Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

The Pendulum Swings

The depression is responsible for many practical object-lessons. It has shown the defects of over-centralization, of too intensive development of urban, at the expense of rural, life. The cities, huge as they are, have become overcrowded and the natural movement is away from them. But the process will no doubt begin all over again—the farm, the trek from the farm to the city, back to the farm again. Under present conditions the fields certainly look invitingly green to those who have found disillusionment betwen city walls. The divine injunction to till the soil and earn one's living "in the sweat of one's face" still holds good. There is no other recipe for economic stability, notwithstanding all the progress of the social and industrial sciences.—Hamilton Spectator.

In Bygone Days

A Toronto paper reproduces an 1835 picture of that place in which traffic on the main street is represented by a pair of oxen. It is a far more placid and soothing scene than can be conveyed by watching the present red and green corner lights.—Brantford Expositor.

"We Must Mildly Protest"

When error gets a start it persists. Several days ago there was an article on this page which said Aimee Semple lived in Stratford as a bride, and that the building the upstairs of which was the home of her and her husband is still here. Since then we have seen that item in the Woodstock Sentinel-Review and The Ottawa Journal, and in each case the heading reads, "Aimee Lived in St. Thomas," and the story is credited to the St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Our idea was to claim a little publicity for Stratford, and not without mild protest or a little struggle will we allow these other papers to take away from us whatever value there may be in the fact that Aimee came to Stratford as a bride.

Since then she has had two other husbands, but according to belief and statistics the first was much better than those who followed in his wake. —Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Another Definition

When is a man drunk? That is an old question and there have been all sorts of tests from walking a chalk line to pronouncing difficult sentences. A sensible sort of test is suggested in the Virginia Legislature as follows: 'Any peron who has drunk enough alcoholic beverages to so affect his manner, disposition, speech, muscular movements, general appearance or behavior as to be apparent to observation, shall be deemed to be intoxicated."—Niagara Falls Review.

Dirty Markers

Automobile markers are carried not only as an indication that the registration fee has been paid but also as a ready means of identification. For this purpose it is essential that the figures shall be legible at all times. A car with dirty markers is in the same category as a man wearing a mask. Too frequently when a car has sped away from the scene of an accident or of a crime, it has been impossible for bystanders to secure its number.

If those who purposely obscure their markers are to be detected, it is necessary that law-abiding motorists keep their own markers clean. And it is easier to do that than to get the car out of the average garage.—Toronto Telegram.

G. B. S. On Tour

George Bernard Shaw has sailed on a visit to New Zealand. If he finds that the Maoris have never even heard of him he is liable to take the next boat back home.—Brantford Expositor.

What Is Needed

What is needed to-day is not new things, but true things. It is an old world, and a good world. There is enough of happiness and progress in the world, just for the bringing out. It means hard work, not big talk. It is one of the old truths, the new truths, the everlasting truths, that there are no short-cuts to things worth while. Those who foolishly imagine that they have some new way to change the world, or the part of the world they adorn, are simply selling themselves false thoughts by high-pressure hypnotism. The world continues to make progress to better things, not in new ways, or by loud mouthings, but quietly and surely through effort and thought and labor. — Timmins Advance.

Advice

It never pays to stick your tongue out except at the doctor's request. A young lady did so at London, Ont., and had it frozen on a steel railing.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Houses of the Future

When we get to the point where we consider the dwelling house as a machine to yield us the maximum comfort and convenience, we shall progress toward a new type of home which will be worthy of the age in which we live. Then the home will be a building designed from the inside, carefully planned to provide every comfort and convenience in the most efficient way; and it will be possible to have all this at a lower cost than the old type of inefficient dwelling.—Edmonton Journal.

THE EMPIRE

Lord Willingdon on India's Future

The Viceroy's confidence that a great and brilliant future lies before India will be widely shared. The economic barometer is set fair here, as in other quarters, subject to no storm clouds blowing over from the United States. There is another proviso, as stressed by the Viceroy. Co-operation, peace and goodwill must also be maintained. With them, to use Lord Willingdont phrase, "prosperity will soon come to all who are unitedly working for the welfare of India and her people."—Bombay Times of India.

This Complex World

There was a time when government was, if not simple, at least single-strand. Three hundred years ago Cromwell could wait upon events before acting, but to-day the affairs of men will wait for no man and no Government. Any and every difficult problem cannot be solved by a stroke of the sword, and the walls of Jericho no longer collapse before a flourish of trumpets.—Aberdeen Weekly Chronicle.

A Business Whale

"Whales are the business men of the marine world," states a writer. The whale that swallowed Jonah certainly believed in a small prophet and a quick return.—London Sunday Pictorial.

British Guiana's Trade

The outstanding feature of British Guiana's import trade during 1933 has been the continued interest shown in Japanese importations. Statistically, Japan is definitely the most interesting of the foreign countries from which British Guiana imports. Taking the ipmort figures as a whole, we find that British Guiana more than maintained its reputation as being essentially a "Buy British" country, and out of the total value ($7,338,112) for the 90 items of imports, British countries sent to British Guiana a total of $6,175,765 as follows: The United Kingdom, $4,642,098; Canada $914,754; other British possessions $618,913. This represents an increase of $241,772 on the previous year (1932) in Empire importations.—Georgetown Commercial Review.

Australia Looks at 1934

There are, necessarily and naturally, ups and downs. Wheat is up; gold is up. But butter had been up for several years, and the good dairying seasons had helped us to weather the storm. The gold production has nearly doubled, and, although this is an ephemeral benefit, it has been of service in giving some profitable employment in time of stress. For wheat, little can be hoped for at least another season. Perhaps, where it is possible, wheat farmers will profit by their experience and not rely solely upon wheat. A deplorable fact is that some of our considerable primary industries yield no net profit to the Commonwealth. On the whole, however, the outlook for the man on the land has brightened.—Melbourne Australasian.

One View of Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia in certain respects recalls ancient Greece. Both are peninsulas, insignificant in area compared with the great continents from which they project; but both believe in the importance of their contribution to their country in character and influence. Both have thin soil, unsuited to the more opulent forms of agriculture; though the little Canadian province would proudly claim that she is rich in resources—fisheries, lumber, gold and coal, and apple orchards. Yet her scanty population is dwindling. And why? Because her assets are not sufficiently developed, not well enough managed, to find occupation for her sons and daughters. Hence, just as in Greece, her children have gone to richer lands.—L. A. Ward in The Empire Review (London).

Might Know

"I'd teach the man who tried to kiss me at a party," writes a modern miss. But I dont suppose he'd want much tuition.—London Sunday Pictorial.

Hidden Riches of Cyprus

It is astonishing that we should have had to wait till 1934 before there should be a beginning of an adequate organization for maintaining and exploring the as yet incalculable riches of Cyprus in ancient monuments of many periods and many civilizations. Much good work was done by excavators in the second half of last century, but since 1905 the Government of Cyprus has been left to encourage what research it could with limited funds. At last a powerful committee under Lord Mersey's chairmanship has set itself to arouse public interest in regard to what is, surely, an Imperial duty to civilization. Cyprus was at the very centre of the world of which Herodotus wrote, and contains mounments, many of them of great beauty, and more which will constitute new sources of ancient history. —The Spectator.

Thousands of Pounds Go Up in Smoke

Paintings and art objects, valued at thousands of pounds, were lost when fire swept and destroyed the historic mansion of Sir Jeremiah Coleman Colman, the mustard millionaire, near Redhill Surrey, Eng. Fire brigades were seriously hampered by lack of water.

Fur Trade Is Enjoying Boom

Northland Dealers Reveal Optimism—Catch is Large

Winnipeg.—Across Canada's vast northland, from the fringe of the Arctic through the barren lands and the wooded country further south the fur trade is booming.

Northern traders reaching Winnipeg from frontier points declare the greatest fur catch in history is in progress. From widely-scattered points in the isolated interior came word of phenomenal yields.

A Fort Chipewan, Alta., a trader already has 3,000 fox skins and none in that district have less than 1,000 skins, traders said. The stimulation of the trade has increased business throughout the north country. Traders have shipped in huge quantities of supplies, many of them by airplane, while outcoming airplanes and dog teams are laden with pelts.

Traders, predicting the depression was over, had no fears regarding the price of furs. Nor were they worried about markets. If demand lagged in Canada, the United States and Europe afforded an outlet.

The same story was told in Northern Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Every frontier trading post had the same tale of plenty.

Has Bad Luck After 25 Years

Kansas City, Mo.—After having driven for 25 years without an accident, Dr. Harry S. Lane bought a new automobile and within 24 hours it was wrecked by an ancient car worth $5, the driver of which carried no insurance. Undaunted, Dr. Lane bought another car, and within a month it, too, was wrecked by an uninsured driver, who said he had just paid $3 for his vehicle.

Woolen Workers Get Bonuses in England

Morley, Eng.—A bonus of 2 per cent on the wages has been made to 550 employees by Messrs. J. & S. Rhodes, woolen manufacturers, who have three mills here.

Since 1915 this firm has paid £23,000 in profit-sharing bonuses. During the past year 1853 miles of cloth were made and 300,000 pounds of wool used.

What Does Your Handwriting Show?

By GEOFFREY ST. CLAIR

(Grapho-Analyst.)

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A correspondent sends me samples of the writing of several well-known people, and asks me to analyse the writing for her. There is so much of interest in these analyses that I am making them the subject of a special article.

Perhaps you have wondered why many men have been led into the different pursuits in which they have gained fame and fortune. It is intensely interesting to think of what might have been if different individuals had been born with traits of character that were entirely different from the real characteristics of their nature.

Men and women are born into this world with definite talents and abilities that they must learn in order to take full advantage of them. Some go through life and never learn their proper talents, while others find and develop them early in life.

Ramon Novarro, the prominent film star, is particularly fortunate in finding his talent and making it the driving force of his life. His writing shows, as all those who have seen his films know, that he is a great dramatic actor—that he can interpret a role in a way that few people can even approach, but he has also another ability and another very outstanding talent with which he has won recognition—his ability in music. The rhythm and breaks in his writing shows immediately to the handwriting analyst—a talent and appreciation of the musical arts.

As an operatic singer, Ramon Novarro has achieved fame that is not often given to a man. His talent in music is well-known, and is, perhaps, his first choice of expression.

He has still another characteristic, another ability. His writing shows an ability to use his hands in a creative way—perhaps in painting, sculpture, or some other means of artistic expression. Few men are born with such pronounced artistic ability in so many lines—drama, music, and the sculptural arts.

Take the handwriting of John Boles, another star. The dominant trait in his character is his self-reliance. This is the quality that makes him depend only on himself for anything that he wants done. He is not surly (quite the contrary) to his many friends, but, at the same time, when he wants a certain thing, he looks to one man only to get it—and that man is himself.

John Boles could not be anything else if he desired—there is an independence of thought and action that will not allow him to think of help when he has a problem to face. He is close-mouthed about his personal affairs, and will usually have them solved before other people have heard about them. Decisive, quick thinking—a man of action—John Boles.

Readers of this newspaper are invited to send samples of their handwriting to the author for a character analysis. Send as long a letter as possible, and write your usual script. Address your letters to Geoffrey St. Clair, Room 421, 73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, and enclose 10 cent coin and a stamped addressed envelope. Letters, of course, are confidential.

British Revenue Exceeds Outlays

London.—For the first time in a decade, the total national revenue for the year shows a surplus over expenditure.

Last Saturday's ordinary revenue was £26,527,824 in contrast to the ordinary expenditure for one day of £9,791,052.

The result of this excess is that not only has the seasonal deficit for the fiscal year been wiped out, but a surplus of £1,308,291 has been established.

No evil propensity of the human heart is so powerful that it may not be subdued by discipline.—Seneca.

Call Settlement For Lois Booth

Montreal.—A new settlement near Taschereau, Abitibi, Que., has been named Lois—for Lois Booth, formerly of Ottawa, and now Princess Erik of Denmark—Alderman Leon Trepanier, city council leader, and ardent supporter of the back-to-the-land movement informed the council here recently. Many men are already established at Lois and 15 more heads of families will travel to the settlement shortly, he said.

Fancy rules over two-thirds of the universe, the past and the future, while reality is confined to the present.—Richter.

Train Crew Escapes

Twenty-seven freight cars piled up near Nomence, Ill., February 8, after a broken truck derailed one of the cars. Here is how they came to rest in the ravine alongside the track. The train crew escaped.

$20,000 Sheep Slain By Dogs

That's Estimate of Loss Suffered by Ontario in Past Year

Toronto.—Marauding sheep-killing dogs, prowling Ontario's farmlands by night and leaving behind them a trail of mutilated flocks, annually cost municipalities throughout the province more than $20,000.

This was the estimate made by W. R. Wade, director of the livestock branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, in commenting upon recent reports of wholesale sheep slaughter by prowling killer canines.

For all sheep killed by dogs, farmers are given restitution by the municipalities. But when these applications for restitution are contested, it becomes the business of the province to set a settlement price, and eight such cases were reported during the year. These eight appeals, representing an estimated five per cent. of all restitutions, totalled more than $1,000, indicating the total loss to municipalities would lie in the vicinity of $20,000 or more.

"Settlement is usually made by the municipalities without protest," explained Director Wade, "but there is untold damage done to flocks which is not covered by restitution. Beyond the visible slaughter by dogs, flocks are also tormented to such an extent that it is often indirect slaughter, especially during lambing season when the unborn animals are affected.

"An expert sheepman can usually determine to what extent a flock has been damaged by tormenting dogs and the farmer receives restitution. Of course this is not always the case and the farmer suffers the loss."

British-Russian Pact To Cover Five Years

London.—"You buy my goods and I will buy yours," is the principle on which Britain's new trade pact with Russia is based.

This was brought out in a published text which presented a schedule showing how a balance of payments between the two nations will be equalized in the next five years.

Either may denounce the pact on six months' notice.

During the present year Russia can sell Britain £1,700,000 worth of goods and buy only £1,000,000 worth. This ratio must be reduced to one of 1 to 1.5 by the end of 1935, to 1.4 by the end of 1936 and to 1.2 by the end of 1937. Thereafter trade will be maintained in a virtual balance.

Woman Beats Off Armed Raider

A man walked into a sub-post office in Lyham Road, Bhixton, England, presented a revolver at Mrs. Crosier, the sub-post-mistress, and asked for money.

With great pluck and presence of mind Mrs. Crosier picked up a weight from the scales and threw it at the man's head. It missed, but crashed through the office window. This alarmed the man, who dashed out.

Mrs. Margaret Crosier stated later that the man was young and slightly built. The revolver fell from his hand.

"I picked it up by the barrel, but he caught my wrist and took it from me," she added, "and then I threw a weight through the window and the man ran away."

Premonition Caused Her to Stab Husband

Mrs. Jessie Bridges, of Boston, totally blind, had a premonition her husband was going to strike her and so she stabbed him in self-defense, she told police.

"When my husband is going to strike me," she said, "I always have a premonition."

Women Receive Honors in Paris

Paris.—Mrs. Leila Morse Rummel, 82-year-old author and daughter of Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, has been made a Knight of the Legion of Honor.

Mrs. Dorothea Roberts, astronomer, also was knighted, as was Percy Philip, British head of the New York Times Paris bureau.

Mrs. Rummel has resided in Paris since 1912.

Exports to Bristol

Among the principal commodities imported into Bristol, England, from Canada, are grain, cereal products, feeding stuffs, cheese, lard, tobacco, and wood and timber. An encouraging feature of Canadian trade is an increase of over 300 per cent. in the volume of imports of tobacco from Canada. The quality of the tobacco, particularly of the Virginia type flue-cuer leaf, supplied by the Dominion, is highly regarded.

Crime Below the Line

It is hard to imagine a man who will commit murder for pay, yet such person do exist and ply their awful trade. The following press despatch reveals the desperate conditions that prevail in some regions:—"Five persons are under arrest at Indianapolis charged with the murder of a Methodist minister over which they made a profit of exactly $1.50. Of the $10 given for the deed, $8.50 was spent for a revolver.