Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

A Wink in the Dark

Someone has said that doing business without advertising is like winking at a girl in the dark. You know you are doing it, but no one else does. —Winnipeg Tribune.

Wages of Virtue

Prominent Hollywood star complains that the only parts she is given these days are those in which she is "chased all around the room in an effort to save her honor." In such cases, however, the wages of virtue are anywhere from $2,000 a week up—which is not to be sneezed at.—Border Cities Star.

Unnecessary Tears

There is a lot of lachrymose talk with regard to Mary Pickford divorcing her husband "with deep regret." On the other hand, she did not hesitate to separate from her first spouse before she married Douglas Fairbanks. There is altogether too much fuss made over the martial differences of the film stars.—Brantford Expositor.

Misuse of "America"

During the past year, the keys of the typewriter which writes this for the printer, have religiously been made to spell out the word United States, rather than the word America or American, depending on the context, and despite all the additional time involved, also loss of euphony, we can see no progress anywhere among writers, speakers, Old Country statesmen or European commentators toward correct usage in their reference to the United States of America. They still call the U.S.A. America. However, among the New Year resolutions, it may be just as well to struggle along and be right.—St. Catharines Standard.

Toy Pistol

In England the sale of a toy pistol known as "pencil pistol" has been prohibited. It would be well if the sale of all toy pistols were prohibited. It may seem a little thing, but the young mind is influenced to a great extent by what play things are placed in his hands. Similarly this applies to the moving picture show, which should be more closely censored. — Glencoe Transcript.

Effective

An airplane ride "will end a common cold,' says a specialist. So will a parachute if it doesn't open.—Halifax Herald.

Extra Proof

Another lynching in the United States. This time the mob, as a special proof of its civilization, cut the victim's heart out.—Peterborough Examiner.

Best Known Train

The Royal Scot is back on its tracks in the Old Country, after having crossed the ocean and travelled some 14,000 miles over railways in Canada and the United States, where it was visited by 3,000,000 people. The Scot formerly was famous in its own land and on the Continent, but now it is the best known train in North America as well.—Montreal Gazette.

When a Man's Old

That definition of a man being old when he must sit down to put on his trousers does not apply, we understand, to inhabitants of nudist colonies.—Brockville Recorder.

Remember the Horses

In our quite natural preoccupation with the problem of keeping ourselves warm in these days of cruel cold are we not perhaps forgetting what this weather means to our horses, compelled to carry on through long hours under extraordinarily difficut street conditions, and often made to stand for comparatively long periods in cutting winds and driving snow with almost no protection?

Veterinarians tell us that the horse is physically the most peculiarly susceptible to cold of all our animals. Moreover, in the artificial conditions in which they are bred and worked the heavy winter coat of hair which Nature provides and which helps the wild or range horse to get through the cold season does not develop or is largely groomed away. To replace it in far too many cases nothing is provided but a small and often thin and ragged blanket.

These are cruel and bitter days for the horses. Let us not forget them.—The Montreal Daily Star.

A Man To Be Pitied

In England there lives a man who has not slept for eight years. Probably he never will—until he sleeps the sleep from which there is no material awakening. Eight years ago he had an unusual operation, and since that time he has bee unable to sleep.

It is a pathetic condition. He must be one of the saddest men in the world.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

THE EMPIRE

The Empire and the World

By the defection of Japan and Germany, the League has been weakened, not fatally nor irrecoverably, but so seriously that, when the abstention of Russia and the United States is remembered, there is evident a danger of breakdown. In these circumstances, while ardently supporting the League, the Empire ought to spare no pains to make the most of itself, for the benefit of the world as well as its own good. To think in terms of wide bearing, beyond the increasingly elusive limits of the islands in which his lot is cast, is an urgent duty for every New Zealander. Heed to domestic affairs, butnot absorption in them as a distinct interest, is the call of the hour.—The Auckland News.

Health Movement in India

Health may be thought of as a property of the individual, and public health as a sort of sum of all these properties in a country. But the worker for public health has to conceive of it differently, as an aspect of the way in which people live together, as a concommitant or resultant of their whole social life. We shall understand all about public health only when we know all there is to be known about individual and social life, about humanity as a whole. This thought need not depress us; on the contrary, it should be an inspiring challenge, as it has been to many workers and will be, we are assured by the appeal, whose study we commend to all interested in the welfare of humanity in this great and afflicted country.—The Calcutta Statesman.

Canada and the U.S.A.

The proximity of Canada to the United States of America along an extensive imperceptible frontier means, of course, that any major economic disturbance there makes its tremors felt in our country. It could not be otherwise with the links, firstly geographical—lakes, canals, rivers, roads—and, secondly, mechanical — railways, motor-cars, aeroplanes—which nature and man have forged; but in spite of this, Canada has never lost her individuality nor her Imperial ideals. We have tried also to develop a personality in literature and in art, but obviously the struggle here must be difficult when one considers the heavy proportion of literature, including magazines and newspapers, that crosses the border.—Lieut.-Col. Geo. P. Vanier in The Listener (London).

British Stability

We have no more use for dictatorship, Fascist or Communist, in Great Britain than we have for gunmen, racketeers, concentration camps, and other modern features of life abroad. Our last dictator was Cromwell. We got over all that sort of thing three centuries ago. Now, with a stable Government and a constitution based on common sense, we owe our lead in world affairs to the absence of civil and political upheavals.—London Sunday Chronicle.

The "English" Accent

Cultivated people on both sides of the Atlantic speak the English tongue equally well, according to Dr. Walter Hervey, founder of the American Good Speech Society. The best English and what Dr. Hervey calls the best American are so nearly alike to-day that, in his opinion, they cannot be distinguished the one from the other. When King George or President Roosevelt speaks, the spoken words are not marred, we are told, by any "local tang or distortion." As a result of education the same exquisite English is spoken, Dr. Harvey maintains, in both New York and London by the finest actors, the best preachers and the best orators. This is all very gratifying as far as it goes, but apparently that is not as far as Hollywood. For who ever heard an American film star who spoke his or her lines without a good deal of that "tang or distortion" which, the founder of the American Good Speech Society says, cultivated America completely eschews?—Dublin Irish Independent.

Japan's Challenge

Machinery, motor-cars, and ships are among the few important manufactured goods which Japan has not yet begun to produce for export, and coal she has none. But with these exceptions it is prudent to regard the cotton onslaught as the mere vanguard of a general offensive. No doubt it is the exchange depreciation which has brought the present attack so suddenly to a head, and it is reasonable to anticipate a slackening of the pace as this temporary advantage diminishes. But there will still remain the permanent factor of high organization and efficiency combined with a level of wages which is not likely to catch up to Western standards for at least a generation.—London Morning Post.

THE UNITED STATES

Old-Fashioned Canada

Canadians seem to have an old-fashioned notion that law is law, and should be enforced. In the United States we are more up-to-date. For example, a dope peddler was tried in Montreal recently, and this was his sentence: (a) Fourteen years in prison. (b) Fines amounting to $300. (c) Ten lashes on his bare back. You doubt if that gentleman would care to sell dope again in Canada. We don't know that whipping is the best penology, or that we should adopt it. But we do know that something of the Canadian attitude toward law enforcement would discourage a lot of criminals here.—Washington, D.C., Times.

Diminutive Fishing Boat Rescued

When King Neptune and Jack Frost form a conspiracy there is not much else but ice. After battling high waves and ice floes on Lake Michigan for 24 hours, this frail fishing boat, the "Seagull," her bow stove in by ice, was rescued by U.S. coast guards. Her crew of three were saved.

Jobless Less World Over

Considerable Improvement Noted by International Labor Office—Advance in Canada

Geneva.—A world-wide improvement in the employment situation was noted Friday in a communique of the International Labor Office.

A comparison between the last three months of 1933 and the previous year showed a decline in unemployment in 13 nations: Canada, the United States, Chile, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Australia, Belgium, Finland, Yugoslavia, Roumania, Denmark and the Irish Free States.

In Great Britain the index of employment in December rose from 91.6 in 1932 to 97.5 in 1933, the Labor Office revealed.

Figures for November in 1932 and 1933 indicated an increase of workers in Canada from 71.1 to 76.6.

In Japan the number rose from 81.8 in August of 1932 to 90 in August, 1933; in Italy the employment index for October, 1932, has 70.5, while for the same month last year it was 73.6.

The communique said that 10,076,000 persons were idle in the United States in October, 1933, compared to 11,586,000 unemployed in October, 1932.

Figures for 1929 were regarded as equalling 100 as the basis for the employment index.

Old Lady Leaves Her Money to De Valera

Eamon De Valera, President of the Irish Free State, was a party in an action (adjourned) concerning the will of Miss Polly Mary Fitzpatrick, a Brighton, England, woman, 72 years old, who was found dead at her home in July, 1932.

Miss Fitzpatrick left a will part of which read: "I give and bequeath to Mr. de Valera my house and all my furniture and effects." The value of the estate is a little more than £3,000.

The will was contested by John Fitzpatrick, of Dublin, who claimed his sister was of weak intellect, childish and eccentric, that in late years she had become a recluse, and that she died in a neglected condition, having refused to have medical treatment. When Miss Fitzpatrick died, said counsel for de Valera, she had no relatives with whom she had been in touch for 40 years. She had said that her property would go to Ireland when she died. She also expressed the view that the only man who had don any good for Ireland was Mr. de Valera.

"It is not Mr. de Valera's intention to profit by a penny piece from this estate. His inttention is that the money shall be used by him as a trust for public purposes of the kind which Miss Fitzpatrick was known to approve," said counsel.

Powerless

Weather expert says that around 1950 or 1955 the seasons will be wetter and cooler than at present. It's nice to know that but we don't see what can be done about it.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

New Scotland Yard Loses Keen Officer

London.—Scotland Yard lost one of its most prominent officers with the retirement on January 7 of Superintendent Percy Savage. He retires at the age of 55 in accordance with the new order recently issued by Lord Trenchard.

Superintendent Savage's career at the "Yard" is one of the most distinguished of any police officer. His long run of successes earned for him the enviable distinction of being the youngest officer to be made a superintendent. He handled every type of case, including espionage, confidence tricks, "long-firms" frauds, jewel thefts, and in all probability more murder cases than any other officer.

He secured a conviction of Patrick Mahon for the murder of Emily Kaye in a bungalow near Eastbourne. In that case Savage began his investigations from the discovery of cloakroom ticket in Mahon' clothes. For many years he has been the bane of confidence tricksters, while during the war he captured many German and Austrian spies.

In private life Superintendent Savage is a charming companion and a keen lover of animals. On one occasion he jumped into the River Thames fully clothed and rescued a friend's dog.

Women Magistrates Study Psychology

At the Magistrates' Conference, held recently in London, Eng., 192 women magistrates were represent. When the conference discussed Psychology, Dr. Helen Boyle said she had been told of a motorist who suffered from a "compulsion neurosis."

Though a very good driver, he found it extremely difficult not to drive into things on the road. He had to drive, but he did not dare to take his wife with him. Luckily his wife asked why she was never wanted, and he told her. She called in the doctor.

Other points noted in the discussion were: Children defective in intelligence were five times more frequent among delinquents than among the ordinary population.

Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones asked why women were supposed to be the more necessary than men to serve on the Bench in Juvenile Courts. Were they quicker at cross-word puzzles or quicker at solving motives? One woman magistrate declared: "I would not have dared to accept the office of magistrate had I not studied psychology first."

Millions of Bushels Russian Wheat Harvest

Moscow.—The total Soviet grain harvest this year was officially indicated at 3,300,000,000 bushels, an increase over 1932 of 725,000,000 bushels.

This indication, the first estimate to be regarded as official this year, was given by Mr. Abel S. Enukidze, secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Soviet Union, in an article in the newspaper Izvestia, which mentioned the grain harvest figure only as a passing reference.

University Molder Of Destinies

Sir Arthur Currie's Last Report Made Public

Montreal.—The role of the modern university "in the desperate battle of modern life" is not that of a "mere reservoir of knowledge, a storehouse of equipment, a base of supplies, but rather it must be the creator of forces for the molding of human destinies by promotion of sane, enlightened thinking,' says the late General Sir Arthur Currie, principal and vice-chancellor of McGill University, in his last report to the board of governors.

Completed by Sir Arthur a few days before he was overtaken by illness which resulted in his death November 30, the report was published after approval had been obtained from the Governor-General of Canada in the Capacity as visitor to the university.

"Education merely as a decoration is despicable," Sir Arthur continues. "Education for ultilitarian purposes has some justification. But education that kindles the imagination, awakens the power of vision, teaches man economic difficulties have not left McGill untouched and that "it was necessary to curtail appropriations even for the most legitimate academic activities." After giving detail figures, he adds: "The depletion of capital account vannot be allowed to continue and I feel that I must again call to the attention of all those interested in the welfare of the university the urgent necessity of taking steps to increase the endowment."

French Flier Beats Seaplane Record

St. Louis, Senegal, West Africa.—Commandant de Bonnet, French naval aviator, and four companions claimed a new straight-line distance record for seaplanes on arrival here last week from Berre Airdrome, outside Marseilles.

De Bonnet set their huge seaplane down on the harbor here at 12.18 p.m., 23 hours six minutes after they took off from Barre. He reported that the Southern Cross, their ship, had functioned perfectly during the flight.

He estimated that they had flown approximately 4,000 kilometers (p,420 miles), bettering the old record held by Jean Mermoz, another French ace, who flew 3,173 kilometers.

De Bonnet insisted that they had not started out to break the record but expressed satisfaction that the flight here had had that result. He said they were merely attempting a series of long experimental flights, in which he probably would cross the South Atlantic next, and make that trip from here to Natal, Brazil, several times.

The experiments are to better knowledge of flying conditions and routes linkig Europe with South America, it was understood.

Cows Paid Way

Irish cows pay their way. When a carload shipment arrived from Fishguard, it was found that six had given birth to calves en route.

Air Men Serve As Targets

On the desert wastes of the north Atlantic, "Lawrence of Arabia," now known s Aircraftsman Shaw, and two other members of the Royal Aid Force, have been risking their lives, piloting armored boats while bombing aeroplanes shoot whiz bangs at them for targets. They have been at it for a year.

1933 Notable For Oratory

Few of Year's Historic Utterances Preserved For Posterity

New York.—Called by many the most eventful year in the history of the United States, 1933 saw oratory reach a new high in the country. From Congress and curbstone came the sound of debate and dissertation.

Some of the statements caught public fancy; some made headlines that sounded round the world.

Here are a few of them:

President Roosevelt—"now, therefore, I....do hereby declare that the 18th amendment to the constitution ....was repealed on the 5th day of December, 1933."

Senator Huey Long (anent the famous black eye)—"Some one struck me from behind. Three or four men covered me."

Father Charles Coughlin—"It's Roosevelt or ruin."

Anton Cermak (to President Roosevelt after he had been mortally wounded by an assassin's bullets intended for the chief executive)—"I'm glad it was me instead of you."

Samuel Insull, Sr.—"I have done nothing that is not done by any reputable business man."

Alfred E. Smith—"I am for gold dollars as against baloney dollars."

Senator Hiram Johnson of California—"Unless the President's program is carried out, the country will go to hell economically."

And, intriguing if not important—Mae West—"Come up and see me some time."

Defends Good Jazz Music

Lincoln, Neb.—Jazz music—if it's good—and the English opera have a stanch defender in Dr. Howard Hanson, Nebraska-born composer and president of a Rochested, N.Y., conservatory.

Dr. John Erskine, author and head of another New York music school, added his support to the work of American composers as the two discussed the problems and achievements of musicians before several hundred persons attending the fifty-fifth annual convention of the Music Teachers National Association.

Dr. Peter W. Dykema of Columbia University said municipalities doubtless would be called upon in the future to furnish music halls, instruments and equipment for music, just as they are called upon now to furnish playgrounds and equipment for the to take up the play hours of children.

Homemade Toys Were Beginning of Big Industry

Manchester, Eng.—In an endeavor to amuse his four-year-old son, Mr. A. Gray Pickard of Broadheath, near here, laid the foundation of what is now a flourishing British tow industry providing employment for about 100 workpeople.

Twelve years ago when Mr. Pickard's son was in the nursery stage at Rubgy School it occurred to him that the metal constructional toys with their nuts and bolts and screwdrivers were too complicated for a child so young. A simpler wooden constructional toy would be better suited to his age.

Without any thought of selling the device, he worked out in a simple form a constructional toy. His son was delighted and thinking other young children might like it, Mr. Pickard developed his enterprise.

Boys Who Wanted to Help Mother Honored

New York. — Last June Richard Lowe, 11, and his brother, Holling, 12, wrote Owen D. Young from their home at Franklin, Idaho, that they would trade some birds' eggs, a calf, and a pet lamb for one of his refrigerators.

Not only did they get the refrigerator, which they wanted for their mother, but they occupied the presidential suite at the Biltmore as guests of Young, with their mother.

The boys had an exciting day visiting skyscrapers, pushing elevator buttons, and lighting matches, which they don't have on their farm at Franklin "on account of the hay." Later they went to a party at Roxy's Radio City penthouse to meet Mary Pickford.

Irish Jazz Dancing Labelled "Paganism"

Dublin. — The Irish Free State's campaign of disapproval against jazz dancing has received official support from Cardinal McRory and President Eamonn de Valera, who sent messages of approval to a big meeting at Mohill. The aim of the meeting was proclaimed on banners inscribed, "Down with jazz and paganism". Cardinal McRory denounced the moral dangers of all-night dancing and sent his wishes for success of the campaign. De Valera said he hoped for the restoration of Ireland's national forms of folk dances.

Old German Daily to Quit

Koenigsberg, Ger.—One of the oldest daily newspapers in Germany, the Koenigsberg Hartungsche Zeitung, founded in 1640, ceased publication on Dec. 31. The publishers said henceforth they would concentrate on their other paper, the Koenigsberg Tageblatt. The Hartungsche is a Liberal organ, while the Tageblatt is a non-party paper.