Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

Good Example

Her Excellency the Countess of Bessborough sailed from Halifax on the Canadian Pacific liner Montclare. The Maritime Provinces will appreciate this example set by Her Excellency in the use of Canadian winter ports. In many respects sailing from Halifax is more comfortable, although the ships are less elaborate, than sailing from New York.—The Ottawa Citizen.

Force of World Opinion

After all, the cautious policy of the League of Nations has borne fruit. Critics who spoke of the impotency of the league and jeered at its inaction must admit that, had it not been for the existence of that body, very serious international complications might have arisen. No one can say what would have been the result of a vigorous assertion of the powers conferred by the covenant, or the adoption of the coercive expedients proposed by some impatient counsellors. Moderation, and the force of world opinion, have had their effect. Instead of being discredited, the League is vindicated as an agency of international co-operation against a common menace, when emergencies arise. — Hamilton Spectator.

International Affairs

In the realm of international dealings the United States has provided no record which Canada would desire to parallel. It has guessed wrong on matters of foreign policy far oftener than any other major power. Few parts of its program in recent years could justify either blind imitation by Canada or excessively-amiable attempts to meet its wishes. If Canada needs outside advice on foreign policies she will be wise to remember that Britain still holds the world's all-time record in the matter of guessing right on international questions.—Toronto Telegram.

World Trade Decline

A graphic idea of the extent to which depression affected the trade of the world during the past year may be gained from a perusal of the statistics just issued by the British Board of Trade. There was a decrease of 27 per cent. in comparison with 1930 and of 41 per cent. from the total for 1929. But British trade stood up very well compared with American trade, since British imports fell off by 16.6 per cent. and American by 32 per cent., while British exports decreased only 31.8 per cent. compared with a falling-off of 37 per cent. in exports from the United States.

The devastating effects of Australia's fiscal policy were reflected in a decrease in her imports of 54 per cent. Australia's exports, however, fell off only 17 per cent. The depression hit the rubber industry very heavily in Malaya, and this is indicated in the fact that British Malaya showed the heaviest decrease in exports—57 per cent below the figure for 1929.

The German figures show an amazing turnover. For 1929, 1930 and 1931 Germany had a progressively favourable trade balance. It was less than £2,000,000 in 1929; it rose to more than £80,000,000 in the following year, and it was in excess of £140,000,000 for the 1931 period.—Montreal Star.

Empire Trade

One of the points brought out by the Minister of Finance in his budget speech is that, owing to the policy of the present Government, Canada is trading less with the United States and more with the British Empire than it did in other years. For the 11 months of the past fiscal year for which reports at available our imports from the British Empire were 25.3% of our total imports as compared with 22.6% the previous year; our imports from the United States 60.9% as against 64.5%, and our imports from other foreign countries 13.3% compared with 12.9%. Our exports have shown a somewhat similar change for the better. This trend is encouraging to all those who entertain high hopes of closer trade relations within the Empire as a result of the forthcoming Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa next July. It is moreover to be repeated that for 11 months of the past year Canada has a favorable trade balance of over $25,000,000 compared with an unfavorable balance of nearly $71,000,000 in the previous corresponding period. In other words ther has been a change in Canada's favor of nearly $100,000,000. —Mail & Empire, Toronto.

Unemployed and Placer Mining

It would be far better in every way, and cheaper in the longer run, to put unemployed men in the way of earning a good living for themselves than continue to keep them in idleness by way of direct relief. It is a matter of organization chiefly to transfer a large body of men to the placer gold district of British Columbia, where climatic and general working conditions are highly suitable to outdoor work. They need employment and Canada needs gold.—Calgary Herald.

Paying the Piper

The great middle class of white collar workers in offices, stores and factories is the backbone of society, the big tax-paying class and the big purchasing class. And it is the class that stands as a buffer between organized labour and organized capital. It is the white collar middle-class worker whose grievances have raised Adolf Hitler to great influence in Germany. It is the white collar middle-class worker who is paying the piper in Canada. What can be done for him?—Vancouver Sun.

The Ottawa Conference

The conference will not be of merely external importance; its intended purpose is inextricably interwoven with the domestic business of this country, and to allow it to be thrust out of thought for the sake of seemingly more intimate affairs would be suicidal. When the "strictly business" nature of its work is appreciated there is met the absolute necessity of a representation fully qualified to deal with matters of trade.—Auckland Weekly News.

"Managing" the Pound

If there is any chance of a further speculative bull movement in the pound developing—and we are not disposed to minimize the danger—it would, we urge, be useful if it were made clear by the actions of the Bank of England, reinforced, if need be, by a definite official statement of policy, that while no decision as to the ultimate level of sterling has yet been reached, there is, so far, no underlying justification for any substantial upward movement, and that, therefore, effective steps will be taken, by the acquisition "a l'outrance" of foreign short-term assets (or even gold) to give speculation "for the rise" its quietus.—Economist (London).

Britain's Recovery

We are satisfied that never since the war has there been so firm a case for sane optimism. True that everything cannot be done at once. True that the larger problems are still almost of the same magnitude, and that we are only just beginning to make a real impression on them. But the great work of national reconstruction is fairly in hand.—J. L. Garvin in the London Observer (Ind.)

Prices in Britain

The doleful prophecies that the prices of imported foodstuffs were bound to rise have not been fulfilled. This is due in part to the fact that certain countries from which we purchase 59 per cent. of our imports of food followed Great Britain; the gold standard, and other gold countries had to adjust their prices to ours. But it is also due to the praiseworthy self-restraint of both wholesale and retail traders, who refrained from exploiting such opportunities as offered.—London Daily Telegraph (Ind. Cons.)

Britain's Great Effort

It is fair to say that things are looking up. Our trade balance is better; the stock market has visibly brightened; sterling has risen; we have paid back before it was due a large part of the £80,000,000 credits from France and America. Income tax payments are flowing in well. Budget prospects are reasonably good, and the economies effected by departments more than come up to expectations. All these things bear testimony to the nation's immense strength and to its magnificent capacity for effort.—London Sunday Times (Cons.)

The Enigma of Germany

Germany is a curious country, where the unexpected always happens. From an economic point of view the Germans are perhaps the greatest race of modern times. At any rate, they possess a capacity for work unrivalled by other nations. But politically they are incompetent. Many among them are the first to admit it, and this curious absence of an understanding of politics is one of the tragedies of civilization. —George Soleveythick in the Nineteenth Century (London).

Unemployed Germans Made to Study Trades

Attendance at a trade school is made compulsory for the unemployed 18 years of age in Berlin and other cities of Germany. The program includes courses in manual training, typing, stenography, domestic science, general educational subjects and classes in gymnastics and hygiene. Books and shool materials are free.

Young girls out of work are being employed as assistants in municipal kindergartens, nurseries and hospitals. For sewing classes, at which attendance is mandatory, machines, materials and lunches are supplied without charge.

Pacific "Growers" Experiment With Atlantic Coast Oysters

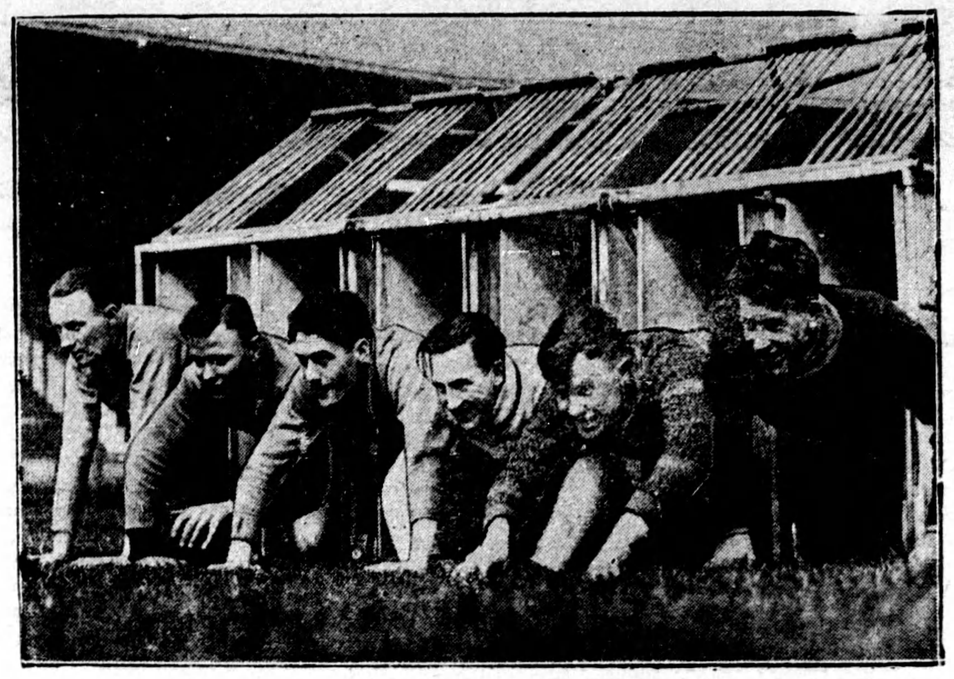
Santa Cruz, Calif.—Experiments are being conducted in an effort to grow Eastern oysters in Pacific Coast waters. Ten thousand "spat" were brought from the Atlantic last year and a million more will be brought out this year.

The small Japanese oyster has been transplanted successfully but as yet Coast beds have had little success with the Eastern Bluepoints. Native oysters are succulent but small like the Japanese product.

A wise enemy is better than a foolish friend.

Envy is like the rust of iron; it wears away the envious.

All Set — Go!



Greyhounds of the racing track keep fit. A group of dirt-track riders ready to leap out for a sprint at their Wimbledon training quarters, make use of greyhound starting boxes there.

Scouts and Accidents

During 1931 a total of 16,577 accidents occurred in Ontario. Of this number 1,738 proved fatal. The mishaps include practically every accident against which we give Scout training either directly or indirectly. There were 341 accidental drownings, 33 electrocutions, 24 deaths from poisoning, 15 from stangulation, 19 from septic poisoning from wounds, 61 from burns or scalds. There were 159 accidents with fire arms, of which 45 were fatal. There were 534 cases of fractures and sprains, and 299 accidents to hands or feet. Two of the latter resulted in death. There were 355 accidents during sports, ten being fatal.

For Canada the totals can be multiplied approximately by five.

Is this not an almost dismaying reminder of the importance of our first aid instructional work, and the general objective of Scout training—teaching to be mentally prepared to use the head under all circumstances?

Lone Scouts will be well advised to concentrate strongly on the tests which will qualify them as Swimmers, Rescuers, Firemen and Public Safetymen. The public has a right to expect that in face of such accidents as the above, a Lone Scout will be qualified to render efficient assistance, if the opportunity comes his way.

Toronto Scouts Boost Ontario Apples

That the Boy Scouts of Toronto could do more in one day than the provincial department of agriculture could do in a month to make Toronto "Ontario apple conscious" was affirmed by Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, provincial Minister of Agriculture.

He referred to the Boy Scout Apple Day held on April 1st, when, to assist their district financial compaign, the Scouts of Toronto sold Ontario apples on all the street corners of that city, and earned an appreciable profit for their funds. What about a Lone Scout Apple Day in your district?

Scouts' Good Work at Shanghai

Reports from Shanghai record work by Boy Scouts during the recent Sino-Japanese outbreak that reminds one of the siege of Mafeking, where the service idea of Scouting originated in 1900. The first call was for 12 Scout cyclists. Soon 90 boys were on duty at various relief headquarters and municipal bureaus of the international settlement, as messengers, guides, 'phone operators, hospital orderlies, etc. The boys came from troops of many nationalities — British, French, German, American, Russian, Jewish.

Sleep Out and Live To Be 100!

I know that there are quite a few Lone Scouts who sleep out of doors nearly all the year round, and you should see what fine healthy boys they are!

Did you know that the Chief Scout, Lord Baden-Powell, who is 75 years of age, sleeps outside winter and summer?

Writing the Editor of "Camping" to deny a statement that he had given up sleeping out of doors, Lord Baden-Powell demands, "What has 'over 70' to do with it? I've learned wisdom in my 15 years, and that tells me that if everyone slept out we should all live to be 100 or more. But as this would overcrowd the clubs it is perhaps just as well that some should sleep in and die early—say at 90. But for me to sleep inside! Not if I know it!"

So, Lonies, sleep outdoors and be healthy!

Our Weekly Scout Law

No. 4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.

Hence the oft used phrase "The Worldwide Brotherhood of Scouting." In this law is found the real heart of Scouting on which we build all our hopes for the future of the world. To be a friend to ALL! There is no room here for quarrels and fighting. War can have no place in Scouting while this law remains in the constitution. And if Scouts of every nationality, color, creed nd tongue are brothers, as well as being friends, then we have an organization more powerful than any League of Nations can ever be.

This, Lonies, is perhaps the most important Law of all. Make it a part of your life, and see that YOU fulfil all the obligations required of a real friend. Someone has said "A friend is one who knows all about you but loves you just the same!" Need I say more?

N.S. Scouts Plant 80,000 Trees

As reported by Provincial Chief Forester Schierbeck, Nova Scsotian Boy Scouts in 1931 planted 80,000 trees in Scout reforestation areas in various parts of the province.

Don't forget to let all your farmer friends know that they can obtain all the trees they want from the Ontario Forestry Branch free of charge. We hope that you have posted all your Tree Signs by this time.

For particulars of how to become a Lone Scout, write to the Boy Scouts Association, Lone Scout Dept., 330 Bay Street, Toronto.—"Lone E."

Early April

Behold the robin's breast aglow
As on the lawn he seeks his game,
His cap a darker hue doth show.
His bill a yellow flame.

Now in the elm tops see the swarm
Of swelling buds like bees in May;
The maples, too, have tints blood warm,
And willows show a golden ray.

Forth from the hive go voyaging bees,
Cruising far each sunny hour;
Scenting sap mid maple trees,
Of sifting bread from sawdust flour.

Up from the marsh a chorus shrill
Of piping frogs swells in the night;
The meadowlark shows flashing quill
As o'er brown fields she takes her flight.

Now screaming hawks soar o'er the wood,
And sparrows red haunt bushy banks,
The starlings gossip, "Life is good."
And grackles pass in sable ranks.

The rye fields show a tender hue
Of fresh'ning green amid the brown.
And pussy-willows clad anew
Along the brook in silver gown.

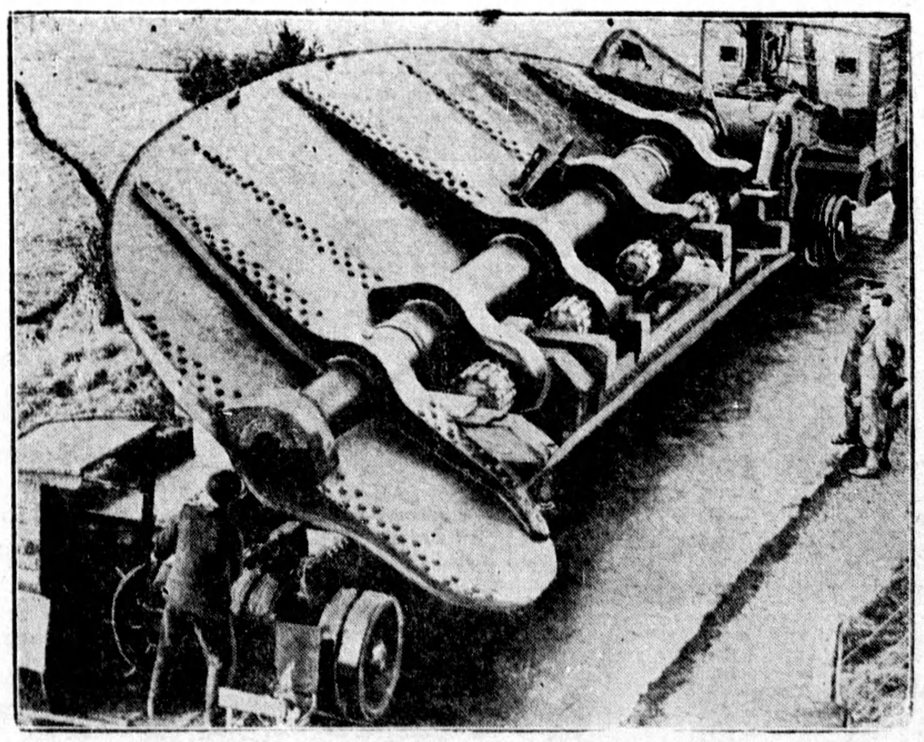
The purple finch hath found his tongue,
From out the elm tree what a burst!
Now once again all things are young,
Renewed by love as at the first.
—John Burroughs.

English Plays on Istanbul Stage

Istanbul—For the first time since the war, plays are being presented here in English, a troupe from London offering the dramas of George Bernard Shaw and other British playwrights for the Anglo-American colony.

Well water should never be unhealthy.

"Berengaria's" Rudder Journeys to Repair Shop.



he 55-ton rudder of the "Berengaria" was carried 316 miles to Darlington, England, for r g the trip from Southampton attendants at front and back of the specially constructed kept in touch by means of a telephone.

Outlook For Saskatchewan Farmers This Year

The drought-stricken areas of Western Canada, including a portion of the Province of Saskatchewan, have claimed a good deal of attention by Canadians in other sections of the Dominion for the past year or two. It was good news, therefore, which came a few days ago that Spring work had been started by the farmers in the vicinity of Swift Current. The public mind, naturally, reverted on receipt of this news to the statement made before the Toronto Canadian Club recently by Hon. Robert Weir, Federal Minister of Agriculture. that what was considered drought-proof seed had been produced for distribution in the Western areas which had suffered so greatly.

In this conection it is interesting to note a bulletin issued by Dr. W. Allen and Prof. E. C. Hope, of the Farm Management Department of the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture. It is entitled "The Farm Outlook for Saskatchewan, 1932," and says that most Saskatchewan farmers are still unable to discover any major enterprise as satisfactory as wheat production although farm incomes have been almost obliterated by the continued depression of wheat prices. The chief interest of the farmers now is to secure sufficient funds to support their families and carry on their farming operations. Taking stock of the situation, the bulletin states that in the district of Turtleford, Kindersley, Davidson and Craik and Maple Creek, of the 441 owners or part owners, eight per cent. were reported free from debt, the remaining 92 per cent. having debts averaging $4,782 per farm. Debts against real estate secured by mortgages plus unpaid amounts on agreements of sale were reported by 81 per cent. of all the 441 owners, and amounted to $4,341 per farm. The debts of tenants usually average less than those of owners as their assets are smaller, movable and depreciate more quickly.

The general physical conditions bearing on the 1932 Saskatchewan wheat crop are said to be decidedly more favorable than a year ago. Precipitation since last harvest has been better than average in the northern agricultural sections, and decidedly better than for last year in the southern districts. The southern area must secure adequate rains during the growing season to harvest even a moderate crop. There are possibilities also of considerable damage from cutworms and grasshoppers.

Conditions in agriculture at present are said to be very much like those of 11 years ago when prices for grains, stocks and live stock products were all at about the lowest points in their respective cycles. The outlook for live stock, therefore, is not considered favorable. Recovery in such prices are looked for in the following order: Poultry products, hogs and sheep, butter and cattle. The chief factor in farm success is said to be the ability of the individual farm operator.—Mail & Empire.

Most of Canada's Land Is Still Uncultivated

Only about one-sixth of Canada's suitable land is actually under cultivation as farms, according to the census of June, 1931,, figures of which are being made public by the Dominion Government. It is estimated that about 300,000,000 acres are suitable for cultivation, of which some 57,000,00 were actually sown to field crops at the time of the census. This, however, represents an increase of about 2.4 per cent in the number of farms in the decade since 1921.

The Province of Ontario has the largest number of farms—191,697. Saskatchewan is second with 136,571 and Quebec third with 136,061. The five Eastern Provinces—Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario—showed an increase of 19,416 for the decade; while the four Western Provinces—Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia—showed an increase of 36,770. The five Eastern Provinces, however, have 414,044 farms as against 314,200 for the four Western.

A farm, for the purposes of the census, is any tract of land an acre or more in extent which produces agricultural products of $50 annually or more, or which is used for crops or pasturing.

Ton of Hay Travels By Parcel Post

Denver, Colo.—A ton of hay has been mailed by parcel post to feed dairy cattle in the snow-bound town of Silverton, which has been isolated since Feb. 9.

A Durango firm was unable to ship the hay because the railroad is blocked by snow slides. So it was placed in bundles to conform with the maximum size and weight specified for parcel post, and mailed. It required $14 worth of stamps.

The hay was transported by pack mule at a cost of 5 cents a pound to the Post Office Department, according to a report to the State Utilities Commission. The Post Office Department thus lost $86 on the transaction but the Silverton cows are munching hay and the children of the isolated town had their fresh milk again.

Books are men's hearts in other men's hands.