Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

City Vandals

An outraged Summer cottager draws attention to the indecent liberties which many city motorists take with other people's property in the country. Too many urban dwellers, devoid of good manners and common sense, devote the Sabbath to excursions into the surrounding countryside and to devastating raids upon the woods and fields and lake shores where they picnic and carry on their frolics. In the instance complained of a group of men, women and children tore up shrubs and flowers, broke the branches of trees, and no doubt littered the neighborhood with empty cans, waste paper and other refuse. Such vandals are beyond the law and surely also beyond the pale.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

Burning $10,000,000 a Year

Figures compiled by the Forest Service of the Department of the Interior show that the annual forest-fire loss in Canada for the ten year period 1922-31 was $10,000,000. It is something that appals. Canada's forests are among the richest of her heritages, and the fact that we, the trustees of that heritage, should be sending it up in smoke at the rate of $10,000,000 a year, is a blot upon our capacity as a people. The melancholy aspect of it all is that most of this fire-loss is the result of indifference, of a carelessness that will not heed warnings or educational propaganda.—Ottawa Journal.

The Difference

Women, according to a trade survey, buy twice as many shoes as men. But, you see, a man can wear a pair of blue socks without finding it necessary to wear blue shoes.—Border Cities Star.

An Explorer Honored

A distinguished Canadian, Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, received honor at Kingston in the award of the Flavelle Medal at the hands of the Royal Society of Canada. The Flavelle Medal is given annually to the Canadian whose achievements the society considers have been the most important and significant. One of the previous awards was to Mr. C. E. Saunders, the discoverer of Marquis wheat, which revolutionized the date of harvest and the volume of the Western crop.

Mr. Tyrrell has won high tributes the American Geological Society, and from the Geological Society of London, the University of Toronto. His early academic career was interrupted by an illness which compelled him to live in the open air, and which changed the course of his life. From 1881 he spent seventeen years in exploration work in Alberta, Manitoba, and the Northwest Territories, his work taking him into the Yukon at the time of the famous gold rush.

Since his return to Toronto, in 1906, he has spent many years as a consulting engineer, in which capacity he was a forcemul advocate of the investment of British capital in the natural resources of Canada. As President of the Kirkland Lake Gold Mines he is an important executive in the development of the Northland, but in scientific and literary circles he is revered for his studies and elucidation of the early explorations in Canada by David Thompson, Samuel Hearne, and other pathfinders whose services to Canada are all too little known.—Toronto Globe.

A Surprise

An East Williams farmer called us up the other day and asked us if we were not surprised to hear that one of his Black Minorca pullets had just laid an egg measuring 8¼ inches from tip to tip and 6¾ inches with chest expanded. We certainly are. We were under the impression that the Black Minorcas were a group of islands.—Ailsa Craig Banner.

No More Jails

No more jails are to be built in Australia. They are to have prison honor camps instead, where convicts, who have been graded according to intelligence, will be given useful work and ample food. This is a far cry from the old convict settlement at Botany Bay and is heartening evidence of the progress being made in the work of reclaiming for human society those who have offended against the law.—Charlottetown Guardian.

Foolish Flying

Australia has the right attitude towards foolhardy and vainglorious flyers. They became such a nuisance, getting lost in the Australian desert and having to be rescued at great trouble and expense, that flying over the interior of the island continent without permission has been prohibited. Before issuing such permission, the authorities must have a guarantee that the plane is in good condition and costs of any rescue will be borne by the flyers themselves.—London Free Press.

The Drunken Driver

Conditions must be made so uncomfortable for the drunken driver that he will be banished from the road. He is a menace not only to his own life and limb, but to the lives and properties of his neighbours. — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

THE EMPIRE

Australia and the Ottawa Agreements

Up to the present the Ottawa agreement has brought Australia no disadvantage. The building of new factories and the general improvement in manufacturing production are amongst the best signs of returning prosperity. Industrial stocks on the share market are stronger and more buoyant than they have been since adversity swept over us.—Melbourne Herald.

Lord Willingdon and India

No one can doubt that the present Viceroy is a real friend to true Indian nationalism. It is not that he regards it as a movement to which concessions must be made, because it is there and is growing, but which is regrettable in itself. On the contrary, like many other Englishmen, he evidently regards it as a fine thing in itself, which Britain can be proud that she has had a share in producing. It is the weakness, not the strength, of Indian nationalism, which such Englishmen deplore. To love a common Motherland, to wish it to be great and prosperous, united internally, at peace with other countries, admired and respected abroad,, and administering its own affairs, these are surely true thoughts for every Indian, and these are thoughts which self-respecting Englishmen would wish to see grow in the youth of a country for which history has given them such a strange responsibility. Given a recognition of that spirit on both sides, even the poorest constitution would work.—Calcutta Statesman.

"British Settlers For Canada"

If the British people are to find a way in this new time, they must seek a much closer relationship with the Continent of North America. Such a relationship to Canada as we here suggest will add the strongest physical bonds to those already formed by a common language and a peculiar culture. The distance across the Atlantic becomes ever less important. I believe it possible, and necessary, to cement this union by the strongest sort of economic union. Behind Britain is the European Continent. Before her is North America. With her working class and her intellectuals constantly merging with those of North America, the future relationship would seem to be very natural. Discussions of this tendency need not long befog the understanding. North America is not going to overwhelm Britain as a whale swallows a small fish; yet Britain and North America are likely to evolve a new sort of international relationship. The strongest bond of that connection will be the British settlement of Canada.—Dr. Frank Bohn in The National Review (London).

THE UNITED STATES

Roosevelt's Year

Each new occupant of the White House knows very well that he is never likely to be so strong politically as during the first twelve months of his term of office. The nation is expectant; there is a universal feeling that wishes him well; he has enough political favours to grant and appointments to distribute to keep his followers compliant and to make it worth while for Congressmen to stand well with the White House; and, above all, the hope never dies down in the eternally resilient Amarican breast that a new President means a new era and better times. In Mr. Roosevelt's case all these favouring factors are magnified and multiplied, first, by the fact that both Houses of Congress are impregnably held by his own party; secondly, by the ever-widening range and severity of the crisis that has brought him to power; and thirdly, by the impression already made upon the public mind by his personality and his acts.—Alfred Bossom in The National Review (London).

Branch Banks

Ther must be branch banking on a wide scale, as in England and Canada. There must be a single national banking system, rigorously supervised. Only after such a reformation has been accomplished can there be serious discussion of a guarantee of deposits—and then it would be unnecessary, for failures would be negligible. —New York Herald-Tribune.

Lighter Light Bills

The cost of illuminating a ballroom in Philadelphia with candles for the celebration of Washington's Birthday in 1817 was $150, while now the same amount of light would cost 50 cents. Electricity seems to have considerably lightened the light bill. — Christian Science Monitor.

Futures of Skyscrapers

Population and industrial trends indicated in the census reports are now recognized by one professor particularly affected. William Orr Ludlow, of the American Institute of Architects, sees the skyscraper era at an end and the time of smaller cities, widespread suburban communities and decentralized industry at hand. — New York Evening Post.

Bones of 2,000 hippopotami killed by prehistoric hunters were found in a single cave in Sicily.

Explosion Injures Twenty

An explosion of illuminating gas did this to a tenement in Pittsburg. More than 20 people were injured, while one is missing. Firemen attributed it to escaping gas from a main.

Britain Signs Two More Agreements

Pacts With Norway and Sweden Widen Market for British Coal

London.—On May 15 the United Kingdom signed trade agreements with Norway and Sweden, bringing the total of such new pacts to five within a few weeks. The two newest treaties, like those with Denmark and Germany, provided for increased exports of British coal which, officials estimate, will reach 4,000,000 tons annually to the four signatory countries.

The agreement specifies that Norway and Sweden take 1,500,000 tons of British coal annually in return for certain concessions thought to involve reduction of duties on some Scandinavian products imported into the United Kingdom. Guarantee of a 2,500,000-ton market for British coal in Denmark and Germany was the United Kingdom's chief gain in treaties with those countries.

In its other new trade pact, that with the Argentine, the United Kingdom undertook to give the South American republic concessions in chilled and frozen meats, her chief exports, in return for a guarantee that Britain's frozen peso credits would be liquidated gradually by changes in Argentine exchange regulations. The United Kingdom also got a promise that duties on her exports to the Argentine would be lowered as far as possible to the level prevailing in 1930.

Moscow's May Day. The statue of Lenin in the Soviet capital is decorated for the huge celebration staged by Russian Workmen.

Back Seat Drivers Beware

Fairmont, W. Va.—Back seat drivers may now sit a little farther back to make room for John Poling, who is suing his wife for $25,000, claiming he was injured in an Alabama auto accident while Mrs. Poling was driving.

Former Rhodes Scholars Plan June Reunion

150 American and Canadian Winners to Attend Gathering at Swarshmore

Swarthmore, Pa.—The first United States reunion of Canadian and American Rhodes scholars will be held at Swarthmore College on June 4 to 6, beginning the day before college commencement. Newton D. Baker and Sir Francis Wylie will be the feature speakers at the activities at which 150 former Rhodes scholars and their wives are expected to be present.

Sira Francis Wylie, in addition to delivering the commencement address on June 5, will be tendered a dinnr the same evening in the college dining hall. He will give the impressions he has received from his wide contacts with Rhodes scholars, especially on his recent world tour. Until July, 1931, he was Oxford secretary to the Rhodes trustees.

Two of the visiting Rhodes scholars, now distinguished in their fields, will be contributors to the graduating exercises of the college, in addition to Sir Francis. Willard Sperry, the first Rhodes scholar from Michigan, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon on June 4. Mr. Sperry was formerly Hibbert lecturer at Oxford, and is now dean of the Theological School at Harvard. Another member of the first group of Rhodes men, C. F. Tucker Brooke, of West Virginia, will deliver the Phi Peta Kappa address. Mr. Brooke is now a professor of English at Yale.

The two conferences have been arranged for June 6. At the first of these, the methods of selection of Rhodes scholars will be discussed. The new method which has been in force for several years and was originally worked out through the efforts of Dr. Frank Aydelotte, president of Swarthmore, provides for selections overlapping state boundaries.

The other conference will be concerned with the international problems arising out of the present economic crisis. Mr. Baker will be the principal speaker at this conference.

Less Marriages — More Divorces in France

Fewer marriages, more divorces, and fewer births, are recorded in the povisional vital statistics issued by the French authorities for 1932.

To offset the decline in the number of births, there is a decrease in the number of deaths, although the decline in the deaths of babies under 12 months is negligible, there being only 267 fewer deaths of children within that age limit as compared with 1931.

The provisional statistics, based on returns from 90 departments are as follows:

	1931	1932
Marriages	326,358	314,878
Divorces	21,212	21,848
Births	730,249	722,246
Deaths (under 12 months)	55,444	55,177
Total deaths	680,710	660,882
Still Births	28,058	27,537

The ercess of births over deaths was 49,539 in 1931, and 61,364 in 1932.

Out of every 10,000 of population, marriages were 156 in 1931, and 150 in 1932. Births were 174 in 1931 and 173 in 1932. Deaths were 163 and 158 respectively.

Agreement Reached On Silver Issue

Six Points Decided on by 11 Leading Countries Consulted — Must Be Stabilized

Washington. — Definite agreement between Canada and other nations interested in improving the price of silver on a six-point program to be worked out at the World Economic Conference in London was made known Friday by Senator Pittman, who has been appointed to the American delegation.

The announcement was made as preliminary White House conversations with spokesmen of 11 leading nations entered their final stages and the monetary policy being prepared for agreement at London took on greater clarity.

The six points to which Pittman said all the nations consulted had agreed were:

1. That the price of silver should be reasonably raised and substantially stabilized.
2. That the silver question is a part of the general problem of currency stabilization.
3. That governments should agree to abandon the policy and practice of debasing and melting up silver.
4. That the fineness of debased coins should be restored as rapidly as practicable.
5. That so far as possible there should be a large use of silver as a base for currency issues.
6. That tariffs and other obstructions to a free movement of silver should be lowered or eliminated.

Silver May Solve Problem

After Prime Minister R. B. Bennett had attended President Roosevelt's economic conversations Hon. Charles McCrea, Ontario's Minister of Mines, on behalf of the Canadian Government, conferred with United States and Mexican officials on the silver question.

State department officials who have been working with Pittman on the problem pointed in asserting that if the status of silver can be definitely improved, many of the other problems of the conference will be automatically solved and its success assured.

Bacon, Ham Largest Exports of Meat

Ottawa. — Bacon and ham constituted the larger part of the meat exports of Canada in April last, according to a report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Out of a total export value of $461,760, bacon and hams accounted for $398,326, against $199,191 for the corresponding month last year.

The volume of that commodity exported last month was 3,817,400 pounds, compared with 1,846,600 for the same month in 1932.

Canned meat exported last month amounted to 67,271 pounds valued at $9,820, compared with 12,576 pounds with a value of $2,473 in April last year.

Roosevelt In Office Eleven Weeks Enacts Eight Major Laws

Washington. — The Tennessee Valley Developmnt Act, just signed by President Hoover, was the eighth major law put into effect in the eleven weeks he has been in office.

The major accomplishments of the administration in the domestic field to date:

Emergency bank legislation, Reforestation Act, legalization of beer, government economy, farm relief, currency control, Wagner direct unemployment relief, and Tennessee valley-Muscle Shoals development.

Ends Air Tour

Mrs. Lindbergh and the Colonel arrived at Washington for the trial of Gaston Means, alleged extortionist.

More Advertising Way to Prosperity

New York Club Hears Talk On Advertising Media

New York.—Use of advertising media on a more general and extensive scale is the surest way to end the current economic situation and to prevent them in the future, according to Mr. Erward A. Filene, of Boston, speaking before the New York Advertising Club.

Declaring that good advertising, with all that it implies, will show the way and lead toward a height of prosperity such as the world has never known, Mr. Filene held that a "good advertisement is just as productive of social and economic values as a good potato patch or a good clothing factory."

Advertising is not a distinct step which is separable from the rest of the economic machinery, but is merely a cog in the wheel and a necessary part of the whole, he continued. Advertising, linked with mass production and distribution, he said, "all help to get bread and butter and other things, the necessities of life and the luxuries of life, which should be available to every one, from those who produce them to those who need them. Advertising of the right sort is an essential element in this process."

He urged that manufacturers and sellers make every effort to allow the consumer to get the most for every dollar he spends and suggested that the best way to do this would be through low unit costs and low unit profits.

"The problem of the advertiser in these days is not to make people want to buy," he continued. "Who doubts that the consumer wants to buy better clothing, better housing, better food, a higher standard of living all around? The problem is to enable people to buy. I maintain deliberately and with no sense of paradox that this is precisely what advertising ought to do and what advertising can do."

Mr. Filene envisaged the future in most optimistic terms.

"Looking ahead," he said, "I see a possible future which is incomparably brighter. I see mass distribution linked with mass production—an enrichment of individual life, a gain in leisure, in enjoyment, in freedom of choice, in liberation from anxiety. The machine is not enslaving mankind. Man is enslaving the machine, and in so doing setting himself free."

Working in Field Finds Coin of 1600

Guelph, Ont.—Working in a field which had not been plowed for nine years, George Boreham of Guelph Township discovered a five-shilling piece struck around 1600. Despite an offer by an expert on numismatics, Boreham intends to keep the ancient coin.

British Columbia Taxes Meals Above 50 Cents

Victoria, B.C.—The British Columbia Government has imposed its new tax on all public meals costing 50 cents and more, according to the following schedule, just issued: 3 cents on meals from 65 to 80 cents; 5 cents between 85 cents and $1; 6 cents between $1.05 and $1.20; 7 cents between $1.25 and $1.40; 8 cents between $1.45 and $1.60; 9 cents between $1.85 and $1.80; and 10 cents between $1.85 and $2.

The revenue from this tax will be used for hospital purposes, to replace grants which the Government formerly gave these institutions.

Prospects of Agriculture Brighter, Says Swanson

Regina.—Wheat is now well on the road to recovery and prospects for improved agricultural prices are much brighter, Prof. W. W. Swanson, professor of economics, University of Saskatchewan, told the Social Service Council here.

Ultimate restoration of prosperity in the West depended upon much better prices for farm products, he declared, but the improved situation in regard to wheat was a hopeful sign. He suggested the council might consider crop insurance and the devising of a new scheme of co-operation similar to that now in vogue in Denmark.

Herds Shrink in Norfolk Due to Tobacco Acreage

Simcoe.—Nowhere is the growth of the tobacco industry reflected more than in the general trend of farming in this district. F. C. Paterson, D.R.A., points out that Norfolk's cattle population is decreasing at a rate of 1,000 per annum, while there are about 1,600 less brood sows than there were five years ago, when the tobacco industry was just getting established.

Former King of Spain Observes 47th Birthday

Madrid, Spain.—The former King of Spain, Don Alfonso of Bourbon and Hapsburg1-Lorraine, on May 18th celebrated his 47th birthday in exile abroad.

It was the third birthday celebrated in exile. Alfonzo has established his residence at Fontainebleau, outside Paris.

The day passed without notice by Republicans in Spain.