Does Disaster Face Canada?

A Few Items Gleaned From Canadian Sources From Coast to Coast Does Not Look Like It

Sir George Paish Wrong

Recent press dispatches have played up rather prominently the gloomy forebodings of Britain's champion pessimist, Sir George Paish. Sir George visited Canada in 1919 or there about and his interpretations of the world's economics were interesting and to say the least, disconcerting. He pictured the post war con dition as one where the world had rolled over a deep chasm and that it was then falling to the everlasting and eternal bow wows.

Recently Sir George the gloomy has burst forth again. The world is on the verge of financial collapse. The writer is no dee,-thinking economic highbrow but he can read and partially understand the written word. If the following news dispatches from coast to coast in Canada mean anything they mean that Sir George Paish has once more "missed his putt."

From the East

Halifax, Nova Scotia.—The freight import and export business of the port of Halifax this season exceeds that of last season by about 30 to 40 per cent. According to the Board of Trade bulletins, this has been one of the best shipping seasons the port has ever had. Apple s ipments are about 100,000 barrels head of the 1927-28 season.

Quebec, Quebec.—The Port of Quebec is preparing for a busy season as is evidenced by the activity along the waterfront.

Montreal, Quebec—Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures show February's exports of automobiles to be twice as large in volume as those for the same month last year, the largest buyers being the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, British India and New Zealand, while there were also some sales to Argentina, Dutch East Indies, Egypt, and the United States. Febr uary's exports of passenger cars amounted to $3,362,973, compared with $2,479,515 in January and $1,491,609 in February, 1928. Exports to trucks amounted to $1,221,716, as against $1,-337,2077 in January and $551....,472 in February, 1928.

From Ontario

Toronto, Ontario.—Canadian bond sales to date, according to the weekly summary of A. E. Ames & Co., amount to $115,654,289, a: compared with $60,-215,607 for the corresponding period of 1928 and $93,920,507 for that of 1927. Government issued made up a total of $6,417,000; Municipal of $25,-601,189, and Corporation of $83,636,-100. Canada purchased to the extent of $81,030,289; the United States $30,-124,000 and Great Britain $4,500,000.

From the Prairies

Winnipeg, Manitoba. — Homestead filings for the two first months of the year numbered 1,416, as compared with 1,036 for the same two months of 1928. Alberta's entries amounted to 702 as against 502 in January and February of 1928; Saskatchewan's were 595 against 430; Manitoba's 78 against 74 and British Columbia's 41 against 30.

Brandon, Manitoba.—A season of record building activity is promised by the number of projects at present in the planning stage or actually in process. In fact, there is every promise of last year's active season be ing surpassed.

Regina, Saskatchewan.—The butter production of the province in February nearly doubled that of the previous February, being 553,912 pounds, as compared with 284,356 pounds in February, 1928. The winter season as a whole has been an active one in creamery circles with each month showing an increase over the same month of the previous year.

A special train of tractors, valued at $400,000, recently reached Regina. There were 280 machines in all, occupying 70 railway cars. The tractors were distributed to farmer buyers in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Edmonton, Alberta. — According to announcement made by different business firms and governmental bodies, over $7,000,000 in building is in sight for Edmonton this year. The provincial government is planning to spend around $1,250,000 on new construction which includes a new normal school, $500,000 administrative building, and a $250,000 extension to the University hospital is in prospect. Permits to date are six times greater than the total for the same period last year.

From British Columbia

Vancouver, British Columbia.—Construction has begun on the Marine Building which, when completed, will be the tallest building in Canada west of Toronto, towering 18 stories above the northwest corner of Burrard and Hastings Streets.

The Dominion Bridge Company will shortly begin construction of the first unit of a structural steel fabricating plant in Burnaby. It will be operated in conjunction with the plant the company now owns on False Creek. The new unit will cost about $1,500,000.

An increase of nearly $4,000,000 in the value of the mineral output of British Columbia for 1928, as compared with that of the previous year, is noted in the preliminary report of the provincial mineralogist. The value of all minerals is placed at $64,687,691, as compared with $60,729,358 in 1927. Lead, copper and coal, in that order, were the largest producers.

So it would appear that progress and prosperity are in store for Canada.

Canada Not Disposed to Bar Rum Running

I'm Alone Case Turns Public Opinion Against Request for Tighter Border Control

Ottawa—Whatever form the negotiation between Ottawa and Washington over the Canadian schooner I'm Alone may take it is certain that the sinking of this boat has destroyed whatever small chance existed that Parliament would do something to meet the request of the United States for a tighter control over the border liquor trade. Naturally this statement is not possible of exact proof, but undoubtedly it is true that public opinion in this country has been shocked and astounded by the long pursuit and deliberate sinking of the I'm Alone by armed American Coast Guard patrols, 200 miles off shore.

Before Parliament there are numerous petitions from prohibition organizations praying that it be made a crime in Canada to ship liquor over the international frontier, but in official circles it is held unofficially that these documents are signed by the sort of uncompromising drys who, in the United States, would be members of the Anti-Saloon League and that they do not speak for he great body of the people.

Why should Canada, it is asked, concern itself with this purely domestic American problem, and make a crime out of what is now legitimate trading on this side of the line, when on all the evidence millions of Americans break the prohibition law daily and even men in important official posts seem to show no particular solicitude for it.

Thus it will be found inconvenient to do anything at this session about the border business.

New Brunswick Revises Its Motor Vehicle Code

The Canadian Province of New Brunswick has recently remodeled its motor vehicle laws. Among the salient features of the new regulations are:

Open country speed of forty miles per hour.

No parking on curves or intersections.

Persons over 16 years of age with licenses obtained in the country of their residence may operate a car in New Brunswick for not longer than ninety days in any one year.

Jail sentence without the option of fine for persons convicted of driving while intoxicated.

Where an accident results in injury or death, or causes property damage to the apparent extent of $50 or more, the driver must immediately report to the proper authority.

Some more howlers for the examinations: Joan of Arc's father was a pheasant. Perkin Warbeck said he was the son of a king but he was really the son of respectable people. A skeleton is a man with his inside out and outside off. When there is a parasite in the areoplane the pilot is not afraid to jump out. An optician is a cheerful eye s ecialist. A patrician is an Irish nobleman. All Scotchmen wear quilts. "The Last Rose of Summer" was written by the man who wrote "Caller Herring." Wolfe said he would rather write an elegy in a country churchyard than fight the battle of Quebec.

Ontario Home Brings Happiness

Story of One Immigrant Tells That Success is Possible in Northern Ontario

CLIMATE PRAISED

The bitter disappointment experienced by some English emigrants, who tried life in Canada as workers during the harvest time on Canadian farms last summer, has been noted in these pages, with the press explana-would not have been successful anytion that some of the disillusioned where on a farm, and that others had journeyed to Canada from England merely as an experiment. But now a concrete case of the happiness found on a Canadian farm by a British couple and their children is recorded in the London Times by the wife of a farmer who has been in the Dominion ofr six full years. She and her husband decided to emigrate, we are told, because Canada offered more scope for a small family with limited means than anything they could hope for in the British Isles, and they picked out the Province of Ontario "greatly on acount of its proximity to England; the idea of being only nine days from London rather appealed to us." At the outset in Canada, it is further stated, they decided that "they were there more to save money than to make money" for the first few years, because to make money one must first be willing to sink a certain amount, which they did not feel justified in doing at the beginning. Their initial effort, it seems, was the purchase of a fair-sized farm, with a few tumble-down buildings, in one of which they lived while they were having a house built. The new one was a nine-room bungalow, with an attic capable of being divided into five more rooms, and with all modern conveniences, including many labor-saving devices. The cost of putting up this house in Canada was less than it would have been in England, according to this settler's wife, who continues:

"It is astonishing how much one can save if one tries, and living expenses in Northern Ontario where we live are very much lower than at home; so are rates and taxes. We decided, to begin with, to employ no labor in the house or outside except on special occasions, and as I had heard that a servant was difficult to get I thought I wo'ld try to carry on without help, though I found it was always possible to get a 'girl.' The 'girl' is usually French-Canadian, talks very little English, receives not less than $20, the equivalent to £4, a month, or if employed by the day from $1.25, and will do any and every kind of job.

"I decided to have a 'girl' once a week to give me a hand, but I had no idea how to prepare for this 'attack.' She would appear soon after 8 a.m. and expect to work without any interval, except a half-hour for lunch, until 6.30 in the evening, and I found it almost impossible to keep the supply of work equal to the demand. My vision of a restful day, getting through arrears of darning, letter-writing, and perchance a little reading, soon vanished. I would settle down in a comfortable chair with a lapful of socks to mend, when round the door would pop Marie-Rose, 'And now what, Missus?' and I would have to think out some further occupation for her, my carefully-throught-out supply for the day's work, having given out by the middle of the morning. By 6.30 p.m. she left fresh and smiling, with a dollar and a quarter in her pocket, leaving behind her a completely exhausted 'Missus.' Eventually I found myself far more tired after my day's help than any other day in the week, so I gave it up, except about once a month, and when I had given time and thought to preparing a reall full ten hours of work. One soon gets accustomed to doing everything oneself, though certain things such as washing can be done 'out,' but it is advisable to inquire about the water supply before entrusting any light-colored garments to the hands of a washerwoman."

The secret of success, according to this farmer's wife, is working by the clock, setting aside definite times for each job, and beginning and ending at the set time. One soon learns how long various jobs take, and we read:

"If by any chance the work is finished five minutes before scheduled time it gives one the feeling of leisure, whereas if there is a great deal to do and one sets oneself no time limit one is always chasing and rushing round. I don't work so very hard either. I never start before 7 a.m., and make a rule to knock off all housework and domestic work at 3 o'clock, leaving all tea and supper washing-up to be done the following morning ,supper usually having been prepared earlier in the day. I always try to put in half an hour resting and reading from 3 to 3.30, and then I go out, very often driving into town with the children to shop or to see friends, or possibly going ot a neighboring farm with a message from my husband.

"I do not think it will come amiss to say, for the benefit of mothers going out with small famliies, that it is a marvelously healthy country for children. Last winter there were only two days on which the children had to be kept indoors; and certainly the open-air life in Canada, with nature as nurse and school-teacher, is one of the best upbringings ,mentally, morally, and physically. It makes the children independent in the right way, observant, able to fend for themselves."

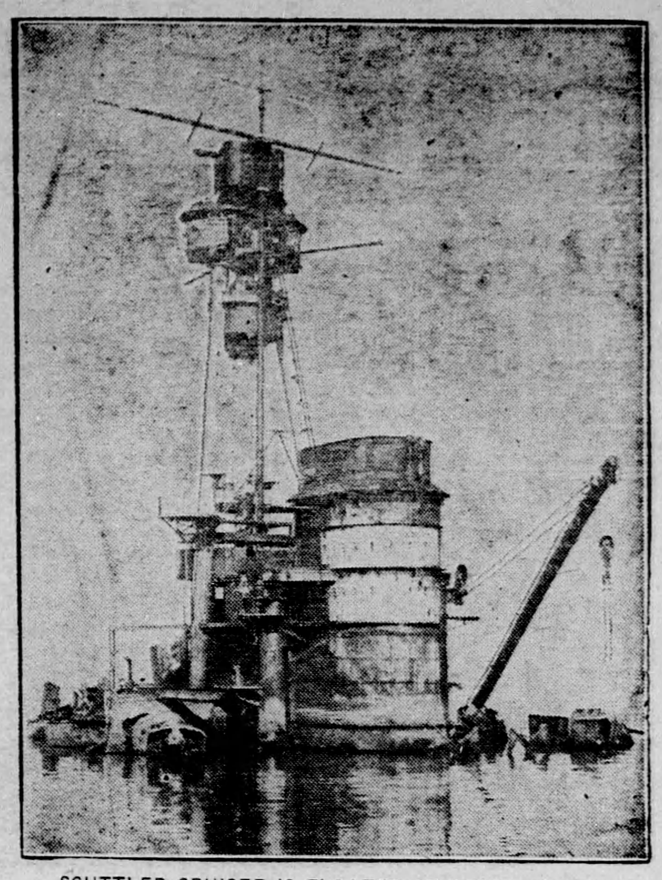
That Canada is not receiving a sufficient proportion of Britons as immigrants worries some Canadian and some English editors. At present, remarks the London Daily Express, two Europeans are entering Canada for every Briton, and this fact is considered "ominous for the Canadian future." Says the Montreal Daily Star:

"In spite of the fact that immigration into Canada has increased from 124,362 in 1927 to 132,398 in 1928, the number of British immigrants shows a decrease from 45,012 in 1927 to 43,-229 in 1928 ,excluding the miner-harvesters. . . .

"If we have had fewer British immigrants to welcome during the past year, we have had more from the United States. In 1927 the number of settlers who crossed the international boundary to settle in this country was 18,663. During 1928 this number has risen to 23,329, due, probably, to increasing unemployment in the United States.

"This means that while immigration from the United States increased during the past year by 25 per cent., immigration from Great Birtain decreased by 4 per cent."

Out of the Depths Again



SCUTTLED CRUISER IS FLOATED AT SCAPA FLOW

Called one of the most remarkable salvage feats in marine history, the German warship Kaiser, scuttled 10 years ago in Scapa Flow, is brought to the surface again.

"Most men are not at home in evening clothes, if they have any other place to go.

The Mexican rebels will never win any battles as long as they allow the Federals to write the official reports.

"We have decided that my son shall be an artist." "Has he a special talnet?" "Yes; he can go a week without food."

Stanley Baldwin Eternal Boy

By SIR EDWARD BARRY

Mr. Baldwin has just figured in an incident in the British House of Commons which showed him as the strong man with the manner that is firm, though gentle. The Postmaster-General had refused to see a deputation on an important national question. The Premier saw the deputation himself, and, in his own words, gave a "courteous reply to a courteous request." Sir Edward Parry suggests that this might be a slogan for Whitehall.

Mr. Baldwin made a pleasant speech the other day, taking as his text Byron's line:

Ah, happy years! Once more who would not be a boy?

It is a great thing for a man in public life to have kept the spirit of boyhood in him and the honesty to acknowledge it unabashed.

"I always think," said Mr. Baldwin, "one of the great charms of my sex is that the best of us remain boys to the end," and it is that characteristic of our Prime Minister that has gained him a place in the hearts of the people.

When Pharaoh Refused

The Press desired to discuss with the P.M.G. a question of public policy. The P.M.G. was sulky and inaccessible and on two occasions when they called he peeped at them over the blinds, but was not at home. So they went to see Mr. Baldwin instead, and had a heart-to-heart talk, and came away happy.

Our P.M.G. should read about Pharaoh. When he refused to see deputations he found his roll-top desk swarming with fat, healthy frogs the next morning. Our modern Pharaohs should study history.

The House of Commons wanted to know all about the incident, and Mr. Baldwin was asked why he had received the Press representatives that the P.M.G. had refused to receive.

"In the same way I always receive them," replied the Prime Minister; "a courteous reply to a courteous request."

Political Leap-frog

When Mr. Baldwin was further tacked with the impropriety of a Prime Minister "going over the head of a trusted Minister" he evidently regarded the process as a sort of everyday political leap-frog, and replied with joyous determination: "I never feel any hesitation in doing so if I think it desirable in the public interest."

The House was delighted. For at its best it has the psychology of a collection of schoolboys. And Mr. Baldwin with a boy's instinct, has made just the reply that the captain of the school would have made if someone had asked him why he had taken off an efficient bowler and gone on to bowl himself. It had seemed to him that it was the interests of the game. That settled it.

Microbes Blamed for Street Blow-Up

Germs Now Said to Have Causer Explosions in Old London

London — The newest danger of cities, a microbe that lives in the ground beneath them and does its best to blow them up, is suspected in London by the distinguished British biologist, Professor J.. S. Haldane, as an explanation of a mysterious explosion which tore up long sections of street paving in the Holborn district last December.

That explosion undoubtedly was caused by a gas of some kind which collected in conduits and manholes underneath the street and exploded violently when one of the manholes was opened and a light struck inside it. The problem with which London authorities are now wrestling is to decide where the explosive gas came from.

Called as an expert witness because of his long experience with such explosive gases in mines and elsewhere, Professor Haldane suggested his startling microbe theory of the origin of the gas.

It is well known, he said, that microbes which live in the mud of swamps are able to manfacture the gas called methane, which explodes violently when mixed with air and tauched off by a match or a spark. This is the "marsh gas" which bubbles out of such swamps, and which is possible, the distinguished biologist believes, that these same microbes live in vast numbers in the moist, dirty sub-soil of a city and slowly produce this same explosive gas. Pavements keep the gas from escaping into the air. Accordingly ,it may accumulate in seldom-opened conduits or manholes, prepared to send the whole street skyward if someone incautiously introduces a light.

Canada's Mining Advance

From a comparatively obscure position in 1900 with a production of less than $65,000,000, Canada is steadily advancing to the front rank of the mineral-producing countries of the world with a total production in 1928 valued at $271,000,000..

In the adversity of our best friend we often find something that is not exactly displeasing.—La Rochefoucauld.

Old Wartime Leader Starts His Campaign

LLOYD GEORGE BELIEVES IN LEARNING CONDITIONS FIRST HAND

Canvassing farm-workers with a candidate in the Eddisbury division constituency. He follows the well known plan of giving personal help to as many of his supporters as possible.