Greetings From Austria.

Mr. L. G. O. Sobotka of Vienna, Austria, who is a friend of "Lone E", recently paid a visit to Toronto and expressed his great interest in the Canadian Boy Scouts, and in particular the "Lonies."

Mr. Sobotka travels extensively all over Europe, and frequently visits this side of the Atlantic, and he stated that the people in practically all of the countries that he visits have great faith in the Boy Scout Movement, believing it to be one of the most instrumental factors which will lead to a better world understanding and a permament peace in the days to come.

Mr. Sobotka sent his very best wishes to all Canadian Scouts, this being his first trip to Canada, and expressed the hope that a goodly number of Canadian representatives would visit the Jamboree in Hungary next year.

World Scout Jamboree Will Be Held.

The statement in a Budapest despatch to a Toronto paper that finances will prevent the holding in Hungary of the projected 1933 world gathering of Boy Scouts has been specifically denied by Dr. Vali, Hungarian International Scout Secretary. Conditions are not as bad as painted, and the Jamboree will be held as planned, Dr. Vali declares.

Bird Houses For Spring.

"Lone E" hopes that the Lone Scouts have been busy during the past months in the making of more bird houses for the convenience of their feathered friends. You know the birds are very loyal, and if you can induce them to build in your vicinity they will come back year after year to the same nesting place.

Unfortunately, with the expansion of civilization, the natural haunts and surroundings of the birds have been destroyed, and they find it increasing difficult to find nesting places near to the vicinity of humans.

Every Lonie, therefore, should make a special point of building three or four Bird Houses to encourage the birds to stay in the vicinity of his home. You still have time for this year's tenants if you get busy at once.

A Scout Bird Sanctuary.

With the consent of the Quebec Government, the Minister of the Interior has by proclamation made Mystery Island the permanent Boy Scout camp near Ottawa, a bird sanctuary. There are several such Scout wild life sanctuaries in various parts of Canada.

"Mystery Island" on the Map.

The name "Mystery Island," given the permanent Scout camp being developed near Ottawa, has been officially confirmed by the Geographical Board of Canada, and the island will be so designated on a new map to be published by the Topographical Survey.

Things Lone Scouts Can Do During March and April.

For Easter and the Easter Holidays: Arrange an Easter Egg Good Turn. This consists in making a collection of New Laid Eggs from all your friends and neighbors and donating them to your nearest local hospital for the benefit of the patients therein.

Plan out your 1932 garden. Try to have a continuity of flowers and vegetables all the season.

Spring Clean-up. During the first few weeks in April arrange to clean up around the house and barn. Collect all that old rubbish which has been lying around all winter and which has been hidden under the snow. Take it to a convenient place and burn it, and have things looking neat and tidy for the commencement of spring operations.

Endeavor to earn at least one proficiency badge or make some progress towards higher Scout rank.

Boys Training As Firemen.

Last year 673 Canadian Scouts received fire prevention training and qualified for the Scout Fireman's Badge. The training in most cases is given by fire chiefs or firemen. Since the training was started 19,698 boys have qualified as Scout Firemen.

If you would like to become a Lone Scout write for particulars to The Boy Scouts' Association, Lone Scout Dept., 330 Bay Street, Toronto 2.

"LONE E."

Joe Clark and Phil Farley, Toronto golfers, snapped at Bermuda where they participated in the Belmont Manor championships. Farley made a very good showing, but was eliminated.

Canada Endorses Geneva Drug Pact

Resolution Restricting Production Passed at Ottawa

Ottawa.—The House of Commons have, on resolution moved by the Prime Minister, approved the international convention for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs. The convention was drawn up at Geneva on July 13, 1931, and was signed for Canada by Dr. W. H. Riddell.

There were 5 States represented at the conference, Premier Bennett told the House, and of these 38 have already signed the convention. The convention becomes operative 90 days after a total of 25 states have adopted it, providing there is included in that 25 the leading powers of the world.

Few problems were more important to the people as a whole than the regulation of narcotic traffic, said the Prime Minister. Under the existing system Canada had experienced considerable success in keeping down the evil, but it had been realized here, in common with the rest of the world, that no efficient control could be maintained so long as legislation covered only the distribution—and so long as the manufacturing countries remained outside of the convention.

The new convention provides that manufacture must be restricted to actual estimated requirements for medicinal and scientific purposes. The great task was to bring into the convention the countries which manufactured drugs on a large scale. This was gradually being attained, and it was a great satisfaction for Canada, which was technically a "victim country" manufacturing no habit-forming drugs.

A bill will be necessary to amend the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act of 1929, and notice of this bill is now on the order paper.

The business man was interviewing applicants for the post of office boy. He had a boy in front of him and was asking him all manner of questions. "Now" went on the employer, "I'm looking for someone who must be exceptionally sharp and who must cost me very little." "Well" said the boy, "I reckon you'd better send out for a lemon."

3500-year-old-Baths Unearthed at Kish

Oxford, England.—Swimming pools 3,500 years old have been found in Kish, Iraq, which is believed to be the oldest city in the world.

Details regarding the discovery of these pools have been received by Professor Stephen Lengdon, professor of Assyriology of Oxford University, from L. C. Watelin, leader of the Oxford-Field Museum expedition which is conducting acheological expeditions in Kish.

The pool described by Watelin is forty-five feet long and thirty-six feet wide," said Professor Langdon. "It had a most elaborate water supply with a wonderful circulatory system which supplied the pool with constant fresh water just like our modern swimming baths. The pool was kept at the required height with a gentle flow of water constantly passing through it."

Russians Head List as New Canadians In '31

Montreal.—Russia sent the largest group of new citizens to Canada in the fiscal year 1931, according to naturalization statistics given in a report of the Department of State. Of 21,392 persons naturalized, 4,069 were Russians, 2,522 Poles, 2,339 Americans, 2,067 Italians, 2,008 Austrians, 929 Serbians, 743 Germans and 669 Norwegians.

Most of the nationalities of the world were represented. Cuba, Afghanistan and the State of Mount Lebanon, Syria, each lost a single citizen to Canada. One person naturalized was recorded as having "no country."

Snow After Rain.

If only for an hour, the snow's white magic,
Touching the landscape with its cold caress,
Restores that era, beautiful and tragic,
When all this coast was still a wilderness.

Bushes now squat like crystal-feathered heath-fowl;
Trees, in the immobility of fear,
Frozen at some strange, fierce, metallic wolf-howl,
Are graceful troops of silver-antlered deer.

—Kenneth W. Porter in the New York Times.

Current Events

As Viewed By The Press

Tariffs.

A system of tariffs is not an undiluted blessing. To a country in Britain's position it offers certain general advantages; but various sections of the community must suffer accordingly as the general welfare is increased. Any tariff proposals, said Mr. Walter Runciman in the House of Commons, are bound to have disadvantages as well as advantages.—Dublin Weekly Irish Times.

Canada-New Zealand Treaty.

The chance of early ratification does not dispose of the contention previously raised that something can be done without waiting even until the session begins. The chief measure of retaliation when the quarrel with Canada developed was the placing of Canadian goods on the foreign tariff schedule. It was done without consulting Parliament, and was never ratified by the Legislature. British preferential rates can be restored to Canadian goods, as they were taken from them, by Order-in-Council. It would be a gesture of goodwill and a stimulous to trade.—Auckland Weekly News.

Australia's Prohibitive Tariff.

Australian manufacturers, and more particularly their employees, ought to realize that they are having a chance better in some respects than they are likely to get again for very many years if this one is thrown away. It is not the price of new Australian manufactures so much as their quality of which primary producers complain. We are losing jobs today because some of the work we have turned out has been disgracefully uneven, and our customers have been driven to go to the foreigner—and, incidentally, curse the high tariff which has protected the bad workmanship and made the price of the good a burden.—Sydney Bulletin.

China and Japan.

The Chinese have an extraordinary toughness and obstinacy. The loss of Shanghai and the new capital would not be likely to assuage the wrath of the ordinary Chinese citizen. It would be all the more likely to make him break his Japanese torch and burn his cotton singlet. The process of occupying big Chinese cities, such as Peiping and the coast ports, could go on without procuring a single order from the up-country districts. The real China is not its coast and river ports, but its myriad townships and villages. It is a terrible impasse, this clash between Chinese nationalism and Japanese industrial necessity. —Hong Kong Press.

Empire Bargaining.

We cannot view this proposed system of Empire bargaining without grave misgivings. Whither will it lead? Is it not likely to be provocative of discord rather than of satisfaction? To what extent can Great Britain afford to penalize the produce of foreign countries in order to grant substantial advantages to the Dominions? To what extent will the Dominions consent to admit British manufactures to compete on easier terms with their protected industries? Will the sacrifice of fiscal freedom on either side be in the long run a unifying or a dissevering influence? The projected policy bristles with difficulties and dangers, which must become apparent when the Ottawa Conference gets down to details.—Melbourne Australian.

S. Africa and the Gold Standard.

The difficulties of South Africa only show how impossible the whole monetary system of the world is becoming. By means of artificial restrictions on exchange and the use of the gold output we have been able so far to maintain our hold on the gold standard. But the price is very heavy. According to the chairman of the South African Wool and Mohair Association, only a very small portion of the South African slip has been sold, and there are some 2,000 bales at the coast warehouses with the prospect that barely 10 per cent. can be disposed of and then at prices for combing wool 50 per cent. lower than in the 1913-14 season. Thus events as forecasted by the Government and its experts do not in any way correspond with events as actually experienced by a very important section of the exporters of this country.—Cape Argus.

Violence In Bombay.

The Indian Congress has forfeited all claim, in Bombay at least, to be regarded as a non-violent body. Its demonstrations are now simply excuses for outbursts of hooliganism which are a danger not merely to the police but to the lives and property of the citizens. People who set fire to buildings, burn public property in the streets and assault the police with stones and roof tiles are a menace to the community and must be treated as such. If any more lives are lost as the result of hooligan excesses the blame will lie at the door of Congress and more particularly at the door of those who, hiding in the background, encourage Congress to organize lawless demonstrations. Bombay merchants and business men who indirectly incite disorderly elements to commit outrages must from now onwards be held responsible for the consequences.—Bombay Times of India.

Low Rates for Loans.

Loans recently raised by the Municipalities of Toronto and Montreal, and by the Province of New Brunswick, all of them sound and progressive parts of the Dominion of Canada, have been borrowed at a fixed rate of 5½ per cent., 5¾ per cent. and 6 per cent. Canadian securities are on sale in Jamaica, and securities of Canadian cities and provinces will and do find a market here. Jamaica is not in a stronger financial position than the places we have mentioned; consequently there are people here who wonder why our Government should expect to obtain loans at a lower rate of interest than is obtainable in Canada; but if the Government can get the money it needs at such lower rate of interest it is justified in trying to do so. And it can. It can borrow at 5 per cent.—Kingston (Jamaica) Gleaner.

Canada's Export Trade.

Canada is fifth in export trade, the only countries to exceed her being Britain, the United States, France and Germany, in the order named. Canada seems to be more than holding her own, in spite of the hard times cry of the pessimists.—Durham Chronicle.

Toronto's Lawmakers.

Members of Toronto City Council, by a vote of 26 to 3, voted down a motion for a salary cut. So far we have not heard of any member of that council that has censured the Board of Education for advocating a reduction of the salaries of Toronto teachers.—Chesley Enterprise.

A Wise Measure.

Hon. Hugh Guthrie, Minister of Justice, is introducing in House of Commons a measure making it an offence under the "false pretences" section of the criminal code for issuing of a cheque dishonored by the bank for lack of funds, and given for goods obtained. This will effectively stop "rubber chequeing."—Amherstburg Echo.

John Bull Leads.

Although the agreement did not call for any payment until Aug. 28 the British Government will at once liquidate $150,000,000 of $200,000,000 loaned by 110 United States banks. John Bull still maintains the speed leadership in the air, in the auto, in the locomotive, in the motor boat and in the liquidation of his debts.—Brantford Expositor.

Britain Again Leads

And here is Britain cutting her army, navy and air estimates. No matter what the Disarmament Conference does, Britain will be on the side of reduced armaments anyway. If all other nations had the same practical desire for peace, there would be no need for disarmament conferences.—Ottawa Journal.

Disregard Facts.

Hon. George N. Gordon, who charged that the honeymoon expenses of Premier Bennett's brother-in-law were paid out of the public treasury, made the excuse during the course of his evidence, "I was trying to entertain an audience." Far too many speakers have the habit of doing this without the slightest regard for facts.—Brantford Expositor.

Growth of Canada.

During the last 10 years Canada jumped her population from 8,788,000 to 10,374,000, an increase of 18.0 per cent. For purposes of comparison it is interesting to note that the growth of the United States from 1921 to 1930 was 16.1 per cent.—St. Catharines Standard.

A Suggestion.

It might be news if Tommy Church, ex-M.P., would say a good word for any man still alive.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

The Legislature In Brief

In the first division of the present session, the Henry Government was sustained by a majority of seventy-six to nineteen in adopting the Speech from the Throne. The division took place on the amendment of Premier Henry moved to the amendment of W. E. N. Sinclair, Opposition Leader, the Henry amendment pledging the House to adhere to Hydro principles of power at cost, and expressing entire support for the efficiency and integrity of the Hydro Commissioners.

Prior to the vote being taken the three leaders, Premier Henry, Mr. Sinclair and Harry Nixon, Progressive leader, finished the debate on the Throne speech, which has been practically entirely devoted to argument on Hydro. Premier Henry personally answered the major criticism of the Opposition, particularly from Dr. J. A. McQuibban, Liberal Whip, the Premier contending that Dr. McQuibban's statements were based on inaccurate information in discussing power purchases, sales of off-peak power and other Hydro contracts.

Referring to the charge of Dr. McQuibban, that there is sufficient capacity at Niagara to look after the needs of Ontario, Premier Henry pointed out that even if Ontario was permitted to use all the water she is entitled to divert, under treaty, it would be far short of the volume required to keep the Niagara plants working to capacity all the time. To keep the plants continuously at capacity would require a steady conversion of forty-two thousand cubic feet per second, but under the treaty only twenty-four thousand five hundred cubic feet was possible.

Changes in Municipal Act

Several changes were introduced under the Municipal Act by Hon. Mr. Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, chief among them being a temporary borrowing by municipalities, reduction in legal limit of per diem fees of the elected representatives of townships, villages, counties and cities of under one hundred thousand. Another amendment provides that the new right of farmers' daughters shall not mean that they will be counted in calculating the population of counties for the purpose of deciding the representation of county councils

Authority was also asked, in a bill introduced by the Hon. Mr. Finlayson, to establish a commission to be known as the Grand River Conservation Commission, for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon the carrying out of works whereby the Grand River, and its tributaries, may be controlled in time of flood and conserved to more effectively afford a sufficient supply of water for various municipal purposes. Any municipality effected may appoint a commissioner and five or more may petition for incorporation to undertake the investigation deemed necessary by the Government.

This area covers twenty-six hundred square miles, effecting the counties of Grey, Dufferin, Wellington, Perth, Waterloo, Halton, Oxford, Brant, Wentworth, Norfolk and Haldimand.

Modified Moratorium

Royal assent was given providing for a modified moratorium on mortgages. Hon. William Finlayson, speaking to his bill appropriating five million dollars for Northern development, indicated the Government will introduce a very much reduced program for this work during the present year. He also stated that work on the trans-Canada highway is not likely to be completed for many years.

Traffic Amendments

Hon. Leopold Macaulay introduced amendments to the Highway Traffic Act compelling motor cars to be equipped with lights, which on roads outside of towns and cities will illuminate the roadway for a distance of two hundred feet. Provision is also made to prevent trucks travelling on the highways at a distance closer to each other than a hundred feet, and also cutting the length of truck trains from sixty-five to fifty feet.

A sub-committee on dairying was told that the farmers of Ontario had lost five hundred and fifty-one thousand five hundred and twenty dollars last year through producing second grade cream in butter manufacture.

Africans Developing Own Individuality

London.—How native Africans in Kenya Colony are developing an individuality unknown among these primitive peoples before the advent of the British, was told in an official report issued here recently.

"Individuals," the report says, "no longer accept as a matter of course decisions of administrative officers or judgments of magistrates, but are only too ready to appeal against either. Native councils have developed strong wills of their own and are not in all cases easily persuaded to adopt courses which appear to their distinct commissioners to be obviously beneficial."

Education and religion are other fields in which the African is beginning to think for himself, the report says. It adds that there is a tendency to question the value of government assistance and the wisdom of state control.

Professor Einstein says reporters should not write about science unless they know what they are writing about, and we think the same thing ought to go for scientists, too.—Nashville (Tenn.) Banner.

To Escape British Tariff

Dockers toiled all day Sunday, February 28, unloading foreign merchandise at the London docks in an effort to escape the new duty imposed by the National government. Tinned milk is being hurried ashore from a barge.