Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

British Films Going Strong

Most Canadians are pleased to know that British-made films improve in quality, and that the British industry prospers abundantly. We base this statement upon reports brought back from England by returning Canadians and upon frank admissions published in United States trade journals. Mr. Walter Wanger, vice-president of the Columbia Pictures Corporation, interviewed by the Film Daily, an influential United States trade organ, is quoted as saying:

"It might be well to note that although the American industry has made little progress through this period of world depression, enormous profits have been made in England by producers, distributors and exhibitors. Should this situation make us think? Those in control of production do not seem to realize that there is an entirely new world point of view which has to be met in picture product. This changed viewpoint radically affects the type of entertainment that must be furnished, as well as the attitude of the audience. Artistically, the business must improve."

The quality of restraint and wholesomeness, observable in many Old Country films, is one that recommends them to Canadian patrons.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

Something Lacking Here

The end of the limit seems to have been reached when a man in Montreal was sent to jail for 15 days because he begged a cigarette from a more fortunate individual. Somehow that rubs heavily against the grain of a normal person.

This man certainly was more sinned against than sinning and the citizen who "turned him in" apparently had completely forgotten the Biblical quotation, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" while his accoster apparently went on the Biblical assumption of "Ask and it shall be given unto you."

If this thing is carried too far we know a great number of office "friends" who will shortly be on the inside looking out!—Kitchener Daily Record.

The Bacon Quota

The Ottawa agreements provide for free entry into Britain of 280,000,000 pounds of Canadian bacon "of good quality." "Good quality" means the grade known in Canada as "select." ast year Canada only produced one-fifth of the number of hogs required to supply this quota of "good quality" bacon). These figures may give those not acquainted with the industry some idea of the huge task facing departments of agriculture, packers, breeders and farmers if Canada is to take full advantage of this important concession. Already an intensive campaign towards hog improvement has been undertaken by the departments here and in Toronto. A revolution within the industry will be required. Breeders are faced with low prices for bacon in Britain, the exchange and other major considerations but leaders in the industry claim the bacon quota can be worked out to the advantage of the Canadian farmer if only sufficient co-operation and good will are shown by all concerned.—Ottawa Journal.

Radio Licenses

A total of 544,129 radio receiving licenses have been issued by the Canadian Government Radio Branch from April 1 to September 30, 1932, or approximately one to every eighteen persons of the population of the Dominion.—Acton Free Press.

Comeback For the Horse

The horse will reappear in great force as the motive power for urban and suburban street and road transportation, if a certain British organization has its way. That organization, founded to further the interest of the breeder and user of the horse and ony, is known as the National Horse Association of Great Britain At the request of various bodies commercially interested in the maintenance of horse traffic, it is conducting an active propaganda for the encouragement of the use of horses for transport purposes, and is meeting with support and co-operation from firms with large deliveries to make.—Welland-Port Colborne Tribune.

Helpful Reading

A fondness for good books doesn't just happen. It must be cultivated in the child, as well as in the adult who did not acquire it in its youth or lost it in the transition from youth to maturity. Homes with good libraries well-read by adult members of the family seldom are the scene of juvenile revolt against helpful reading.—Sarnia Canadian-Observer.

The World's Banker

Even improvident people are compelled to be thrifty on the land. They cannot in actual fact get to the end of their resources, for a hand-to-mouth life is impossible for them. The process of farming makes the farmer place his investments in the soil. Every improvement to his land, every grain of seed, every furrow, every sod of earth raised is a sort of deposit in the bank which cannot fail, and on which one can draw cheques in kind, for the maintenance of life for a considerable period. Naturally, one has to work hard, but the earth is an employer which does not stint bread to its workers.—La Liberte, Winnipeg.

The Plowman

The plowman is the symbol of the countless men and women who have gone before us wrestling from the soil the means of sustained life and higher aspiration. He is the embodiment of all that is noble in human labor. Somehow, the hands that have guided a plow through the fresh-smelling earth are better for having done so.—Ottawa Citizen.

Supported by the Law

The British policeman is backed up by the law far more effectively than officers in some countries. When he makes an arrest there are not a thousand loopholes in the criminal law by which an unscrupulous lawyer can free his man. There are not a lot of criminals who go untouched because they have influence. The British policeman very truly represents "the majesty of the law.' He does not, as a usual thing, need to carry a weapon with him.—Victoria Times.

THE EMPIRE

Idle Money

If millions of pounds of money start to drift out of circulation—as they have been drifting out—and begin to pile up in the banks, clearly the consequences are going to be serious. Fewer goods will be bought because the money to buy them is less by the amount lying unused on deposit, and unemployment must rise. There is no other way of stimulating output and employment at the present time than by getting this money back into circulation.—London Daily Herald.

Dangerous Policy

The Japanese see China rapidly disintegrating before their eyes, and they ask themselves whether their best course is not to strive to save something from the ruins, and to mark out and secure at least one area which they can immunize from the surrounding contagion? It is a desperate policy, but it is intelligible to anybody who will admit that Japan's interests in China are more vital to her than the interests which the Shanghai defence force was established to protect so short a time ago were to England. It is a dangerous policy. Dangerous to Japan, because it tends to revive the prestige of the military caste, to strengthen the waning feudal ideology. Dangerous to civilization, because it creates on more septic focus in a disordered world.—Round Table, London.

Peace With Honour

The time for rapprochement between the Government and the Congress will come only when civil disobedience is definitely called off, and when there are guarantes which fully satisfy the Government that there will be no attempt to revive it in any shape or form. Even then, past experience cannot but make the Government cautious in accepting any overtures for peace that may come from the other side. India cannot afford to risk a repetition of the disastrous experience that followed the Irwin-Gandhi Pact.—Calcutta Englishman.

OTHER OPINIONS

Home Town Advertising

Mr. Merchant, the newspapers from the larger cities near your community are coming into the homes of your own customers these days with advertising columns bursting with announcements of real values.

If you will go to your home town newspaper advertising man he will help you with your advertising problems and make your advertising just as appealing to your customers as the "big city' advertising is. You, Mr. Merchant, have to keep that lead.

Local advertising has the jump on advertising that comes in from the outside, by properly utilizing the home town newspaper columns consistently and with careful attention to the preparing of copy.—Kenton, Ohio, News Republican.

No Change

The many Americans who are constant readers and admirers of Punch had naturally a moment of dismay when it was announced the other day that Sir Owen Seaman, who has been the editor for the last 26 years, was about to retire But the fears that a new editor might give us a new, twentieth-century, wise-cracking Punch, a Punch of studied irreverence and vulgarity—in the spirit of some of its contemporaries, notably in Germany and the United States—are happily set at rest. Sir Owen's successor is likely to be E. G. V. Knox, the "Evoe" that has long been signed to some of Punch's most delightful bits of satire and parody in prose and verse.—Boston Transcript.

Never increase discontent by careless neglect.

Russian Jewels Part of Legacy

The principal part of the $1,032,348 in personal property left by Edith Rockefeller McCormick consists of jewelry. Over 1,700 diamonds, many pearls and emeralds are shown in these two pieces.

Plant Surveys Proposed In Fight on Hay Fever

Manhattan, Kan.—Plant surveys of communities as an aid to hay-fever control are urged by Miss Elsa Horn, Kansas State College botanist, who has completed such a project in Manhattan, a city of 12,000 population.

"Only ten of these vitally needed surveys have been made in the United States," Miss Horn said, "but botanists must take up this work if hay-fever sufferers are ever to get much relief."

Three varieties of ragweed, hemp and pigweed were identified in Miss Horn's research as Manhattan's worst offenders among the 250 possible varieties of trees, grasses and weeds which may cause hay fever.

She found that 571.8 acres, or 22 per cent of the city, was in weeds. A single acre of ragweed, which grows in profusion in Manhattan, had been found to give off sixty pounds of pollen, the botanist said.

In arguing the importance of weed surveys, Miss Horn pointed out that 60 per cent of all asthma is hay fever in its advanced stages.

UNLOVED

One sorrow only in God's world has birth—
To live unloving and unloved on earth;
One joy alone makes life a part of heaven—
The joy of happy love received and given.

Give me the heart that spreads its wings,
Like the freed bird, that soars and sings,
And sees the bright side of all things,
From Behring's Straits to Dover.

It is a bank that never breaks,
It is a store thief never takes,
It is a rock that never shakes,
All the wide world over.

Motors Replace Horses Of Royal Mounted Police

Winnipeg.—For forty years famed throughout the English-speaking world as the Scarlet Coated Riders of the plains, the Royal Canadian Northwest Mounted Police at last have discarded their horses and taken to the motor car.

Before there were dirt roads across the prairies, before the era of the railways, the old Northwest Mounted carried law enforcement, the Crown's justice, into every nook and cranny of the Western prairies. They did so with the aid of horses and their prowess as horsemen. Their ability to travel weeks and months living off the country, cut off completely from supply depots, earned for them the reputation of the greatest mounted police force in the world. New methods of crime, new problems of law enforcement have changed all this. The photographs and paintings of the old scarlet-coated riders, astride their horses, is now only a relic of a Northwest which is gone.

New Regime in Turkey Introduces Family Names

Istanbul, Turkey.—Millions of Turks are racking their brains to choose family names for themselves while the Minister of Interior prepares a law to enforce this latest western reform.

Any names may be chosen as long as they are consistent with Turkish customs.

Heretofore family names have been non-existent in Turkey, thousands of women being simply "Fatimas' and thousands of men "Mustaphas" or "Husseins." Sometimes men have added names indicating they are the sons of a six-fingered man or a fishmogner—just for distinction.

Names must be chosen within six months after promulgation of the new law.

German Warship at Philadelphia

For the first time prior to the world war, a German warship visited Philadelphia. Seaman Herbert Batslaff of the Cruiser Karlsruhe evidently enjoys the change of scene.

Development of the Ontario Agricultural College

News despatches recently told of the visit of His Excellency the Governor-General to Guelph to dedicate and open formally the magnificent new administration and residence building of the Ontario Agricultural College. These reports were exceedingly interesting. It may be questioned, however, if the public are thoroughly conversant with the splendid work for agriculture being done at that institution, now presided over by Dr. G. I. Christie. The year 1873 saw its inception and on May 1, 1874, the Ontario School of Agriculture was declared open, thirty-one students being admitted. Under but four presidents the College has developed, until in all 35,855 students have enrolled, there being an enrollment of 568 students in the agricultural courses for the season of 1931-32. Since the inception of the O.A.C., degree courses have been established and the study of home economics and short courses have been added.

The Macdonald Institute, the gift of Sir William Macdonald, was opened in 1903, as a part of the College for training in home economics. The College has also been of inestimable aid to farmers in the selection of test seeds, in fact, a new variety of barley named "nobarb" originated there. The O.A.C. looks also after the registration of beekeepers in the province, about 660 apiaries, with approximately 162,000 colonies, being registered. Much help was given by the College in the corn-borer battle, while in the Canadian School of Baking the Trent Institute conducts commercial baking courses and does research and demonstration work. Poultry research, soil survey, animal husbandry, fruit growing, cold storage, grading of milk, killing of weeds and other features of the work of the school show the importance of O.A.C. to agriculture in this country. To the Guelph Mercury, which published an attractive special edition to mark His Excellency's visit, we are indebted for many facts concerning this admirable institution.—Toronto Mail & Empire.

Low-Cost Rations for Cows

Economical cow rations that New Jersey dairymen can feed as one step toward making readjustments to meet reductions in milk prices are listed in a recent statement by E. J. Perry, extension-service dairyman at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. Since the cost of roughage and grain constitutes from 50 to 60 per cent. of the entire annual expense of keeping dairy cows, feed is the major expense which the owner can probably reduce with the least difficulty, Mr. Perry points out. For the dairy farmer who has such home-grown grains as corn, oats, barley or wheat, and plenty of choice alfalfa, soybean or clover hay, Mr. Perry recommends the following ration as one that is economical and capable of stimulating high production: 1,000 pounds of a 20 per cent. ready-mixed feed and 1,000 pounds of corn meal, corn and cob meal, ground barley, ground wheat or a combination of some or all of these. This mixture contains 14 to 16 per cent. total protein, and, fed with good legumes, is a balanced ration.

South Favors Soy Beans

Raleigh, N.C.—North Carolina's greatest agricultural accomplishment in the last 25 years has been to increase the acreage planted to soy beans, in the opinion of Mr. C. R. Hudson, who has just rounded out his twenty-fifth year in farm demonstration work in this State. Mr. Hudson believes that the introduction of the soy bean into eastern North Carolina and its use over the entire State has been of tremendous importance to agricultural development.

When Mr. Hudson came to North Carolina in 1907 his first work was launched in a few counties around Statesville, in the piedmont. From that limited beginning, the county agent system has grown to the point where there are now 80 counties having farm agents.

Leads in Farm Tree Planting

Harrisburg, Pa.—Pennsylvania led the nation in 1931 in farm forest planting, according to the State Department of Forests. Of the 25,500,000 trees planted on farm forests during 1931 in the United States, Pennsylvania planted 6,000,000 trees. New York was second with 4,800,000, Ohio third with 1,743,000.

Fine Imposed For Posters

London.—Fines were imposed in two cases recently in courts in Oxfordshire and Montgomeryshire against individuals who had disfigured the country side by the use of posters along the highways. In both cases court action was taken in this field of lawbreaking for the first time.

May Sell Cigarettes Singly

Rome.—Slot machines to sell single cigarettes to persons who do not wish to or cannot buy a whole package are being considered by the government tobacco monopoly.

"I hear your wife insists on going to Monte Carlo? "Yes, she's mad on it. But I put my foot down absolutely." "So she's not going after all?" "Well, not with my consent."

Is Letter-Writing Out-of-Date?

Publication in England of a new and complete edition of Sir Walter Scott's letters, which reveal him as one of the most prolific missive writers in the annals of literature, leads a commentator in The London Morning Post to reflect upon the "positively appalling number of old letters which have been preserved in print.

"I have heard a famous historian, after his third glass of mellow old port in a college common-room, utter a fervent wish that the celebrities of the past had made it a point of honor to burn all one another's letters," he says. "Seeing that his domain was modern history, even a literary critic could excuse the outburst. Dr. Johnson wrote 300 letters to Mrs. Thrale, and Disraeli 800 to Lady Bradford, while there are in existence more than 1,000 of Edward Fitzgerald's.

"A prodigious mass of correspondence has to be examined by experts on this or that phase of eighteenth-century history one of whom has assured me that he had read more than a ton of handwriting, much of which was crabbed and crossed and very difficult to decipher. And a whole morning's work, he added, spent in thus spoiling his eyesight sometimes failed to provide him with a significant sentence."

However, the author of the article has his doubts as to whether the young swains of today are keeping up the old, gracious custom of writing love letters.

"They seem to prefer the telephone," he observes, "because, as one young and adequately ardent devotee tells me, 'I'd sooner hear her voice than have to chaff her about mistakes in spelling.' There is something in that, and when television is perfected, and the lover can hee him beloved as well as hear her, the walls of space and time will be down between the two neighbors.

"Another swain insists that the writing of 'the old-fashioned love letter' is really a dangerous practice. 'Two people don't see one another for a long time,' he explained, 'and write scores of letters cracking one another up in the most absurd way. And when they meet again neither comes up to the other's specifications, and the engagement is called off.'"

Matches 100 Years Old Lighted at Centenary

Dogliani, Italy.—Matches 100 years old were used to light candles and cigarettes at a celebration here in honor of Domenico Ghigliano, their manufacturer.

Dogliani credits Ghigliano, a native son, with being the inventor of the sulphur match. Similar claims have been made by others, but Dogliani is so convinced that it has erected a monument to its townsman.

The mayor produced the ancient box at a ceremony marking the hundredth anniversary of the invention. The first match broke into flame at the second stroke. Other honor guests were allowed to strike the remaining ones, all of which were good.

Ghigliano was a poor chemist when he produced his first match. Thereafter he manufactured them in boxes.

Mexican National Railways Ban Foreign Employees

Mexico City.—Indications that the National Lines of Mexico strictly will hold to the letter of the law requiring that only Mexican nationals be employed except in technical and directive posts, were seen in the decision on the appeal of a foreign worker.

William Barkow, who was employed in the Jalapa, Vera Cruz, shops, appealed his discharge after an accident and asked for indemnity. The Federal Council of Arbitration and Conciliation ruled against him, citing in the decision the argument that under the labor law his post should have been given to a Mexican citizen.

Airplane Device Is Tested

Milan, Italy.—Successful test flights have been made here with an airplane embodying principles like those of the wind tunnel. Air is forced by a tractor propeller through a hollow compartment in the fuselage narrowing toward the centre and widening again at the rear. The effect is to add to the driving force of the propeller.

Population of China

Peiping.—The Ministry of the Interior has announced China's total population as 474,787,386, of whom 25,000,000 are under Japanese control in Manchuria. Kiangsu, with 34,120,000, is the most densely populated province; Ninghsia, with 1,440,000, is the smallest.

"What is meant by a square gambler?"

One who never tries to cheat the police out of their rake-off."