Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA.

Phases of Life.

There are two phases of life unfavorable to peace and comfort; the one is adversity, the other prosperity. It is hard to tell in which a man is more discontented with himself and more offensive to others. When prosperous he patronizes; when trouble falls upon him he whines and is a horrible bore. When he is down his friends wish him up on their own account; when he is high up they sigh for mountains to fall on him and bury him out of sight.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

Speaking of Poker.

Authorities differ as to whether a poker room should be classed as an anteroom or a drawing-room—Ottawa Journal.

Stud poker, of course, would be played in a study.—Toronto Star.

And strip poker should be played in a bedroom.—Chatham News.

And when the house is short of chips, the boys should adjourn to the woodshed.—St. Catharines Standard.

Himself to Blame.

When a man commits a crime and his name comes out in the paper, he hasn't the newspaper to blame, but himself. He should take due note of the publicity angle of it before he indulges in the misdemeanor.—Regina Leader-Post.

Old Gas Mains.

A London, Ont., firm boasts about having furnished that city with gas since the year 1856. Brockville can beat that. Since 1853 gas has been sent through the mains of this community.—Brockville Recorder.

Two Ways of Looking at It.

Pessimists will say that 18.7 per cent. of Fort Erie population is getting direct relief frof the public treasury. Optimists will point out that, despite hard times, 81.3 per cent. of Fort Erie's population is managing to pay its way—Fort Erie Times-Review.

The Home First.

Home, school and church all need to play their parts in the difficult task of rearing decent citizens, and of these the home has the earliest and most constant opportunity. It is a serious duty imposed on parents, and it needs to be faced seriously with a constant recollection of the fact that on home influences depends the character with which a youngster will eventually face a world full of difficulties and temptations.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Self-Reliance.

Under the heading "More of This Needed," the Nugget of North Bay tells a fine story of Canadian self-reliance. In that city is a modest little restaurant run by a mother and her two daughters, both of whom are going to school. The father is a prospector, but he has not struck recently.

The mother is a good cook and proud of it. So she started the restaurant. The daughters wait on the breakfast table before starting to school. At the noon hour they wait on the dinner table. Again after school they help mother. In the evening they attend to their school work for next day. The mother is happy because she is giving her children an education.

"But the main point is the spirit behind it all," says the Nugget. "Did they throw up their hands and quit? Not a bit of it. If more of this real Canadian spirit were evident throughout this Dominion of ours today, there would be less moaning and groaning, and more smiles and cheery chirps in the fields and on the pavements."—Toronto Mail and Empire.

The Genteel Way.

Impatient Bostonian stabbed a shoe clerk who failed to fit him after trying on five pairs of shoes, but in less impetuous centres of civilization the procedure is merely to bring the foot up sharply and kick him just under the chin.—Border Cities Stad.

That Innate Urge.

Everyone probably has nursed a pet longing to perform some foolish action, like, for instance, sticking his finger into his neighbor's cup of tea at a swell dinner to see if the tea is still warm.

The ideas vary from the insane to the freakish, but almost everyone is bothered from time to time with a desire to do something which would bring on him the shocked stares of bystanders.

One Lindsay man once told the writer that he discontinued sitting in the gallery of a local church because after the sermon had been going for five or ten minutes, he had a longing to run down the aisle, put a foot on the rail, and leap over into space in hopes of grabbing the big chandelier that swings from the ceiling. The desire to do this had seized him so often that he decided it was better to change his seat so that he would get some peace of mind and be able to listen to the sermon.—Lindsay Post.

Millions in "Soft Drinks."

What are popularly known in Canada as "soft drinks," officially termed non-alcoholic carbonated beverages, are consumed in substantial quantities, as the recently issued report on the Aerated Waters' Industry for 1932 discloses.

There are 358 plants in the Dominion engaged in the industry, of which 157 are in Ontario; 123 in Quebec; 27 in Nova Scotia; 25 in British Columbia; 21 in New Brunswick; 15 in Saskatchewan; 15 in Alberta; 13 in Manitoba and two in Prince Edward Island. More than 80 per cent. of the total production of the non-alcoholic carbonated beverages is made in Ontario and Quebec. The total value of the output of all plants last year was $11,067,886.

Canada imports comparatively little mineral or aerated waters or beverages. The total value of such imports in 1932 was $110,040 and the exports during the year amounted in value to $7,361.—Canada Week by Week.

THE EMPIRE.

First Woman Mayor.

The first woman mayor of Brighton, Miss M. Hardy, thinks highly of Brighton men. "They are superior to any other men," she told me today. "They are simply splendid in the work they do, and I would rather co-operate with them than with any other men in the world. I am talking of Brighton, not of Hove."—London Evening Standard.

A Man's Job.

The Press and the Language.

On almost every page of the Supplement to the Oxford English Dictionary one will find a new word that first received its introduction to standard English through the pages of a daily newspaper. It is not claimed that the press coins new words. In one of his essays the late C. E. Montague wrote of the journalist working not at the heart of the Empire of letters, but out on the shady borderlands of its demesne. "These are the fields," he said, "in which to trot a new word up and down like a horse that is for sale." Many an "aspiring idiom" has gathered respectability from its first public appearance in a newspaper to achieve the ultimate beautification of a place in the Oxford Dictionary. Where these idioms come from no man knows. They float about the streets and are caught and entrapped for the use of posterity.—Glasgow Herald.

Don't judge farmers by the few lucky ones. Most of them work hard, long days in all weathers. Each man has to plan, plant, grow, harvest, store and sell his products, which would be six men's jobs for most of us.—London Daily Express.

Australia's Example.

In these twenty months progress towards recovery has been gained which has made the world wonder. It is not that prosperity has been restored — that is still some distance away. But there has been a restoration of confidence, which is necessarily preliminary to a restoration of prosperity. In other words, the task is in process of accomplishment. The astonishing fact is that in Australia there has been no substantial development in economic conditions to which the betterment of Government finances may be attributed. The improvement has been due entirely to the faith of investors and of the public in the ability and honesty of the administrators. The material gain has been reduction of taxation. This reduction is, it is true, small, but it is well to pause and consider what a very great difference there is between a small reduction of taxation and a small increase of taxation.—Melbourne Australasian.

Compulsory Poverty.

Mrs. Reitz's recent spirited protest at Johannesburg against the exclusion of married women from the Civil Service gained greatly from her very sensible attitude on the kindred question of competition between men and women. . . . When married women are employed, they are not employed for fun, but because they have special qualifications. The few exceptions are not worth legislating about; whereas the total exclusion of married women from one particular branch of employment is bound to lead in many cases to gross injustice, as when a woman is separated from a worthless husband and must work for the sake of the children. The old fallacy of the "wage fund" has had many strange manifestations, but surely none stranger or more unortunate than this attempt to assign a different economic status to married women than to their single sisters. Civilization and compulsory poverty for one section go ill together.—Cape Argus.

England's Maligned Climate.

For long England has prided itself upon its rain. It pretended to be angry with its rain, or resigned and long-suffering with its rain, but secretly it took a delicious joy in its consistent standard of wetness. But this universal reputation of England has been shown up by recent events as the fraud and imposture it really is. It is a bubble which has been pricked by the summer of 1933. At last England has been revealed shamefully as a place which can be no wetter than even Palestine. In England they actually have a water problem, because of the lack of that rain which was supposed for centuries to be England's monopoly.—Jerusalem Palestine Post.

WARMS BLOOD.

"Singing warms the blood," declares a doctor in Scotland.

Looking For a Fight

Max Baer, heavyweight championship challenger, and of late moving picture actor, arrives in New York, where a possible match with Primo Carnero, world's heavyweight title-holder, may be arranged by Max's manager.

Women Know More About Men's Hats Than Men Do

So Girls Are Being Trained as Hat Store Hostesses and Style Advisers

New York.—A new scheme for selling turned up in the form of a lady who tells a man when his hat looks nice.

The system works like this: A man goes into a hat store and finds a good-looking girl who decides when he has picked the right hat.

This new trick in the headgear business was brought to light when a chain of men's hat stores advertised for attractive young women.

"Between 18 and 25," the advertisement specified, "to be trained as hostess and style adviser."

Almost 300 girls were waiting on the doorstep when the office opened.

The idea is that what counts in a man's hat is the feminine reaction; so a woman should be there when it's chosen, to gauge the effect.

"In fact, women know more about men's hats than men know themselves," a member of the firm said.

When the right hat is donned, the girl usually exclaims, "Ah, Mr. Smith, how handsome you look in that fedora!"

Provinces Advanced Over $130,000,000

Ottawa.—Since 1930 and up to the end of last week the provinces have been paid or advanced, roughly, $130,000,000. The larger proportion, especially on a per capita basis, went to the West. This total took the form of direct relief to unemployment, public works with a similar object, help in land settlement, and loans. Some of the latter have been repaid.

Reprieve Arrives Just in Time

Hangman Stands Ready with Rope Two Minutes to go

Vienna.—A hangman stood beside Hans Breitweiser, ready to slip the noose over his head. The gallows was crowded with wardens, holding stop-watches. Breitweiser had two minutes to live. That was at 2.58 p.m.

At 2.59 p.m., there was a stir in the group of officials, and one of them came forward, waving a telegram. The warden read it and signalled to the hangman to stop his preparations. The telegram was a message from President Wilhelm Miklas, commuting Breitweiser's sentence to life imprisonment.

Breitweiser's case had attracted attention because it was the first judged by the new "death penalty court," established under the recent martial-law act. The court has only two verdicts at its discretion—acquittal or conviction with automatic death penalty. The sentence must be carried out within three hours of reaching a verdict.

The court determined Breitweiser's guilt at noon. He was to have been hanged promptly at 3 p.m. His offence was the killing of the family of a servant girl, to prevent his fiancee learning of his love affair with the young woman.

Miklas forbade the execution on the grounds that it was "contrary to the Christmas spirit."

Persian Ministers Said Held in Plot

Moscow. — The Soviet Telegraph Agency said in a despatch from Teheran, capital of Persia, that Jafar Quli Khan Assad, Minister of War of Persia, and three members of the National Assembly were arrested for plotting against the government.

May Assist Tramp Ships

Britain to Fight Back at Aggressive Interests

London, England.—Declaring that Great Britain should "hit back and hit hard at aggressive countries fighting her shipping," Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, declares a subsidy for tramp ships was being considered by the government.

Not only would it aid industry, he said in the House of Commons, but it would be a defense measure in the event of war.

Mr. Runciman's statement followed that of Neville Chamberlain, chancellor of the exchequer, that an early merger of the great Cunard and White Star North Atlantic shipping lines is indicated.

When the merger is completed, Mr. Chamberlain asserted, he will present a program for facilitating completion of the huge Cunard liner 534, which would be the largest ship afloat.

Work on the 534 was suspended more than a year ago, but is government assistance is received it is expected to be operated jointly by the Cunard and White Star Companies.

Mr. Runciman said the government also is "taking into account disabilities under which British lines laboured," referring to the United States ban on foreign coastwise shipping.

It appears to be, he continued, "a very unjust thing that the United States should regard a trip from New York to Honolulu a coastwise traffic. But if we were to make anything like a rejoinder to that we must bear in mind we have a large interest in foreign trade and would expose a very broad track for attack."

An opposition proposal for public ownership of shipping and shipbuilding was voted down by the House, 221 to 34.

Mr. Runciman said "the experience of the United States and Australia was sufficient to dispose of this idea to hand the merchant navy over to the government." He deplored what he described as the failure of other big countries to support Britain's anti-subsidy policy.

Sir Robert Horne had previously declared the United States Government lost nearly $400,000,000 in an attempt to run its shipping, and that Australia, Canada and France incurred similar losses.

Sunday Laws Bar Haircuts

But British Magistrate Wants to Know Why that's So

London, England.—Prosecution under the Hairdressers' and Barbers' Sunday Closing Act, which came into force in 1931, was taken in Surrey for the first time, when a barber named Reginald Gould was prosecuted at Chertsey for having cut hair on Sunday.

When the prosecutor informed the magistrate that the action against the barber was taken under the act which did not allow barbers to cut hair on Sunday the magistrate asked: "Does anybody know why?"

The prosecutor replied: "I cannot give the reason, but it is not lawful for any person to carry on the business of hairdressing on a Sunday." The defendant said he was only obliging one or two customers and received no financial gain. He promised not to offend again and the summons was dismissed on payment of four shillings costs.

"A month or two in New York gives me the 'jumps'."—Gary Cooper.

Women Barred From Dinner

U.S. Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins, Only Cabinet Member Not Invited

Washington. — The gridiron boys will be boys, so Mrs. Roosevelt is going to entertain again for the ladies, including Labor Secretary Frances Perkins.

She issued invitations to high women officials, Cabinet wives, gridiron wives and women of the press, all by their sex barred from the semi-annual stag dinner of the club which the President will attend.

The Gridiron is one of the famous press clubs of the world, its members being strictly limited and its membership drawn only from the senior male journalists in Washington. It is considered an honor to be invited to these semi-annual functions.

On the last such occasion, Miss Perkins, chatting with other White House guests, laughingly said the club might just as well have invited her along with the rest of the Cabinet, for she'd have gracefully declined. She's the only Cabinet member ever omitted.

But the Gridiron Club already had their rules all fixed to take no chances. That happened after Miss Jeanette Rankin, first woman member of Congress, became the first and only woman to make the Gridiron grade.

She was invited by Jarry J. Brown, and went to the dinner of December 8, 1917. At the next meeting, on January 12, 1918, the club passed the resolution: "Resolved, that the character of the Gridiron Club as regards the presence of women as guests or spectators shall not be changed without vote of the club."

And that stands.

Month November, 1933 Coldest on Record

The temperature during November has been the coldest on record at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

According to the weather records kept by the field husbandry division at the Experimental Farm the mean temperature for November has only been 20.4 degrees Fahrenheit, which is exactly 12 degrees below the 40 year average. The first seven days of the month were somewhat normal but from the end of the first week the month remained consistently cold, being practically 12 degrees below normal for the whole period. In the last two weeks the minimum temperature dropped four times below zero and twice to exactly zero. This in itself is an unusual record. The lowest reached in the past month was nine degrees below zera and that occurred on two different nights.

In comparing the past month with that of previous years it is noted that November has been an outstanding cold month. During the previous 42 years that weather records have been kept at the Farm the mean temperature has never been lower than 28 degrees for November.

During November a total of 18.26 inches of snow fell which is appreciably in excess of the 40-year average of 7.31 inches.

The month was unusually cloudy with a total of only 58.1 hours of bright sunshine, while normally 78.7 hours are recorded.

The freeze-up occurred this year on the 5th of November, which is the earliest date on record at the Farm.

Doris Duke Begins Work on Father's Endowment Fund

Greenville, S.C.—Doris Duke has shouldered her part of the responsibility for administering the huge endowment established by her father, the late James B. Duke, tobacco and power magnate.

Frequently smiling, but keeping out of the public gaze as much as possible, the young woman who was hailed as America's "richest heiress" recently when she came into control of $10,000,000 of her $30,000,000 upon reaching 21, arrived here from New York to participate in a celebration of the ninth anniversary of the founding of the $40,000,000 Duke endowment.

She attended a meeting of the foundation's board of trustees, of which she automatically became a member upon attaining her majority in compliance with her father's stipulation. The endowment was created for the benefit of colleges, hospitals and orphanages in the two Carolinas.

Miss Duke spent nearly an hour visiting youngsters at the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children, one of the participants in her father's benevolences. As the tall, blonde visitor prepared to leave, a score of the youngsters stood up and gave her and the other Duke trustees a cheer in collegiate fashion.

Queer $100 Bills Being Circulated

Montreal. — Counterfeit United States $100 bills are being circulated in Montreal, according to police, and banks and stores have been asked to watch for them.

The spurious banknotes are believed to have been first passed by an American bootlegger in St. Armand, Que., near the United States border. They are stated to be an excellent imitation. Royal Canadian Mounted Police are co-operating with provincial and Montreal police in an effort to trace their origin.

Covet Endurance Record

Down in Miami where the soft winds blow these two enterprising ladies of the air are out to break the women's refueling endurance record. Left to Right: Jack Loesing, pilot of their refueling ship; Frances Marsalis, co-holder, with Louise Thaden, of the present record; Viola Gentry, and their mechanic, Fred Fetterman.