Good King Wenceslas

Czechoslovakia is a new republic—56,000 square miles in area and roughly 600 miles long, from east to west, and 150 miles broad from north to south, in its widest part. It comprises an area which never before October 28, 1918, had been a separate political unit. Composed of the former Austrian provinces of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, Slovakia, a portion of Northern Hungary and Carpathian Ruthenia, the whole, cemented by the common Slav origin of their forefathers and the revival of the Czech tongue, is making great strides politically, commercially and intellectually.

The Czechs and the Slovaks are an industrious people; their country contains the best land, the principal industries and the most progressive units of the old Austrian-Hungarian Empire. This is a source of great bitterness. Consequently, frontier posts are more zealously guarded than in other sections of Europe.

Another thing—whereas under the leadership of the great Bohemian religious and political reformer, John Huss, a great part of the country became Protestant and Lutheran, the 300-year domination of a Catholic country changed that. To-day, in a population of about 14 millions, there are only one million protestants. This religious adherence was also an important factor in welding together the divergent units at the close of the late war.

But it is with Bohemia, the most densely settled portion of Czechoslovakia, that we wish to deal. The Bohemians are well educated, capable farmers and clever artizans. In Bohemia more people are engaged in industrial than in agricultural pursuits. The domination of the Czechs in Bohemia dates from the 5th century and the country had a chequered career under various rulers until the Hapsburgs came into power in 1526. Wars and conquests, changes of rulers, etc., had been the history of the country; now the encroachment of the Catholic religion and of the German tongue created an epoch and everything that went to make up the identity of the Bohemian nation was swept away.

Prague (680,000 population) is the capital of Czechoslovakia and was the capital of the former kingdom of Bohemia. It is interesting from an architectual, business and historical standpoint. The old Royal Palace dominates Prague from the Hradcany Heights. With the exception of a small portion of this enormous building—this portion reserved for the President—the edifice is used mainly for government offices, with certain large auditoriums kept for occasions of state. Behind the Palace and in the centre of a large courtyard stands the noble cathedral of St. Vitus. Restoration work has been done on this old church recently and only last year were new discoveries made—underground crypts and passages which will be opened to the public in 1934.

The chief interest in this church for English-speaking people will be the Chapel and Tomb of Saint Wenceslas, known to us all through the words of the celebrated carol.

"Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the Feast of Stephen;
Where the snow lay round about,
Crisp, and fresh, and even."

The Wenceslas of this carol was not a king, by the way, but a good prince who lived about 1000 years ago and whose memory is preserved by the Czechoslovakian people in many different ways. The main thoroughfare of Prague—a wide boulevard with the broad, tree-lined promenade on either side—is one of the busiest streets in Europe. At the head of this spacious avenue is the museum and, in front of this building, dominating the traffic, is a large equestrian statue of Saint Wencelas. In our language, this street would be known as Wenceslas Square.

So a mythical figure—remembered at Christmas time—becomes a reality. The name of the hero of one of our best known Christmas carols is still green in the hearts of the people of his native land. Possibly many readers did not know the origin of the carol or the fact that such a personage ever existed. I thought that, at this Yuletide season, these facts might be of interest to many.

Next week we shall return to Oporto—the subject of a former article—an amusing incident occurring there is worthy of note.

Are you looking for something different in the way of entertainment for your church, society, club or institute?

Capt. F. H. Reid, the well-known traveller, who has been contributing the series of articles to this paper, under the heading of "Travel Impressions," has what is, perhaps, the finest collection of European views in the country. Pictures taken with his own camera, beautifully coloured, showing some of the out-of-the-way places, as well as the localities about which you have read and heard. Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Jugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Holland, Belgium and British Isles are included in this unique collection.

For particulars regarding this, communicate with Captain Reid at Room 421, 73 Adelaide Street West, Toronto.

SPORTS REVIEW

St. Clair McCabe, Staff-writer, Dominion Sports Illustrated

Bill Grimes, sports writer for the Boston American, commented the following on the Boston-Leaf fight. Abetted by some weak-kneed publicity, which was sent out by the Bruins, was responsible for the disgraceful and much-to-be-regretted debacle. Fans were informed that the Bruins were going to "step into the Leafs. They were also led to believe that they could expect a real slaughter. In that case the game certainly lived up to expectations.

* * *

Football is generally believed to be the roughest game, but few football encounters can be classed with the Boston-Leaf game of that eventful night in Boston.

* * *

The Yale hockey sextet seemed to be in smart shape when they defeated the Toronto Varsity 5-3 the other night. It may be just the thing that is needed to encourage the formation of the long proposed international intercollegiate hockey league. Lets hope so.

* * *

Professional Boxing of the Past Year

Heavyweights. — Primo Carnera registered a smart uppercut on Jack Sharkey in six rounds to be hailed as the first Italian to hold the Worlds Heavyweight Championship. Max Baer, from California, introduced class and colour into the heavy division by putting his K.O. on Max Schmeling, the German ex-champ, in ten rounds. Jack Dempsey once again made good in the fistic sport, this time as a promoter and earning the title of "The man who carried on from where the greatest promoter of all time left off." Before the great Mussolini, Primo Carnera defended his title against the Spanish pugilist, Paulino Uzcudun, in the first heavyweight championship bout fought in Italy. Sharkey passed out of the picture when he met defeat at the hands of King Levinsky in Chicago. The death of W. L. "Young" Stribling, the twenty-eight year old Georgian globe-trotter, shocked the sporting world to the depths. The passing of William Muldoon, the "solid man," and James J. Corbett, who introduced scientific boxing away back in the Gay Nineties, was regretted all over the fight world. Muldoon's death was partly due to a shock he received by a change in the fight code.

Light Heavyweight. — In this division very little has happened during the past year, except Maxie Rosenbloom's successful defence of his title against the tottering "toy bulldog," Mickey Walker, one time ruler of the welters and middles.

Middleweights. — Lou Brouillard won the middle title in August from Ben Jeby, by a knock-out in the seventh round, but lost it two months later to Vick Dundee in ten rounds. Brouillard will make a bid for Rosenbloom's Lightheavyweight crown.

Welterweights. — Jim McLarnin, the Irish-Canadian from Vancouver, won his first title bout by taking Young Corbett in one round, at Los Angeles. McLarnin is rated the most worthy title holder of 1933.

Lightweights. — Tony Canzoneri lost his crown in ten rounds at Chicago, to Barney Ross, who in turn defended it in a fifteen-round return bout in New York.

Welterweights. — Freddie Miller and Kid Chocolate are both at the top of this division. Miller is considered the best in the N.B.A., while Chocolate leads the New York commission. The Cuban defeated Seaman Watson, the British champion, in New York.

Bantamweights. — Al Brown is still the champion.

Flyweights. — Miget Wolgast is the United States champion. Jackie Brown, of England, holds the European claims. Wolgast beat Brown in a non-title bout in Manchester.

Three tons of coal provide more energy than the total physical energy expended by an average man in his lifetime.—Sir William Clarke.

Latest Autogiro Startles Spectators

Can Attain Top Speed of 120 Miles An Hour—Low Speed of 15 Miles An Hour

London.—With a take-off run of under 20 yards and no landing run at all, Senor de la Cierva's latest type of autogiro was shown off to great advantage here recently at the Hanworth Airdrome, just outside London.

This latest "windmill" plane has an engine of 140 horsepower which gives it a top speed of nearly 120 miles an hour and a low speed of 15 miles an hour. The plane with its overhead windmill, a normal propeller in front, and no wings such as the ordinary airplane has, appears to saunter along in the air. Against a head wind it can practically hover.

Steering is done by tilting the revolving wings of the windmill, which are on a universal joint. A tilt of about five degrees is all that is required to effect a steeply banked turn. The entire control is operated by one levr—for and aft for ascent and descent and sideway for turns.

For "blind" flying in cloud or mist the autogiro is said to be an ideal machine. For as long as the pilot keeps his lever in a central position he knows that he is on a level keel, while with an ordinary airplane the pilot needs instruments such as turn and bank indicators to tell him his position relative to the ground.

Recent demonstrations showed that one of these machines could fly so slowly that a man running below could attach a message to a cord let down by the pilot.

Nightly Brushing of Hair Important

A woman who wishes to be truly beautiful should consider the brushing of her hair almost as important as cleaning her teeth.

If you're going to brush your tresses in a haphazard manner, there is just no use in bothering at all. First of all, learn how to do it correctly to derive full benefit from a beauty treatment which pays large dividends.

The best time to brush your hair is just before you go to bed. You should devote at least 15 minutes to this beauty rite.

Begin at the back of your head. It is best to bend forward from the waist, allowing your hair to fall down over your face. Brush upwards from the nape of your neck until the back of your scalp tingles.

Now stand erect, throw your head slightly backward and brush the front of your scalp upward from the hairline to the crown of your head.

Part your hair into little sections—about two inches square—and brush each portion. Place the brush against your scalp to start and, as you move it slowly upward and outward, tilt it slightly so that each and every hair in that section will be cleaned, stimulated and "pulled." Wipe the brush on a clean towel and go on to the next section.

Despite Price Rise Tea Still Most Economical Drink

For the past two years people in Canada have been enjoying the lowest prices for tea in a decade, but this has meant tremendous losses to growers, who, to save their industry, have restricted tea exports and caused prices to advance. Tea packers, particularly those supplying very fine quality teas, have reluctantly been forced to increase prices. Notwithstanding this, tea is still the most economical drink next to plain water.

The average man, in my view, is a pretty poor speciman, and the average intelligence, in my view, is very low. Is it realized that the first-class man can do something like five times the amount of work of the average man? That is not the product of inherent capacity by a long road. It is largely the product of early training. — Sir John Reith.

You will prefer it

'SALADA' TEA

Ranks With Foremost Women Fliers

Ann Lindbergh Has Achieved Skill as Pilot, Navigator and Radio Operator

New York.—The aviation world marvels at the unassuming but meteoric rise of Ann Lindbergh into the front rank of women fliers.

Mrs. Lindbergh has achieved skill as a pilot, navigator, and radio operator, capable of taking part in flights that made aviation history, with so little attendant ballyhoo that her ability was unnoticed when the names of women fliers were mentioned.

Mrs. Lindbergh's flying achievements, however, differ from those of Amelia Earhart, Amy Johnson, and Maryse Hilsz, of France, in that she has accompanied her husband, and never engaged in the more spectacular solo flights. Her responsibilities on Lindbergh's flights, however, have been such that only a veteran flier could meet.

Husband's Training

All her training has been under the direction of Col. Lindbergh, and began before they were married when the young aviator, engaged in a good-will flight after his famous non-stop flight to Paris, visited Mexico City. Lindbergh took Ambassador Morrow's daughter on several flights, on one of which they cracked up on landing, due to broken gear.

After their marriage Mrs. Lindbergh accompanied her husband on several flights, cross-continent flights, one of them to east completed a few months before the birth of her first son. Already she was acting as co-pilot on their flights.

Studied Navigation

When Lindbergh planned a vacation trip to the Orient she took up the study of navigation and radio telegraphy, and proved herself superior to her husband in the latter. It was Ann Lindbergh's messages from the plane that kept the world informed of their progress while they flew over Canadian northwest territory, and over the desolate Bering Sea.

This summer's trip was even more ambitious than the Pacific flight, but Mrs. Lindbergh handled her duties like a veteran. The trip was over 30,000 air miles in five months—farther than around the world at the equator, and almost twice as far as the distance travelled by Wiley Post in his record solo around the world. It led them over mountainous terrain in Greenland never before flown over, and into little African ports where the arrival of a seaplane was occasion enough for a civic celebration.

The flight over the South Atlantic was in itself a major achievement. Guided by Mrs. Lindbergh's navigation, the plane never once left its course.

Miss Johnson has to her credit solo flights from England to Australia, to Cape Town, to Tokio, and a flight with her husband across the Atlantic. Miss Earhart crossed the Atlantic by air route twice, the second time alone. She holds the women's non-stop distance record, and the autogiro altitude record. But Mrs. Lindbergh's flying since her marriage, while not of the spectacular kind, entitles her to rank with these foremost women fliers.

Horticulture Being Studied in Australia

Excellent Knowledge of Orchids Displayed

Wild flowers study and culture is very popular in Victoria, Australia, according to a lecturer.

The casual prize of the agricultural show for "best bunch of wild flowers" is out of date. At one local fair, for example, there were 18 sections for native flora, and every one was based soundly. There were prizes for the best collection of orchids, the best collection of wild flowers botanically named, the best collection of ornamental native grasses, the best collection of ferns, the best collection of Grampians flora, the best bunch of thryptomene, the best bunch of sprengelia, the best bunch of heath, and so on. Ever flower in a beautiful collection was named properly, and most of the people who attended seemed to be on moderately familiar terms with th flowers. There was little of the old unnecessary baulking at necessary scientific names.

What struck me most forcibly was the knowledge of orchids displayed by young men and women. The quaintness and beauty of these fantastic flowers—of which there are about 150 species recorded in Victoria and about 460 in Australia—have exercised a strong fascination throughout various states in the last few years, so much so that Dr. R. S. Rogers, the Adelaide authority, declared recently that the cult had swelled to a mania.

One womans collection would do credit to any trained botanist; it contains nearly 100 species of orchids, all pressed, neatly mounted and correctly labelled. A far cry this from the days when country dwellers, if they gave heed to orchids at all, knew them only as "spiders," "tigers" and "greenies."

Exports to France, South Africa Soar

Ottawa.—Increase of 83 per cent. and 50 per cent. in Canada's exports to South Africa and France under the new trade agreements during the five months from last June were announced by the Department of Trade and Commerce.

The value of goods shipped to South Africa since the new trade agreement went into effect total $3,524,000 compared with $1,917,000 for the same period last year, an increase of 83 per cent. Domestic exports to France for the period under review were valued at $5,609,000. For the same period last year the figure was $3,718,000, an increase of 50 per cent. being registered.

Eeat Ptarmigan

Eskimos are feasting on the ptarmigan, one of the few birds found in Greenland at this time of year.

Scientists Explain Curious Snow Color

Montreal.—"Brown snow" aroused the curiosity of residents in Montreal and neighborhood recently as they left their homes to come downtown. Wherever there were fields of snow a hard icy sheet had formed on the top of the bank which had a buff or brown color.

The hard covering apparently resulted from sleet falling during the night. When broken, it showed a greyish aspect, viewed in small quantities in the hand, while underneath the hard covering, the snow was the usual brilliant white. The superficial coat was about one-eighth of an inch thick.

At McGill Observatory it was explained that the sleet probably gathered in coming through the air a certain quantity of fine dust, which, hardening in the icy coat gave the particularly brownish tinge to what would otherwise have tended to a greyish tinge. Under some light conditions the coloring might possibly appear reddish, giving rise to rumors of "red snow" in some quarters.

Careless smokers have been blamed or starting more fires in the national parks than other causes, but this year lightning was the most frequent fire hazard.

Although hope may often have cheated us, yet we never lose faith in its promises.

Canada's Maternal Death Rate High

275 Mothers and 4,723 Babies Die in First Four Months

Toronto.—Retirement from active public service of Dr. Helen MacMurchy, as chief of the Child Welfare Division of the Dominion Department of Pensions and National Health recalls her years of valiant battle for the protection of mothers and the extension of better provisions for obstetrical and maternal care in Canada.

While services have been developed and extended during her long decades in the work, as she herself has pointed out, our maternal and still-birth rate has shown little improvement until the last twenty months. But now come the preliminary figures for Canada for the first four months of this year, recording the death of 275 mothers and 4,723 babies under one year of age. One glimpses the individual tragedies behind these figures in such extracts as the Canadian Council on Child and Family Welfare quotes from its heavy correspondence with mothers across Canada. One letter runs:

"Thank you very much for the series of parental letters. With great regret I must say I will not require the post-natal series."

Every day brings its evidence that we are not availing ourselves of the modern means of safety and prevention that do offer for the protection of life. A great number of these infant and maternal deaths can be prevented if all women receive proper instruction and care during pregnancy, at the time of delivery and during the post-natal period.

A slogan chosen by one community—"Public health is purchasable. Within natural limitations any community can determine its own death rate."—is just as true of your city, town or countryside.

Opportunities for expectant mothers to obtain free advice are afforded by the series of nine letters, sent free on request to anyone asking for them by the Canadian Council on Child and Family Welfare. These are available in both French and English as is a series on the care of the baby to one year of age and now on the press a series on the care and training of children from one to six. Write to Council House, Ottawa, and one or all of them will be sent to you.

News Oddities

James Carroll, arrested at New York on a charge of falsely inserting a notice of his wife's death in a newspaper, admitted his offence; explained that he did it in the hope that his wife's relations would see it and keep away from his house.

Prisoners at McNeil Island Penitentiary, near San Francisco, are to be given an aviation course. The prison officials have thoughtfully removed the wings of the machine so that none of the pupils will be tempted to "graduate and leave school too quickly."

A French naturalist states that robins sing in their sleep; mackerel swim while asleep; elephants sleep while standing up; and ants yawn and stretch like human being when they wake.

Two spinsters named Kemenitz, living in the small Roumanian port of Galatz, have been convicted of harboring too many cats. When police visited the house to demand the destruction of the cats, they discovered them to number one hundred and fifty!

A shrieking leather bag, intended to foil snatch-and-run raiders, was tried recently by members of the committee of Lloyds. The demonstration showed that no one could snatch the case without setting in motion a Klaxon horn inside it. The case has been designed for bank messengers and other employes who have to carry large sums through the streets.

One contemplates with some alarm the future of a generation yet unborn, the mothers of which are harassed with a desire or slimness and excessive smoking.—Dr. H. R. C. Rutherord, of Dublin.

The writing of the children of to-day is formless, careless, and inaccurate. In business this is a serious disadvantage and retards the progress of many young people. — Sir William Crawford.

Trophy Presented to Capt. Mollison

Capt. James Mollison, in spite of his crash at Bridgeport, is awarded the Johnston Memorial trophy for 1933, for his Atlantic flights. Rt. Hon. F. E. Guest is doing the presenting.

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