dear unbroken spell
Of the little green lane I love so well.

—Nan Terrell Reed.

About Three Cheers.

Cheers are demonstrations of enthusiasm. Often they are safety valves of abounding spirits. College men and women use them to give vent to their pleasure when one of their football heroes makes a good gain. They use them also to give enthusiasm and enouragement to their team when it is working against odds.

The population uses cheers to encourage the going soldier and to show appreciation to the returned war hero. Cheers are also used in politics.

Cheers are crowd demonstrations. Sometimes they come spontaneously from the crowd, but sometimes they are the intense personal enthusiasm of a few who have the ability to get a crowd to cheer. If the cheers come from the crowd it is well; if they come from the few to the crowd it is not so well. It is cheerful to cheer, but it is sane to sometimes look behind the cheers, for we have known some things which were chiefly made up of three cheers.

Which Run Longer Without Oil.

"If you want machines to run you've got to oil 'em."

"That's true of all except national political machines."

Monsters of the Wild.

In the unknown Arctic region between the Colville and Porcupine Rivers, where Dr. Philip B. Smith has led a party of the United Etates Geological Survey on a perilous mission of exploration, it is rumored that there are weird animals of immense size.

These strange tales have been spread amongst the fur traders and gold hunters by the native Eskimos and Indians regarding the territory which appears on the maps largely as a blank space.

The Smith party has gone to investigate and chart this region.

Reports have come from the Polar basin that great lakes of oil were to be found in this wilderness, but the tales of the Eskimos and Indians are ever stranger than these.

They say that the land is haunted by weird beasts, some of such great size that they leave tracks as large as dinner plates. It is stated that no Indian can be persuaded to penetrate this region even though tempted by the promise of abundant fur.

Some of the more credulous of the white men, linking these tales with their scientific reading, contend that there may still lurk in the far north remnants of the mastodon herds that have left their bones and ivory in almost every stream bordering the lower Yukon River.

A Wonderful Insect Collection.

The British Museum possesses by far the most comprehensive insect collection in the world. It has not until quite recently been possible to make an exact catalogue of all items, but after three years' work one has now been completed and published.

According to this, the collection contains 1,118,000 insects. There are 325,767 butterflies of 40,210 different kinds, 398,000 beetles of 67,300 different kinds. Of bees, wasps, and winged ants there are 19,608 kinds. Of bugs, flies, gnats, and mosquitoes there are 7,267 species represented; of grasshopper types 3,900, and of plant lice 21 species in 140 items.

Private donors have done most to swell the collection. One alone gave 230,000 insects, another 30,000, while one entire collection of butterflies which was presented consisted of 31,130 specimens.

Hatching Teeth.

"How is your baby sister, Billy?" asked a neighbor, who was making a call.

"Oh, she's only fairly well, thanks," replied Billy; "she's just hatching her teeth."

—AND THE WORST IS YET TO COME

Trade With Germany.

One of the most outstanding features of Canadian trade in the past fiscal year as undoubtedly the remarkable growth in the export trade Canada conducted with Germany, this having increased in the twelve months by over sixty per cent. over the fiscal year 1923, and by over 200 per cent. as compared with the figures of the year previous to that. Not only has the volume of total trade transacted with Germany now reached a point where it surpasses anything reached in the pre-war years, but the division of trade has drastically altered. Whereas prior to 1914 Canada was a heavy importer from Germny and exported in relatively small quantity, Canada is now importing on a comparatively small scale, while the volume of her exports are annually increasing at a very substantial rate.

In the three fiscal years 1922, 1923 and 1924, Canada's imports have been from Germany $2,041,016, $2,568,409 and $5,379,935 respectively. The principal items of import in the past year come under the headings of chemicals and allied products, non-metallic minerals and non-ferrous metals, the former amounting to a million dollars and the two latter to approximately half a million each. The remargable manner in which import trade with Germany has been cut is seen in a comparison with the import figures of 1914, which were $14,686,069, or 1910, when they were $7,958,264.

Canadian export trade to Germany in the past three fiscal years has been $4,509,547, $9,950,877 and $16,153,650 respectively. The export trade of the past year was made up of agricultural and vegetable products $12,722,430; animals and products $1,561,087; fibres textiles and products $16,042; wood, wood products and paper $7,693; iron and products $225,913; non-ferrous metals $947,297; non-metallic minerals $633,699! chemicals and products $3,,948; and miscellaneous products $35,541.

The great bulk of trade with Germany at the present time consists of agricultural products, more especially wheat and flour, the latter commodity being in rapidly increasing demand. In the fircal past year Germany took 1,351,512 bushels of Canadian wheat valued at $1,637,095. The demand for Canadian flour has increased remarkably, and is not abating. In 1922 Germny took 51,343 barrels of Canadian flour worth $318,232; in 1923, 675,599 barrels valued at $3,985,409; and in 1924, 986,826 barrels valued at $10,313,280. The recent readjustment of financial difficulties which were hampering the flour trade with Germany is confidently expected to further increase the volume of exports from Canada.

How Stonehenge Was Built.

How the builders of Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain, with the appliances of, say, 3,500 years ago, managed to get the vast stones upright and place others on their tops has always been one of the marvels of primitive engineering, says a writer in the London Daily Mail.

In his book "Stonehenge," just published, Mr. E. Herbert Stone has a most interesting series of photographs taken from large working models "by means of which the various operations connected with the raising of the stones of Stonehenge as here described have been rehearsed step by step in full detail."

A figure representing a Neolithic man, who has an elk-like smallness beside the huge monoliths, is introduced in the different views to give an idea of scale.

For the purpose of this experiment in this "reconstruction," Mr. Stone has taken the average weight of the stones of the outer circle at Stonehenge as, for uprights, 26 tons each, and for the lintels placed across their tops, 6¾ tons. The appliances used, he points out, would be mainly ropes, rollers, and shear legs, plus man-power working in carefully rehearsed unison.

Mr. Stone suggests that the man who designed Stonehenge "was probably a foreigner."

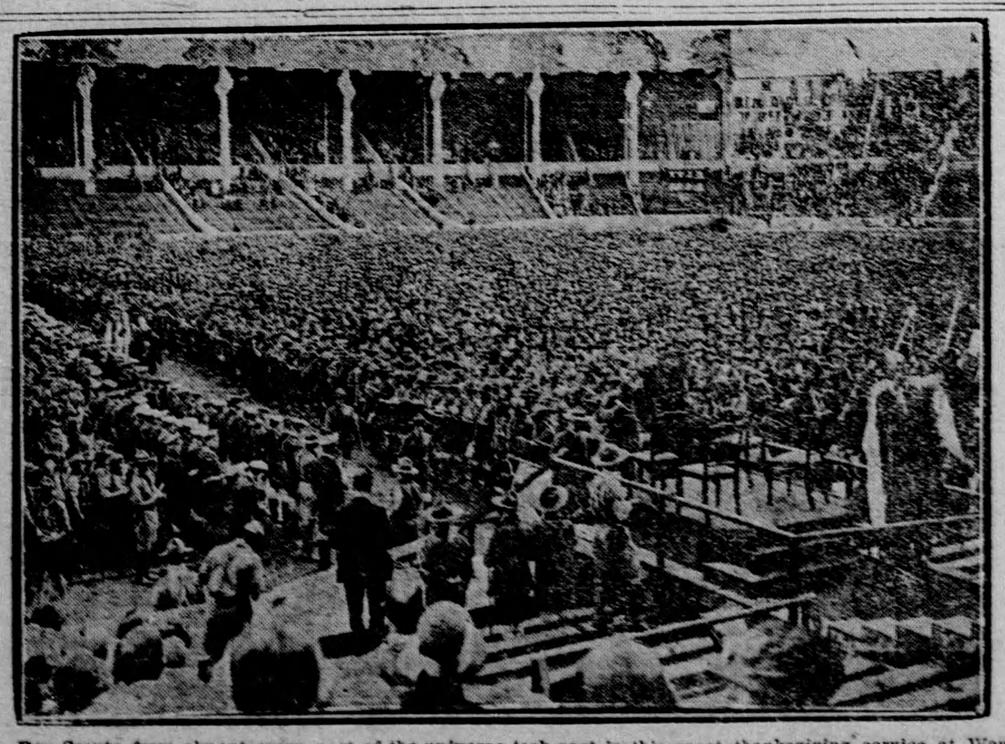
After the upright stones had been firmly bedded in the ground, "an earth bank is thrown up around the pair of upright stones on which a lintel is to be placed." The outer part of this bank is "brought to a smooth surface and rammed hard, to mage a track up which the lintel is to be hauled."

Then when everything is in place the well-drilled man-power takes the strain and drags the great mass up the slope till finally it rests on the tops of the two embedded stones. The bank can then be removed, leaving the huge trilithon towering clear above the ground.

Anything to Oblige a Fool.

An affected young man who was dining out felt called on to correct his hostess when by a slip of the tongue she ordered the servant to remove the "fool," meaning the fowl. "I presume," said the young man, "you mean the fowl, madam."

"Very well," responded the hostess, who was rather annoyed, "take away the fowl and let the fool remain."



Boy Scouts from almost every part of the universe took part in this great thanksgiving service at Wembley. In the foreground is the Quebec detachment.

Stories About Well-Known People

The X-Ray Duchess.

X-ray work is not a hobby many would choose, but the Duchess of Bedford has practised it with success, at a cost of many thousands of pounds, for the past ten years. The Duchess is in charge of an X-ray department in a hospital at Woburn built by herself twenty years ago. She frequently helps at operations.

Incidentally, the duchess is one of the most notable sportswomen. She can handle a horse, a rod, a gun, as well as most men. Another of her accomplishments is that she has an extraordinary influence over wild animals.

Quick Results.

A delightfully true—and truly delightful—incident was told by Mrs. Belloc Lowndes, the well-known writer, in a recent lecture in which she was trying to illustrate the fact that truth is stranger than fiction.

"No novelist," she said, "would dare use this true incident, for instance. A gentleman in India suddenly decided to offer marriage to a girl in England, so he cabled:

" 'Will you?'

"The answer came promptly:

" 'Won't I?' "

I doubt whether any novelist has hatched a more amusing proposal and acceptance out of his brain.

Made Manuel Laugh.

A Good story comes from Paris concerning two ex-monarchs, King Manuel of Portugal and the Shah of Persia.

They were seated together at an ultra-fashionable public resort, placidly sipping their champagne and watching the dancers, when a Parisian sat down on the only extra chair at their table.

The newcomer made himself agreeable, and the conversation soon became general.

When the time came for departure the Parisian asked with whom he had the honor of speaking.

"I," said the former King of Portugal, "am the King of Portugal."

"I," said the former Shah, "am the Shah of Persia."

The Frenchman betrayed no surprise whatsoever. "Good-night, gentlemen," he said politely, and then as he turned to go he added, "The Great Mogul bids you adieu."

Manuel is reported to have laughed, but the Shah was not so pleased.

A City Garden.

God of the flowers! Painter of crimson roses
Spinner of mist, and Weaver of wind and rain!
Send Thine angel of peace, when the long day closes,
Down to Thy garden again.

This was Thy garden e'er the high walls were lifted;
Here the wild apple grew, and the thorn-set pear;
O, in the springtime how the scent of them drifted
Out on the evening air!

Still an apple-tree lingers—just as a token;
Still there's a sumach wearing one feathery plume;
Yonder a dog-wood lives—grey with the years, and broken—
Dreaming of silver bloom.

Mignouette lines the walk, and many a pansy—
Though never a bee comes near to taste their sweet—
Down by the gate grows tangled and bitter tansy,
Longing to reach the street.

Here at the heart of tumult, and toil and malice,
The lover finds his love—the dreamer his dream,
And here, like a cup of Heaven, a lily's chalice
Lifts to the white moonbeam!

—Virna Sheard.

Results of the Outdoor Life.

Farmer—"Yes, my trees are a hundred years old and still bearing the best of fruit."

Fresh Air Enthusiast—"Of course they are—just another example of the results of the outdoor life!

The Magic Vitamine.

At a recent meeting of the American Chemical Society, Professor Walter Eddy took from his pocket a small vial and passed it round among the assembled chemists.

All they could see was a small quantity of white powder at the bottom of a bottle. Yet it created a sensation, since it was the first vitamine that anyone had ever seen or handled.

An amount no more than three-hundredths of a milligram, which is about ss much of the powder as could be caught on the point of a pin, given every day to a young rat stunted by living on deficient diet, would cause it to grow again at a normal rate.

Clubs Are Handy Things.

He (speaking of women)—"Now in New York it's club women on all sides."

She—"Yes — such a brutal place! Somebody's always beating a woman up there."

The Impulse and the Voice.

Not many months ago a lady asked to see a famous London preacher after one of the services in his church. He at once received her and was astonished when she said, "Doctor, I have come all the way from Paris to have this interview! My husband has been out of employment for more than two years, although he is an exceptionally well-qualified teacher. At last, thinking we might find a position in France, we went to Paris. Our search was still unavailing. But the other day I was seized with a strange impulse to return to England and to come to your church. It was as if a voice had kept saying to me by day and by night, 'Go to Dr. ——— and tell him.' I may say, doctor, that all my life I have been trained to pray, and through all our misfortune I have consistently put our troubles before the Lord. Consequently I felt I did not dare to disobey the impulse and the voice. So here I am."

"Well, madam," said the doctor, deeply interested, "I do not quite see what I can do to help. Perhaps the best thing I can do is to give your husband a letter of introduction to the high commissioner of one of the colonies."

He did so, and then the incident passed from his mind.

Some weeks later he received a letter from the high commissioner on another matter, but there was a postscript that read, "By the way, the man you sent to me the other day arrived just as I was showing out of my office our minister for education, who is over here seeking a staff of specially qualified teachers. Your man proved perfectly suited for the work required and is leaving England immediately."

Scarcely had the minister finished reading when the lady and her husband were shown into his vestry. They had come to pay their farewell respects and to thank him.

"I was right, you see!" cried the lady gayly. "I was right to obey the impulse and the voice!"

How true it is that there are more things wrought by prayer than this world dreams of!

Mr. Ostrich Helps.

Not the least interesting of the attractions in the South African Section of the British Empire Exhibition is a flock of ostriches. For the benefit of visitors, demonstrations are given in plucking the feathers in the manner adopted in this great industry in South Africa.

The nest of the ostrich is always built by the male, though this certainly is no arduous task, and it consists of little more than a round hole dug in the sand or earth.

The hen then lays an egg every other day, about fifteen making a full nest. The hen sits on the eggs during the day and the male bird takes her place through the night, an arrangement which would appear to have been admirably provided for by nature, for while the male bird is adorned with jet black feathers and is therefore indistinuishable at night, in the daytime the drab color of the hen bird's feathers covers nest and eggs and is equally unnoticeable.

The Height of Cruelty.

"You are not doing much business," suggested the dentist across the hall.

"Not much," admitted the other dentist, touched by this mark of apparent sympathy.

"Then would you mind if some of my patients used your waiting-room?"