# Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

## CANADA

### Prepare Yourself

Down at Wheatley the other day a man fended off an attempted holdup with a newspaper he carrying in his hand. Now is the time to subscribe. You never know when a newspaper will come in handy.—Goderich Signal.

### The Bible

When mankind ceases to believe in the fighting power of simple words, and the beauty of rhythmic, flowing sentences that go straight to the heart and the head, it will perhaps take heed of the myriad critics of the Bible. To countless millions, seeking the Bible, turning to it for help, for wisdom, for its beauty of words and phrase; turning to it because it breathes a message of divine inspiration, badly-published or not, it is heavenly poetry. These millions find no fault with it. The modern publishing house might produce a de luxe edition of some modernist's work, with illustrations by Dore. It is not likely to produce such music, such fundamental truth, such economy of expression with barren simplicity, as in the sentence: "The Lord is my Shepherd."—Vancouver Sun.

### ntelligence Quota

A speaker tells a local service club that only five per cent. of the total population of the world are thinkers; the majority, he says, are mere imitators. However, the situation isn't as bad as it might seem, for probably about 95 per cent. class themselves as belonging to the five. They're satisfied, anyhow, and personal satisfaction, as we know, is the kind that counts.—Border Cities Star.

### A Tip

Knees for automobiles have been invented and that they may be seen to best advantage the cars will probably be exhibited with tartan and sporran. —Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

### Understandable

There is an old-world charm about the rejoicing of millions of Japanese over the birth of a son to the Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako. Even in this day of fottering dynasties and populistic ferment we of the British Empire can understand the Japanese rejoicing, for we have our own deep loyalty to the House of Windsor. In the case of the House of the Mikados, however, there was an especial urgency in the prayers for a male offspring, since under Japanese law a woman may not ascend the throne. In British history, on the contrary, some of our most illustrious sovereigns, such as Elizabeth and Victoria, have been reigning queens.—Montreal Star.

### Sunken Treasure in Great Lakes

If dwellers along the Great Lakes were to read the government reports of disasters on these inland seas, says a writer in the New York Times, they would learn of treasure to the value of $15,000,000 sunk in them since the middle of the nineteenth century. The treasure is not in the form of doubloons, but some of it is of a nature to yield profit if recovered. The treasure is of various kinds. In Lake Erie between Cleveland and the Detoit River lies the steamer Clarion with a cargo of locomotives. In the middle of the same lake lies a vessel with 300 barrels of whiskey, while another like cargo is at the bottom of Lake Michigan sear Manitou Island. Between Dunkirk, Ohio, and Erie rests a boat with $50,000 worth of pig zinc which divers have failed to get. There are many cargoes, lost on the Great Lakes, to retrieve which no serious attempt has been made. There are possibilities of real profit if ocean diving equipment were brought in for this purpose.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

### The Poor Rich

Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks, who is shortly to become Miss Mary Pickford again, has given out a moving interview in New York all about God and life and Mary Pickford. Among other immortal sentiments uttered therein is the opinion that the best things in life are free and that wealth cannot buy anything worth while. No doubt this is true, but it is a curious fact that hardly anyone finds it out until after he has made a lot of money. And while wealth is recognized in every child's copy book and in every interview with the rich as a curse and a burden, yet hardly anyone ever attempts to escape it after acquiring it. —Victoria Times.

### Well Earned

Lord Willingdon has been given four months' leave of absence from India. He has earned it by his combination of firmness, sympathy, tact and insight in dealing with India's political problems. The fact that he asks for a long vacation is proof that he fears no turmoil in the near future.—London Advertiser.

### Plenty of Material

When Doris Warner, daughter of the president of Warner Bhos., screen producers, was married in New York, a sound film was made of the proceedings and presented to her. If this sort of thing extends to movie actresses many of them will soon have enough records to afford their friends a complete night's entertainment.—Brantford Expositor.

### Unusual Winters

After three weeks of sub-zero weather Albertans are beginning to question if the province's famous "open winters" ever did have existence, except in the minds of some of the old-timers. Certainly it is a reflection on the local weather prophets who were confident that the Winter of 1933-34 was to be unusually mild.—Calgary Herald.

### First Toronto Motorist

A notable figure in the life of Ontario passes from the scene in the death of Dr. P. E. Doolittle. He was the first man in Toronto to own and operate a motor car and his great interest in this form of transportation and its development, which continued until his death, made his name well-known throughout the province and, indeed, all over the Dominion.—Toronto Telegram.

### Letters in Mourning

The year 1933 should bear a black mark in the English literary calendar. So far as can be judged at the moment, it has brought to light no work of outstanding merit, but it has removed from the scene several who had established themselves in the field of letters and an unusual number of those of lesser fame.—Vancouver Province.

### Looks Like It

In Paris a man was arrested near the Courts of Justice clad only in his underwear. Lawyer won his suit?—Brantford Expositor.

### Doctor Is "Mr."

The death of Mr. I. H. Cameron removes a very remarkable surgeon from the ranks of the great operators of the Dominion. He always insisted on being called Mr. Cameron, not Dr. He was a surgeon, he said, not a medical man, and chose to maintain the ancient tradition.—Hamilton Herald.

## THE EMPIRE

### High Praise for a Prince

And certainly, in close-fitting dark overcoat, with a pink carnation—presented to him by the little son of R. G. Clissold, chairman of the Edgbaston Occupational Centre—and his fair hair sleek in the winter sunshine, the Prince looked as handsome and healthy as any film star.—Birmingham, England, Gazette.

### Selling a Pair of Socks

Here is a charming—and true—story of Lady Strathmore, the Duchess of York's mother. At her bazaar in London the other day there were dozens of pairs of socks and in the midst of selling some of them she looked up at her customer rather anxiously.

"You're a big man— wonder if these will be long enough in the foot for you," she said. "I know from my own boys that they are so uncomfortable if they are short.

"I'll tell you what to do. Take them with you and try them on, and if they are not long enough I'll knit new toes for you."—Overseas Daily Mail.

### Risked Her Own Neck

A superintendent of police at Oxford spoke with commendable, even if unconscious, candor to a cyclist summoned during the past week for disobeying a traffic signal. As the lay press missed the whole point of his remark, we cannot let it pass without pointing the homily.

The cyclist was a young lady who innocently imagined, when she found the red light against her, that she could become a "pedestrian" on the spot and walk forward, ahead of the motor traffic. She went to the unparalleled length of wheeling her cycle between two motor cars, which we imagine must be a very galling thing for a motorist to experience. In the police court she said she thought that if she walked she came under the "pedestrian category." The much-shocked superintendent retorted: "And risk your neck!" To which the depraved young lady replied: "Well, it is my own." She was fined a pound.

The temptation is to leave the facts without further comment — as the superintendent presumably did. But those who still walk should bear in mind his professional opinion that to become a pedestrian on the spur of the moment is to risk your neck. We propose to leave it to the pedestrians on the one hand and the speedsters on the other to argue the point whether a "modern pedestrian's" neck is still his own!—G. K.'s Weekly.

### Gas and Destruction

We have been told that airplanes with poison gases could wipe out the population of a city in a night, but Lord Mottistone (formerly better known as General J. E. B. Seely) declares it "a complete and fantastic delusion to suggest that London could be paralyzed by one single blow from the air." Poison gases, to be effective, must be light enough not to spread themselves on the ground and heavy enough to resist dissipation in the atmosphere. There is perhaps as much tendency to overrate the danger from gas as there was to exaggerate the terrors of Big Bertha, which was able to project shells into Paris from 30 miles away, but for every shell that was fired less than one person was killed. No one desires to have a demonstration of gas warfare, but we must be prepared to defend ourselves, whatever be the consequence of attack from the air.—The Weekly Scotsman.

### The English Birth-Rate

More marriages, fewer births! In the third quarter of this year the number of persons married was greater by 15,903 than the corresponding quarter of 1932 and greater by 35,408 than the number in the June quarter, but the births were 8,101 fewer than in the 1932 quarter and the birth rate dropped to 14.6 per thousand. France, Getrmany and Italy are now intent on raising their birth-rate. They realize that a nation's greatest asset is its citizens. Britain cannot afford a falling birth-rate now. — The Sunday Chronicle.

### The "Royal Scot"

Now, if not before this time, the "Royal Scot" is the best known train in the world. To hundreds of thousands of "Century of Progress" visitors she is the incarnation of English railroading—even of England herself. And in every way she has done her country proud. Whoever conceived the idea of sending the "Royal Scot" to America—and whoever evolved the plan for her visit—knew his showmanship. The flying tour made by the train before she took her place at the "Century of Progress" was just sufficient to stimulate an enormous amount of public interest.—R. M. Van Sant, in Modern Transport.

## Noted Figure Passes

The late Chief John George Watson, for 25 years head of Huntsville police, ex-member Irish constabulary at Belfast and friend of the late Lord Kitchener, whose funeral took place in Huntsville on January 11th.

## Lindbergh's "Services" Worth $250,000 Stock

Washington.—An official of Transcontinental Air Transport, Inc., recently told United States Senate investigators 25,000 shares of the company stock were given to Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh.

D. M. Sheaffer, chairman of the air company's executive committee, told of a complicated system used for what he said was "income tax purposes" in transferring the stock to the noted pilot.

He said the stock, valued at -250,000, was given to Lindbergh in return for "services."

## Melbourne to Oust Ugly Signs and Noise

Melbourne, Vic. — Fresh campaigns against city noises, ugly poster advertisements and pillar verandahs are being planned by the city council for the coming municipal year.

After tram noises, which the council cannot stop, the chief causes of noise are regarded as being squeaking car brakes, radio loudspeakers, and "spruikers" outside theatres and shops. The practice of having uniformed "spruikers" outside shops, announcing bargains in stentorian voices, has grown in recent years. All such noises, the council feels, could be subdued by stricter enforcement of the council's anti-noise by-laws.

Ugly boardings which do not comply with the council's regulation will be pulled down. Owners of buildings with pillar verandahs will be urged to demolish them, or to replace them with verandahs of the cantilever type, within the next five years. The council's view is that pillar verandahs, besides interfering with traffic, mar the appearance of the city streets. Many have been demolished in recent years.

## Princess Alice Opens London Bazaar

A big London event recently was a church bazaar in aid of Anglo-Catholic home and foreign missions, held for two days in the Royal Horticultural Hall at Westminister. Out of the 50 special stalls, 10 represent Africa, south of the equator, and St. Helena. The bazaar was opened by Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, in recognition of her special South African connection.

The Princess, who was attended by Miss Heron-Maxwell, said she was Miss Heron-Maxwell, said she was happy to support the work of English church missions at home and abrpad. "I think those engaged in church work at home," she said, "often fail to realize what the life of the workers abroad is like. My knowledge is limited to my South African experiences, but during my seven years' residence in South Africa, I had ample opportunity to see the work done there by missionaries, and I learnt to appreciate the moral, social and physical help they give to the natives. The work is so extremely worth while, but none of it can be carried on without financial support."

## 14,200 Italian Settlers Flock to Reclaimed Lands

Littoria, Italy.—Trainloads of peasants arrive here every month and thousands of these hardy farmhands start lift afresh in this city, which was once the centre of the now reclaimed Pontine marshes. Here at least there is no depression.

These rugged folk come from the most varied points of the peninsular and their one wish is to till the soil. The vast expanses of the reclaimed Pontine marshes today make their life dream come true.

Veteran farmers stand at attention and mechanically click their heels together before uttering a monosyllable. A good many lately have been coming from the Friuli region. Property is so subdivided and scarce there and so thickly populated that lots destined for farm-sharing often measure less than a hectare. Hence they become wanderers in search of work, almost gypsy-farmers. The Pontine experiment is curing the disease. Men are falling in love again with their soil, their plow and oxen.

## Spends 50 Millions In Purchasing Gold

Washington.—The United States reconstruction finance corporation has made known it had purchased more than $50,000,000 of foreign gold in the administration's effort to boost commodity prices.

## Chicago Scene of Milk Battle

Farm pickets dumping milk from truck near Chicago city limits. The milk strike has reached such proportions practically any milk getting into city is for hospitals and emergency milk for children.

## Chosen Architect

Vincent Harris has been chosen from a long list of British architects to design the new government buildings in Whitehall.

## Famous Woman Spy Happily Married

### Marthe Cnockaert, wife of Capt. McKenna, Ex-British Soldier

Yesterday I heard the truth about one of the Great War's greatest love romance, writes a woman correspondent of a London daily newspaper. It was the love story of a famous spy, who is now in Britain, told by her husband, Captain McKenna, ex-soldier.

"Out of the desolation of mud, rain, graves and crosses came the greatest happiness which we two had ever known," he said.

The other person of the "we" is Marthe Cnockaert, though I am breaking a promise in describing her in this manner.

"Captain McKenna is the husband of Madame McKenna, please, and I am the wife of a great soldier. The rest we are trying to forget." That is Madame McKenna's emphatic wish.

She is a wife now. Her husband is her hero. And like all good Belgian women, she left all the talking to him.

### Cemetery Meeting

"We met on a bleak November morning just a week or so after the war. A friend and I were visiting the cemetery at Westrosebeke, looking for graves of some of my friends who were buried there," he said.

"We plodded over the field, and saw a woman standing a little way in front of us, looking over the field of crosses . . . That was Marthe

"My friend spoke to her. He asked her if she knew the place. He spoke to her first. It was her home town, and she was coming back to it to find nothing but the ruin of all her memories.

"I like Marthe immediately, and it was some time later that I learned of her work. I felt even happier when I realized her bravery . . . But very humble. For she had done great work."

### Wonderfully Happy

Marthe had listened to us till then, but she here interrupted.

"He did, too. He was a great soldier. The whole war he fought. Very near to me . . . And they gave him the Military Cross and bar and the French Croix de Guerre."

"But Marthe, . . ."

And to avoid any argument I intervened.

"You both served your country."

They are charming people. Wonderfully happy and very simple in their living.

"I was a spy," said Marthe. "I cannot regret it; I would be a spy again."

"And I am a spy's husband, and as Marthe is the spy I cannot regret that for one moment either," said Captain McKenna.

I left them together, one of the happiest married couples I have ever met.

## Is Hit by Coffin Mourner is Killed

Metz, France.—Victim of a falling coffin, a French aviator pilot, Sergt. Giardin, is dead at Boulay, near Metz.

He was riding uphill in a hearse with the corpse of an old man. The hearse hit a tree, the rear door flew open and the coffin fell out, landing on the flyer.

## Sydney Steel Plant Gets Large Order

Sydney, N.S.—Sir Newton Moore, president of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, has announced the corporation had closed a contract for an order of 6,000 tons of steel rods, to be rolled at the Sydney plant. He did not disclose the name of the firm purchasing the rods.

## Hospitable Calgary Welcomes Visitors.

### Showers Them With Gifts and the "Glad Hand"

Calgary. — Western hospitality means something in Calgary, not just a handshake and "welcome to our city."

A "welcome wagon" awaits the newcomer and his family. It is covered but not drawn, like the pioneer ones, by plodding oxen or fiery steeds. It has an up-to-the-minute motor and at the wheel sits a genial driver-hostess. The "welcome wagon" is loaded with gifts from local merchants for the newcomers and letters of welcome.

First there is a letter from Mayor Andy Davison inviting them to "come up and see me sometime." And then an invitation to dine free at a oozy downtown tea room, followed by a complimentary ticket to a movie and a free taxi ride home.

But that is not all. The "welcome lady" greets the new Calgary housewife with two baskets laden with foodstuffs—a quart of milk; a loaf of bread; butter; a tin of meat; several packages of biscuits; a bag of flour and a host of other household supplies.

There is also a bouquet of roses; a complimentary library card and the man-of-the-house is not forgotten. He may have his hat cleaned and blocked free and his car washed and oiled,, also without charge.

And then for good measure there is a nice, shiny yardstick, but you don't need one to gauge western hospitality in Calgary.

## Millions in Check But Borrows Taxi Fare

Washington.—A $43,300,000 check in his pocket and not enough money to pay a taxicab bill was the predicament in which Mr. Lloyd Landau found himself.

Mr. Landau is a solicitor for the Public Works Administration.

The taxicab bill was 40 cents and he was in Chicago.

After displaying the federal check to the doubtful driver and a considerable debate as to his identity, the driver allowed him to enter the Union League Club to borrow 50 cents from the desk clerk.

The check was drawn in connection with a government transfer of funds in Chicago.

## New Nationality Law Helps Women in Britain

London.—By the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, which recently received the royal assent the lot of British women who marry foreigners is somewhat mitigated The act, which was originally introduced into Parliament as the Nationality of Married Women bill, enables a British woman who marries an alien to retain her own nationality unless she acquires his.

In the case of a husband who relinquishes his British nationality after marriage, the wife may retain her British nationality. On the other hand, an alien woman, marrying a British subject, will only become British at her own request, while a British woman married to a citizen of an enemy country will have the right to return to British nationality.

## Budapest Has Milk Row

Budapest.—Five thousand liters of milk were poured out in the streets of Budapest a few days ago as a demonstration of Hungarian milk sellers against a decree of the government.

The Ministry of Agriculture recently issued a decree forbidding the direct supply of milk to the consumers in the capital and forcing the producers to deliver their goods to the Budapest Dairymen's Association.

A number of "milk mothers" (as the milk sellers going from house to house are called in Hungary) refused to obey this summons and either delivered no milk at all to the capital or tried to force their way through the police cordons at the octroi-frontier. During the encounters a number of the angry women opened their cans and poured out the milk.

## Soviet Buys Canadian Wheat for Siberians

Saskatoon.—The Soviet Government has bought 16,000 bushels of Western Canada wheat for distribution in districts of Siberia needing early wheat, according to information received by Neil Stewart of Dunblane, Sask., president of the Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers Association. The grain, now stored in a Moose Jaw elevator, will go for February delivery at New York.

## Airman at Edmonton Gets Rude Surprise

Edmonton.—Heat actually forced Captain Walter Gilbert, Canadian Airways pilot, to land here a few minutes after he took off from the city airport on a projected flight to McMurray.

With a ground temperature of 48 degrees, Captain Gilbert glided into the air and bumped into an air current of 60 degrees at 1,000 feet. With his machine regulated for frigid winter flying, the motor started to overheat and he hurried to the ground.