Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

Two Notable Careers

Two great sihpping magnates have died within a week of each other—Robert Dollar, picturesque Canadian, at 88, and the equally picturesque Lord Inchape at the age of 80. Their careers had many points of similarity. Both were born in Scotland of poor parents. Both had in abundance industry, integrity, vision and that genius for organization which lead men into high places. Both made huge fortunes, but they did much more than pile up personal wealth. One was the biggest factor in multiplying the commerce of the United States from its Pacific ports; the other the most potent influence in trebling the trade of Britain with India and the Orient.—London Free Press.

Efficiency and Humanity

Lutheran Synod in New York objects to the policy of firing middle-aged men on the plea that they are too old to work. Humanity has been taken out of industry when it seeks to extract the maximum effort from the most productive years and then prepares to scratch the name off the payroll.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Wheat Prospects

The Canadian prairies have had the most drenching May rain in years, while the winter wheat States across the line are parched and crops are threatened with almost complete destruction. It is morally wrong to rejoice in the afflictions of others, but the economic result is a rise in prices for all wheat in the United States and Canada. The rain and higher prices combined will put new hope into Western Canada.—London Advertiser.

Canada's Pension Bill

What do governments do with all the money? To people who constantly ask this question we suggest an examination of a return tabled in Parliament. What it shows is that for pensions alone Canada last year paid out $65,636,263. And on top of that there are old age pension, pensions for retired civil servants, pensions for retired judges, pensions for others. All of us asked for these pensions, supported them. No one, certainly, begrudges the pensions that go to war veterans. But it is well that occasionally we be reminded of what we are doing, of the money that is involved.—Ottawa Journal.

A Brilliant Notion

Mr. Samuel Vauclain, the great American locomotive magnate, has found the solution of the unemployment problem. "All our troubles will come to a end," he said, "when every one makes up his mind to work instead of soliciting help from the Government!" The cure for unemployment is work. All we have to do is to give orders to eight million unemployed Americans to start working, and to be quick about it. Nothing like a business man for brilliant notions!—Le Canada, Montreal

The Imperial Conference

We do not want to be pessimistic, but we should look the facts in the face. South Africa wants reciprocity with Britain and the other countries of the Empire on condition that her national industries are adequately protected. Australia wants to sell her meat and dairy products. India is always ready to sell her pig-iron and half-finished steel to Britain. The Irish Free State, which is becoming more and more free, wants more extensive markets for her dairy products. Canada wants to sell her grain, and her pulp and paper. "We ought to consider in the first place the interests of our own people, then the interests of the Empire," Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. J. H. Thomas have declared. We have never doubted this for a moment, and it is for this reason that we do not expect much from the Imperial Conference.—Le Droit, Ottawa.

Imperialistic Germany.

Germany has apparently fallen back into the hands of the world-defying militarist class which was responsible for her present plight.

A Germany governed by Hohenzollerns and their ilk is a potential danger to her neighbors and to world peace. A democratic Germany released from war debt payments might have aided in world recovery. An imperialistic Germany relieved of debt payments may utilize the advantage gained to strengthen herself for another attempt at world domination. News of the recent political developments in Berlin is the most disturbing that has come out of that country since pre-war days. — Toronto Telegram.

Ever Notice This?

Did you ever pause in a post office long enough to take a squint at the waste paper basket shortly after a number of people had received their mail?

If you have you were probably struck by the number of circulars and form letters and hand bills that littered it up. In fact you doubtless were struck by the fact that many of them had been thrown in the basket as soon as they wre removed from the envelope, the recipient never even taking the trouble to give them a second glance.

But did you also notice that you didn't see anyone throwing the newspapers and especially the home town newspapers in the waste basket or on the floor? Did you notice that newspapers are always carried away instead of tossed away? Well, right there is a mighty good argument in favor of advertising in the local newspaper. The circular letter—a costly form of advertising—goes into the waste basket. The home-town paper goes into the home. Remember this and spend your advertising money accordingly.—Tara Leader.

EMPIRE.

The Cost of Higher Education.

South Africa is more than liberally endowed with institutions which furnish instruction more or less of the university type. It may soon be in a position to boast that it is turning out more B.A.'s to the morgen than any other nation on earth, except possibly the United States of America. The question is, can the country continue to face the expenditure even on the present slightly reduced scale? Unless commodity prices recover—and unfortunately they are still falling in terms of gold—it will surely be necessary to effect large economies in higher education, and in that event the right of existence of the smaller university colleges is certain to be challenged.—Cape Argus.

Trade "Advisers" for Ottawa.

The Prime Minister has made a good choice of delegates to attend the Commonwealth representatives at the Ottawa Imperial Economic Conference. Once it was determined to follow the British Government's lead in sending "advisers" with Ministers, it became important that they should be representative of the interests likely to be affected by the Ottawa decisions. The selection of the personnel of such a delegation was necessarily a matter of great difficulty, and doubtless there is not one of the five who might not have been replaced by somebody else with equally good claims. But it needs to be said again that this delegation can in the nature of things be no more than an advisory and information-conveying body. The real work at Ottawa will be done by Ministers, and must be followed by Parliamentary action to be effective.—Melbourne Australasian.

Russia and Japan.

World-wide apprehension is being roused by the snarling between Tokio and Moscow. The Russians pretend to see from all quarters imperialistic designs agoinst the Soviet Republic, and in reply Japan declares that Russia is massing huge numbers of troops near the Manchurian border. It is difficult to see why Russia should seek a quarrel with Japan at the present time. Russia's bluster has much more the appearance of a clumsy attempt to stir up trade union and "proletariat" trouble throughout the world by an appeal to "the workers" to resist their governments—nominally to prevent help going to Japan. The industrial quiescence throughout Europe and America owing to the economic depression must be gall and wormwood to the indefatigable intriguers of the Third Internationale. Not war with Japan, but another drive for "world revolution" is the most likely object of Moscow's queer manoeuvres.—Hong Kong Press.

The Need for Economy.

The need for greater economy in public expenditure has been insufficiently emphasized at this conference (conference of Australian Premiers). When the Premiers' plan was launched last year it was recognized that it was but the beginning of economy. An aggregated deficit which was then regarded as the largest allowable with safety will be exceeded this financial year by several millions of pounds. It is evident that further drastic economies are required—not the piecemeal departmental savings now being made, but a fundamental reconstruction of the whole public service.—Melbourne Argus.

OTHER OPINIONS

Signs of Recovery.

There are many indications that with the conclusion of the session of Congress, when it is known that the budget is balanced, when taxes are no longer an uncertain quantity, and business is assured that there will be neither inflation of the currency nor demoralizing bond issues, business will respond.—Washington Post.

The American "Nation"

The United States cannot be considered a "nation" at all as the word is commonly employed; it is altogether too vast in area, its population too mixed in race and colour, its huge commonwealths and legislatures too diverse in interests, climates and "sovereign" rights. Political sagacity has always been wanting here; and even the early fathers—Washington, Adams, Franklin, Madison and Monroe—deplored this fact and sought to remedy it. The first President thought the political enlightenment of his people a matter of "primary importance"; Lincoln called it the most pressing of all civic duties. But just as America entered the World War quite helpless as a belligerent, so is she unable to adjust herself to today's universal crisis in the economic sphere. "Public opinion" is many and various; tenets of policy common to all are very hard to establish in a land of continental range.—W. G. Fitzgerald in Nineteenth Century (London).

Publicity.

There is no doubt that publicity suffers from having grown rich much too quickly. It sometimes flashes its diamonds and boasts of its powers and deals too freely in empty slogans and dubiously elaborate statistics. Imagination and brain-work are needed in its service, and these qualities the English, more than any other wooer of the new art, are likely to bring to it. England is publicity's last, most fastidious lover, and will prove the truest in the end.—Truth (London).

Seven Times a Winner

Sam Ferris of the Royal Air Force is undoubtedly a winner of the first order. He has just finished a record of 7 runs, winning all. The last—Windsor to London—26 miles. Two pals "chair" him.

Phone Message Dialed If Call is Unanswered

Milan, Italy.—If no one answers his call, the Milan telephone subscriber may now dial out a written note which is reproduced at the other end.

A compact sending and receiving instrument for this service has been offered to the public at small cost. It can be attached to the ordinary phone.

When a person goes out he sets the receiving device and the party calling hears a buzz indicating it is working. He can spell out his message on his sending dial and it appears at the other end on a sort of ticker tape.

Bad Habits

If we build a wall of bad habits, the difficulty we shall have to face will be how to climb out.

Dominions Pick Envoys To British Trade Parley

London—The Dominion Office has announced that all delegations to the Ottawa Imperial Economic Conference in July have been selected with the exception of those of the Irish Free State and New Zealand.

Great Britain has named six delegates: Stanley Baldwin, Lord President of the Council; J. H. Thomas, Dominion Secretary; Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Lord Hailsham, Secretary of State for War; Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade, and Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, Secretary for Colonies.

Australia will send Stanley Bruce, Assistant Treasurer, and H. S. Gullet, Minister of Trade and Customs.

South Africa chose N. C. Havenga, Minister of Finance; P. G. W. Grobler, Minister of Lands, and A. P. J. Fourie, Minister of Mines and Industries.

India named the largest representation of any participant except Great Britain. The Indian government will send Sir Atul Chandra Chatterjee, R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, Sir Padamji Pestonji Cinwala, Sir George Rainy, Haji Abdullah Haroon Sahibzada and Abdus Samad Khan.

Southern Rhodesia will send H. S. Hoffat, Premier; P. D. L. Flynn, Treasurer, and J. W. Downey, High Commissioner in Great Britain.

Farm and Home Week June 20 to 24 at Guelph

Guelph, Ont.—Farmers visiting the Ontario Agricultural College here will find a complete and new arrangement of the week's programme this year. They will be at liberty to choose what interests them most in this programme and will have ample time for visiting departments and friends. An interesting item is that much of the instruction will be given out-of-doors and made as practical as possible. Rates for rooms and meals are reasonable. All Ontario farm folks are urged to visit and renew old acquaintances.

Japan at the Olympics

It's a long journey from Japan to California and here we see the Captain of the team "getting his land legs" again at Santa Monica.

Women More Bad-tempered Than Men, Professor Says

According to an American professor women get angry six times to a man's four. In arriving at this conclusion he had men and women students keep "anger diaries"—that is, whenever they lost their tempers they recorded the fact for the benefit of science. A writer in London "Answers," however, allows leniency to creep in and gives the ladies several reasons for this high percentage. He writes:

"On the face of it, you can't get behind these diaries. There, in black-and-white, are the facts. They prove conclusively—. But what if the professor is too trusting What if the diaries only prove that women are more honest than men It is just possible that they have duly jotted down all their tantrums, while the men have failed to mark up half theirs.

Of course, the diaries may be accurate enough. Even then it doesn't mean that women are naturally bad-tempered. A British investigator of the problem of temper, Dr G. F. Still, of King's College Hospital, London, has noticed that when a child, which has become thin from any cause, begins to put on flesh, its temper improves. "Children brought to the hospital for excessive fatness are almost invariably good-tempered," he says.

So perhaps women are more bad-tempered than men—at the moment—simply because they have been "slimming." If that is so, the man who buys boxes of chocolates for his wife or his fiancee has a sound instinct of self-preservation. And the best way to tackle his own bad temper would be to eat more food.

Again, however, those little doubts creep in. The experts don't all agree. Here is what Dr. Josiah Oldfield says: "The wife of an ill-tempered husband should not blame him, but should diet him. If he is not too far gone, a week's fast and a month on a diet of herbs and milk will make a new man of him."

An earlier investigation into temper, made by Sir Francs Galton, the pioneer of eugenics, in 1887, suggests yet another line of approach.

Galton found that in families where both parents were good-tempered thirty per cent. of the children were good-tempered also, and ten per cent. bad-tempered. The others were "neutral." Where both parents were bad-tempered only four per cent. of the children were good-tempered and fifty-two per cent. were bad-tempered. Galton found also that girls were slightly—though only very slightly—better tempered than boys.

Heart Moved From Body During Successful Operation

The successful performance of a delicate operation that necessitated the removal of the heart from the human body is reported from Grat in southern Austria. Dr. Julius Stocker of the clinic of Gratz performed the operation.

The case was that of a lunatic who escaped from the asylum at Feldhor and shot himself in the heart, where Dr. Stocker found that the bullet had lodged. Dr. Stocker succeeded in lifting it out of the body, removed the bullet and replaced the heart. During the operation the man was kept alive by artificially pumping air into his lungs.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Australian Jobless Open Shop in Adelaide

Adelaide, S. Aust. — Showing both enterprise and determination, the unemployed in Adelaide have opened a sales depot on Rundle Street, the chief shopping centre.

There is keen public interest in the undertaking, which is a test to see how far the public will support the efforts of those prepared to try to help themselves, and thus save the country the expense of supportng them. The Governor, Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven, has paid an unofficial visit to the shop and made purchases and he says he intends to go again.

Soviet Builds Apartments For 12,000 Foreigners

Moscow.—Twelve thousand foreigners will be accommodated in a single modern apartment house being erected here especially for American, German and other foreign specialists.

It will have numerous collectivist features such as a common dining room and laundry for those wishing to use them. The government appropriated 4,200,000 rubles for construction and the building is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

Chinese Boy Invents Cheap Cotton Loom

Nanking.—A hand-controlled cotton-weaving machine, recently invented by a young Chinese boy in Wei Hsien, is the latest domestic handicraft machine added to the hundreds of ancient and crude home instruments.

This is a small machine, most parts being made of wood and costs about $20 Mexican. It can weave one pound of cotton cloth daily.

The Ministry of Industry is attempting to patent the machine and introduce it into every home in the cotton-growing sections of the country.

Life to Come

It is impossible to make any sense out of this life without an assurance of some life to come.—Dr. Orchard.

Unique Case

Strange is the case of John Mellish of Geneva, Illinois, jailed for indiscretion. He's an expert grinder of telescope lenses so astronomers get him out to work each day.

Night Sounds in Camp

The leaping of bass, plash, plash, at unequal intervals of time and distance, breaking through the supreme quiet of midnight, comes to one's ears witha liquid, bubbling accompaniment, not at all like anything else in the world. The mocking-bird often starts from sleep in the scented foliage of the sweet-gum to sing a tender melody to the rising moon. At such times his voice reflects all the richness and shadowy dreamfulnes of the night. It blends into one's sense of rest and becomes an element of enjoyment after one has fallen again into slumber.

Frogs are night's buffoons, "Croak, croak, croak," you hear one muttering, and with your eyes, yet unopened and the silence and stillness of sleep scarcely gone from you, you wonder where he is sitting. On what green tussock, with his big eyes jutting out and his angular legs akimbo, does he squat? Suddenly, "Chug!" You know how he leaped up, spread out his limbs, turned down his head and struck into the water like a shot. You chuckle grimly to yourself, turn over in your hammock, and all is forgotten.

Then the screech-owl begins to whine in its tremulous-querulous falsetto. . . . The big-horned owl laughs and hoots far away in bloomy glens. The leaves rustle, the river pours on, and the wind sinks and swells like the breath of a mighty sleeper.—Maurice Thompson, in "By-Ways and Bird Ootes."

China Favors Unions

Tientsin, China. — Chinese mechanics, waiters, sailors and other workers, following after the labor organizations ofthe western nations, have been organizing labor unions during the last 10 years.

This union fad has even gone into practically every type of work. The latest development is the organization of "shouting peddlers."

More than 100 street peddlers in this city, sweet fruit sellers, walking barbers, soup venders and movable restaurants, have formed a union "to protect their interests."

Helium Find Reported

Port of Spain, Trinidad—Helium is reported to have been discovered in Trinidad, rewarding a search which began after oil drillers tapped a source of the gas last September. The quantities available have not been ascertained, but the reports said there was a possibility that Trinidad might become an important source of supply.

Bird Migrations Ages Old

History from earliest times records many instances of the migrations of birds, and it is likely, according to eminent authorities, that the regular seasonal movements of flying creatures over the earth have been observed by mankind since the remotest times.—Gas Logic.

Airplane Tows Gliders

Halle, Ger.—The German airplane pilot, Herr Boenig, succeeded recently in towing four gliders together to a height of 1000 feet with a sports plane of 120 horsepower. It was believed here to be the first time that such a feat had been accomplished.

THE SIGNPOST.

Several enthusiasts were enjoying a round of golf. Darkness was falling, and one of the players had to send his caddie ahead to shout the direction of the greens.

Out of the blackness in front came a voice: "Do you see the moon?"

"Fine," came back the reply.

"Weel, that's the direction, but ro' sae faur!"