Our Weekly Scout Law. 1. A Scout's Honor is to be Trusted.

This is the first of the Scout Laws to which every Boy Scout throughout the world has subscribed. What more can be said of a boy or a man than that he is honorable? Shakespeare has said that "My honor is my life!" and it is certain that a boy is not much use without life, and it is equally certain that without a code of honor he cannot use his life to very effective purpose for the uplifting of himself or of his fellow men.

And what does honor mean? According to my dictionary a person who is held in honor is one who is esteemed, respected and upright. And such a person is one who can be trusted, so that when he gives his word on any matter there can be no doubt but what he intends to carry out his promise to the letter.

Thus a Scout is honorable, and may be trusted, because having given his promise to obey the Scout Law, of which this is the first clause, he will follow through to the very end any task which he undertakes "On his honor," and further, being a Scout and trying all the time to obey the Scout Law, he will not make statements which are not true.

Scouts At Famous English Schools

No less than eighty Old Country public schools now have their Boy Scout Troops. The latest additions are Epsom, Mill Hill, Oakham, Oundle, Tonbridge and Westminster. Canadian Scouts on tour after the great 1929 World Jamboree in England were much interested in a Scout notice board in the famous quadrangle at Eton, recording the activities of Eton Scout patrols prior to the summer holidays.

This is another token of the fact that it is generally recognized that the Scout Programme is beneficial to boys of all ranks and classes, and in every station of life.

It should be recollected that the "Public Schools' mentioned here are the old established boarding schools of England, which are attended for the most part by the sons of wealthy parents, who pay high fees for their boys' education at these colleges They should not be confused or compared with the "public school" as we know it in Canada.

When Does Wind Whistle?

How do trees indicate varying wind velocities? At what wind velocity does dust rise and swirl, and loose paper whirl into the air? At what velocity does wind whistle in the telephone wires? Ask a Boy Scout who has been studying his 1932 Canadian Scout Diary.

Scouts For Hudson's Bay Co.

Old Country Rovers of several years Scout experience are being sought by the Hudson's Bay Co. for apprenticeship posts in Canada. Ten or more have been in touch with Dominion Scout Headquarters. A recent typical letter from a Scottish Rover tells of two months alone as cook with his factor on an Ungava island, awaiting the freeze-up, then visits of Eskimos, the making of igloos, hunting seals and trapping foxes. All these young Scout adventurers write cheerily, reflecting the true Scout spirit under conditions that at times must be lonesomely trying

There are two boys away up in the far north of Ontario, who are working for the Hudson's Bay Company, having come out from Scotland for that purpose, who are on the roll of the Ontario Lone Scout Department. Travelling is so difficult in that country that we do not hear from them very often, but they are trying to carry out their Scout programme loyally away up in that lonely country.

An Emergency Guard of Honor

An interesting inside story of the role played by a Boy Scout Guard of Honour is told by President D. P. Cruikshanks of the Minto Skating Club of Ottawa. The occasion was the last visit of Viscount and Lady Willingdon to the annual skating carnival, the "Minto Follies," accompanied by distinguished members of the diplomatic corps and several provincial lieutenants-governors.

To facilitate the approach of the party to the vice-regal box a strip of carpet had been placed upon the ice. A few minutes before the arrival of the guests the director, on a final tour of inspection, stepped upon the carpet. It slipped under him.

Immediately came visions of a catastrophe—His Excellency or Her Excellency, or the Japanese Consul General, or the U.S. Minister—possibly even the whole distinguished party in a heap on the ice! And even broken bones!

The director thought rapidly.

Smartly uniformed Scouts were scattered about the auditorium on various duties.

Hastily he called them together. Quickly he explained, and placed them at intervals along the carpet, each boy's toes firmly clamping the carpet edge to the ice.

Their Excellencies and guests passed through the erect line of Scouts, smilingly appreciative of the youthful guard of honour—and reached their box in safety.

Boys who are interested in the Lone Scouts may obtain full particulars by writing to the Lone Scout Department, Boy Scouts Association, 330 Bay St., Toronto 2.

Good Practice

Jean Shiley is shown here clearing the bar at over 5 feet. This is just training. We'd say she should prove a good Olympic hope.

The Legislature In Brief

The Ontario Budget was carried in the Legislature with another big Government majority. The Hon. E. A. Dunlop, Provincial Treasurer, in tabling his budget, showed it to be a balanced one for the year 1932, together with an estimated surplus of three hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars. Increased taxation, amounting to four million three hundred and ten thousand dollars, coupled with governmental economies and expenditure cuts of four million, six hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars are also shown in the budget.

Increased Taxation

The increases in taxation include: raising the gasoline tax by one cent to six cents a gallon; a tax of ten cents a bottle on all imported liquors and wines and a tax of twenty-five cents a gallon on domestic wine; extension of the amusement tax to include tickets as low as twenty-five cents, and abolition of all exemptions except religious, charitable, patriotic and philanthropic bodies; increased taxes under the Corporation Tax Act, and increased charges for law stamps.

These new taxes are expected to net the following: Corporation tax, two million dollars; amusement tax, two hundred thousand; gas tax, one million three hundred and fifty thousand; liquor taxes, five hundred thousand; wine tax, sixty thousand; and law stamps, a hundred thousand.

Cut in Expenditures

The Hon. Mr. Dunlop announced a cut in governmental expenditures by four million five hundred thousand dollars. Referring to the new gasoline tax, he pointed out that automobile fees in Ontario are lower than any other province in the Dominion and that the present motor vehicle and gasoline tax together are fifteen per cent. short of road maintenance, interest and debt retirement.

The balance sheet shows the assets of the province exceeding liabilities by thirty-one million dollars, while the existing taxation is less than thirty-four per cent. of the total revenue.

There is also to be included two million, five hundred thousand dollars for direct relief, for unemployment, in the expenditures, and if the expenditure under direct relief last year had been eliminated Ontario would have had a surplus of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Having to include the necessary amount for direct relief this year and to secure a balanced budget, it meant that additional revenue to the extent of four million dollars had to be raised.

Liquor Board Not "Robbed"

From the Liquor Control Board, the Government had received ten million dollars, but the profits of the Board had been $1,509,346 less than this figure, the difference being realized from the surplus profits in the hands of the Board. "Any statement, however," said Mr. Dunlop, "that the Government had robbed the Board is entirely erroneous."

Power to declare a moratorium in the case of a municipality in default of payment of its bonds is provided for in the newly-created Ontario Municipal Board under provisions of a bill introduced to the Legislature by Attorney-General Price. The bill merges the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board and the Bureau of Municipal Affairs into one Board. This Board is commissioned to render upon any municipal matter and is empowered to scrutinize the debenture of any municipality and declare a moratorium when a municipality is in default and thus prevent suits against the municipality. The Board may inquire into the affairs upon the request of the municipality itself, or of twenty per cent. of its creditors.

Moratorium Act Explained

The Moratorium Act, where is especially applies to farmers, was explained by a member of the Government in the following way:

"If a farmer has a farm which is valued at fifteen thousand dollars, but to-day only shows a valuation of ten thousand dollars, then this Act will be in operation until such time as the farm realizes its proper valuation." "The method of procedure is very simple," said this member. "If a farmer requires to use the Moratorium on Mortgages, the Act provides that he will apply personally to a Judge in Chambers and will give all the facts relative to his position and the Judge will decide the merits of his case. This guarantees absolute privacy of the farmer's personal business and, at the same time, prohibits the illegal use of the Moratorium.

Safeguards Taken.

"It will be realized," he said, "that every safeguard has been taken against the misuse of this Act, because anyone wishing to take advantage of the new Act cannot do so unless it has been passed upon by a local Judge."

There was strenuous opposition to the passing of the Budget by the Liberal and Progressive members, but the vote was a straight Party one, the Conservatives lining up solidly behind the measure, while the Liberals and Progressives voted for the Amendment, which resulted in a big majority for the Government.

The Attacks on Insurance Companies

The attacks upon two Canadian insurance companies which gave rise to a recent debate in parliament have been deprecated not only by leading members of the House of Commons, but, since the debate took place, by dozens of influential newspapers throughout the Dominion. Seldom has the press spoken with so unanimous a voice.

One of the companies, the North American Life, has its head office in Toronto. The attacks upon it had to do with its recent mutualization under Mr. Thomas Bradshaw. Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. J. H. Gundy, who at one time jointly controlled the company, were denounced in certain quarters as men who had profited unduly from the mutualizing transaction. But as Hon. Charles Stewart pointed out in the House on Monday, the price which these gentlemen received for their shares was the price which they had paid. They did not make a profit.

So far as Mr. Gundy was concerned, he was already out of the company before mutualization took place. Late in 1930 he had transferred his shares to Mr. Bradshaw at cost. Mr. Bradshaw, finding himself in control and finding also that there was provision for mutualization in the company's charter, proceeded to submit a plan to the shareholders and policyholders which was carried by them without a dissenting voice. This plan involved the relinquishment of the Bradshaw stock at the price he had paid for it.

The sum of $1,275,000 which retired the stock to the shareholders and enabled the North American to function as a mutual company was secured from funds in which the policyholders had no interest or equity—chiefly from the surplus in the company's non-participating fund. The participating fund out of which dividends are paid to policyholders was not only left absolutely intact, but becomes entitled to all future surplus earnings of the non-participating fund which, under the old system, would have gone to shareholders.

During the debate in the Commons a number of influential members paid tribute to Mr. Bradshaw's part in the transaction. "Many of you know," said Mr. Bennett, "that he was city treasurer of Toronto for several years, and he enjoys, I believe, a reputation for probity, for honor and for integrity second to that of no man in this country." Mr. Mitchell Hepburn said: "I believe he is an honorable, capable gentleman, and I think he showed his unselfish spirit when he mutualized the company for the benefit of the policyholders." Mr. Cameron R. McIntosh (North Battleford) said: "I believe Mr. Bradshaw ought to be commended for taking a lead in the mutualization of that company. It was not to his private benefit that the company should be mutualized."

There are always those who are ready to impute selfish and improper motives to successful men. It is encouraging to find that on this occasion there has been a general desire to let the facts of the case be known and to repudiate the unfair attacks which have been made upon two citizens of Toronto and the institution which they at one time jointly controlled.—Toronto Star.

Retirement

It is not difficult to get away into retirement and there live upon your own convictions; nor is it difficult to mix with men and follow their convictions; but to enter into the world, and there live firmly and fearlessly according to your own conscience, that is Christian greatness.—F. W. Robertson.

Former Champion In Bermuda

Gene Tunney achieved fame in the squared circle, but in this picture he and Mrs. Tunney are starting out to tour Bermuda, where they are spending a short vacation.

Current Events

As Viewed By The Press

The New British Tariff

Which particular Canadian products are most likely to derive benefit from the new British tariff? The subject is discussed in the Commercial Intelligence Journal of March 5, published by the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, by Mr. Harrison Watson, Canadian Trade Commissioner in London, who thinks that the the following are among Canadian articles in which our export trade is likely to be stimulated by the preferential duties: Flour, cereals (including possibly malting barley), cereal foods, apples, pears, concentrated apple juice, canned fruits and vegetables, honey, milk powder (and to a lesser extent evaporated and condensed milk), canned salmon, timber, dowels, handles and other woodenware, paper boards of various kinds, wrapping paper, wallboards, rubber footwear, gloves, silk hosiery, metallic office furniture, agricultural machinery and household electric appliances.

The outstanding fact from a Canadian point of view is that up to November 15 next the British Government has granted Canada and all Empire countries immunity from the 10 per cent. duty levied from March 1 on all goods of foreign origin, except a comparatively short list appended to Mr. Watson's report.—The Mail and Empire (Toronto).

The Empire Conference.

Strong as Empire trade sentiment may be, it is obvious that the success of the coming conference will only result if all parties approach the problem of Empire trade in a spirit of give and take. If, as Hon. C. A. Dunning pointed out lately, the conference is merely an aggression of sellers, no forward step will result. Quite as important for each part of the Empire as finding a market for their own products is the question of what they can or will buy from the others—Kingston Whig-Standard (Ind.).

Britain and the War Debt.

Britain is not accustomed to repudiating obligations. But the burden is so great that she may have no choice. She has already it must not be forgotten, through the Balfour agreement of August, 1922, asked her debtors that she wants from them and from Germany only sufficient money to discharge her debt to the United States. All the debts owing to her in excess of this amount—and they totalled more than five and one-half billion dollars—she has already wiped off the slate.—Vancouver Province (Ind. Cons.).

Financial Problems in the U.S.A.

Much is heard about the financial problems of Britain and Germany; but little about those of the United States. The latter are very serious, but there is fear of taking drastic action in the year of a presidential election. The consequence is that procrastination is marking the course of political Washington in grappling with the financial problems that beset the country.—Victoria Colonist (Cons.).

The Railway Commission.

The Canadian people will not permit a railway monopoly under private ownership. Neither are they in a humor at the present time to bring about a railway monopoly under public ownership. But so far no responsible public man, no responsible railway official, in fact, no one whose voice carried any weight of authority whatever, has advocated amalgamation. Mr. Bennett's last word on the subject was his well-known slogan: "Competition ever; amalgamation never." Mr. King is as vigorous in his insistence on the maintenance of both railways as independent systems. And from Mr. Bennett and Mr. King the list of those who have expressed unqualified opposition to any such idea could be prolonged indefinitely. To suggest, therefore, that the Royal Commission is going to pick up the idea out of the thin air and present it in any form as its major recommendation for the solution of the difficulties of the railways, staggers credulity. — Winnipeg Tribune (Ind. Cons.).

The Irish Government.

The popular conception of Mr. De Valera hand in hand with the bogey of anarchy is as completely unfounded as it is unfortunately prevalent. There will undoubtedly be attempts, in the Press and elsewhere, to discredit Mr. De Valera's actions from the beginning. Actually there is no necessity to judge Mr. De Valera of today by the Mr. De Valera of 1916. Power paradoxically clips the wings of fanaticism, and nowhere more strangely than in Ireland.—Spectator (London).

Britain's Foreign Trade.

If our people would only "wake up," it would surely be possible to increase our export trade enormously. The following quotation is from the recently published Basle report: "There is no instance in economic history of a crisis, no matter how great, which has not been followed by periods of stability and prosperity." Britain can take her part in the coming period of prosperity, but to do this successfully, our manufacturers must be prepared to meet the taste, the quality, and the price of the buyer, and this cannot be done unless we send abroad the right men, armed with the right goods.—Sir Harry Gloster Armstrong in the Empire Review (London).

If in future the millers are to buy 15 per cent. of their bread cereal expensively in Britain and are to be compelled to buy 55 per cent. from the Dominions, a dangerous situation may arise. If Dominion grain-growers were to organize a pool they might force up the price of bread grain almost to any figure. The English corn trade and millers would have no opportunity of buying enough cheap grain to keep the price of our loaf down, as their "free market" would have been curtailed to some 30 per cent. of their requirements. Nor could our Government meet such an attempted hold-up by reducing the quota, as the Dominions would have obtained a definite quota for their grain in return for giving us a quid pro quo for manufactures. So our industrialists would use their influence to oppose any curtailment in the Dominion wheat quota lest it react on their sales. But the effect upon British bread prices might be dangerous, even calamitous, on inter-Imperial relations and good will.—Viscount Aster in the Nineteenth Century (London).

"It Pays to Advertise."

"I can count on my ten fingers the department stores in this country that are doing more business today than they did a year ago," said Mr. Babson, "and in every case I find them also doing more advertising than a year ago." Mr. Babson is of the opinion that manufacturers and merchants who offer good quality, honest service and the lowest possible prices, and emphasize them by truthful, forceful and continual advertising will find 1932 a profitable year. In other and more familiar words, a year in which it will pay to advertise.—Boston Christian Science Monitor.

The Language of Broadcasts.

The talking motion pictures and the radio are undeniably having an effect on language as it is spoken. The microphone has definite limits, which are even further limited by the films and their technique. Long words, and particularly sibilant words with nuance of inflection, do not reproduce properly. So for the making of "talkies," there has to be a vocabulary censorship. This censorship has weeded out a long list of words. It is noteworthy that most of those words which have been retained have been those belonging, roughly speaking, to the Anglo-Saxon family. And many of those which have been banished are of distinctly Latin ancestry.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Building on Increase Dominion Figures Show

Ottawa.—A marked increase in building construction for the last two months, as compared with December, is shown by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The contracts in February were valued at $14,802,000. This compares with $12,738,000 in January and $11,357,000 in December of last year.

Canada's gold production in 1931 of 2,686,700 ounces, valued at $55,457,000, set a record for this precious metal, being 27 per cent. above the 1930 production.

Kansas Grocer Puts Customers to Work

Lawrence, Kan.—A neighborhood grocer here has his own remedy for the economic situation. Many of his customers had been out of work all winter and were indebted to him for groceries. And he wanted to build a new combination store and home. So he put his customers to work, paid them half their wages, and credited the other half on their bills. The men got work, Mr. J. C. Carter, the grocer, got the building, and the grocery bills diminished in size.

"She likes publicity, eh?"

"Does she? Why, she thinks the society columns ought to make an item of it when she gives a little breakfast to a tramp."

Jewels

As jewels are treasured in the casket, to be brought forth on great occasions, so we would preserve the remembrance of our joys, and keep them for seasons when special consolations are wanted to cheer the soul.—Jane Kirkpatrick.