Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

Canada

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Here is something that reads like fiction in these days of hard times, shrinking values and uncollected taxes:

"City Treasurer M. M. Morse, of Ogdensburg, states that the city ended its fiscal year March 31 with a cash surplus of $50,729.75 after setting up a reserve fund of about $10,000 to meet outstanding claims. There was $12,923.37 to the credit of the school fund and $37,729.76 to the general city fund. Cash on hand was $61,596.23 and tax arrears, $1,836.80." —Pembroke Standard-Observer.

WHAT MOTORISTS PAY

More than 27 per cent. of the total revenues collected by the governments of the different provinces of Canada is contributed by owners of automobiles in the form of taxes on gasoline and license fees. The report states that the total amount paid by automobile owners to the provincial treasuries in the fiscal year 1932-33 was $45,499,458, of which gasoline taxes accounted for $24,948,280 and $20,551,173 was in license fees. In the Province of Ontario 35.9 per cent. of the total government revenue is paid by motorists; in Quebec, 32 per cent.; in Nova Scotia, 27.2 per cent.; in New Brunswick, 27.3 per cent.; in Alberta, 24.1 per cent.; in Prince Edward Island, 22.7 per cent.; in Saskatchewan, 19.8 per cent.; in British Columbia, 17 per cent., and in Manitoba, 15.45 per cent. —Prescott Journal.

$165,000,000

When figures get up into billions, imagination clogs. But while our mind blurs over those new statistics telling that Canadians spend $4,750,000,000 a year, have incomes of $4,600,000,000, one figure amidst a maze of others stands out very clear. It is the figure which tells that we spend on education $165,000,000 a year. That for ten million people.—Ottawa Journal.

"CHEQUE ARTIST"

Ontario communities having public hospitals are being paid a visit by a "cheque artist." He goes to a flower shop, says he wants to send flowers to a friend in hospital, orders something worth $3 and tenders a cheque for $5. A fictitious name is given of the supposed patient, with the request that the flowers be delivered. Receiving $2 in change, the rascal departs. Smallness of his cheque and his aesthetic tastes and human sympathy combine to disarm suspicion. It is presumed that the flowers are reclaimed. In Renfrew the situation is such that the fraud could at least be attempted.—Renfrew Mercury.

ADVERTISING

Tell me not in mournful numbers advertising is a dream, for the business man who slumbers, has no chance to skim the cream. Life is real! Life is earnest! Competition's sometimes fierce. In the business field of battle, collcoddles have no place; be not like dumb driven cattle, be a live one in the race. Lives of great men all remind us we must bring the bacon home, and, departing, leave behind us footprints on another's dome. Let us then be up and doing; otherwise we may be done; still achieving, still pursuing—advertise and get the mon.—From Publicity.

NEWSPAPERS

A preacher came at a newspaper man this way: "You editors do not tell the truth. If you did you could not live; your newspaper would be a failure." The editor replied: "You are right, and the minister who will at all times and under all circumstances tell the truth about his members, alive or dead, will not occupy his pulpit more than one Sunday, and then he will find it necessary to leave town in a hurry. The press and pulpit go hand in hand, with whitewash brushes and pleasant words, magnifying little virtues into big ones. The pulpit, the pen, and the gravestone are the great saint-making triumvirate."

And the editor turned to his work and told of the unsurpassing beauty of the bride, while, in fact, she was as homely as a mud fence.—North Hastings Review.

HARD UP?

An eighty-year-old former bricklayer, a bachelor, who was drawing an old-age pension from the British Columbia Government, certainly had his nerve about him. He died in Seattle while on a business trip and authorities not only found nearly $1,900 in his hotel room, but also discovered that he had an estate worth more than $12,000! Rather hard up!—The Barrie Examiner.

A CONTEMPTIBLE TRICK

One of the meanest and most contemptible of men is he who throws poisoned food out where he knows the neighbor's cats or dogs will pick it up. He may have been annoyed at the yowling of cats on the back fence but that is no reason for causing indiscriminate slaughter among the children's pets. The following words of an editor from a nearby town are quite applicable to people of this district who throw poison to dumb animals.

"There has been an epidemic of deaths especially among cats lately, and no other causes has been assigned except that of poisoning. Some of the poor brutes have lingered for days in misery before dying. We could understand a man in the fury of the moment of being awakened by unmusical choruses under his window, firing his shotgun into the noise, but to prepare, deliberately, a mess of poison and leave it where it will murder both the offenders and any other wandering creature, is quite beyond us. There is something subnormal about the man who will rob a small boy of his pet.—Ingersoll Tribune.

KEEP OFF THE GRASS

Much damage is being done lawns and boulevards at present by people walking across or riding bicycles on the grass. As the ground is wet and soft on the surface, muddy paths are quickly worn or the ground is churned into a pile of mud that will not produce grass in the coming months. —Lindsay Post.

The Empire

OPEN SEASON FOR PEDESTRIANS

"It's a fine day," says the Englishman—and takes out his car to kill some one. That, at least, has been the recent routine, resulting last year in 7,202 killed and over two hundred thousand injured. But this Easter has been much less murderous than precedent had led us to expect, and it may be that road users are really beginning to realise that a motor is a lethal weapon which can only be made compatible with civilized life if used with great skill and caution. It is from this point of view—the effect on the psychology of roadusers—that the Minister of Transport's new traffic legislation should be judged. . . It is a case for risking some injustice to individual motorists; nothing will so much hasten the growth of careful driving as the fear of a strictly enforced penalty against carelessness. —The New Statesman and Nation (London).

THE WAY OF NEWS

By means of their correspondence and of the news agencies with which they deal, the feelers of a newspaper reach to every corner of the globe. An assassination may take place in Afghanistan, a political coup in Bukharest, a discovery in Africa, or a ship may founder off the Azores, yet before twenty-four hours are out the news will be dished out by the newspapers to the residents of this colony, or any other place where they are able to support a press organization. It is not necessary to dwell on the specialized process to which the news is subjected on its way to Hong Kong from its incidence in that far away spot, and in its final form in the newspaper column. Suffice it to say that the organization which this entails very often escapes the notice of the man in the street.—The Hong Kong Press.

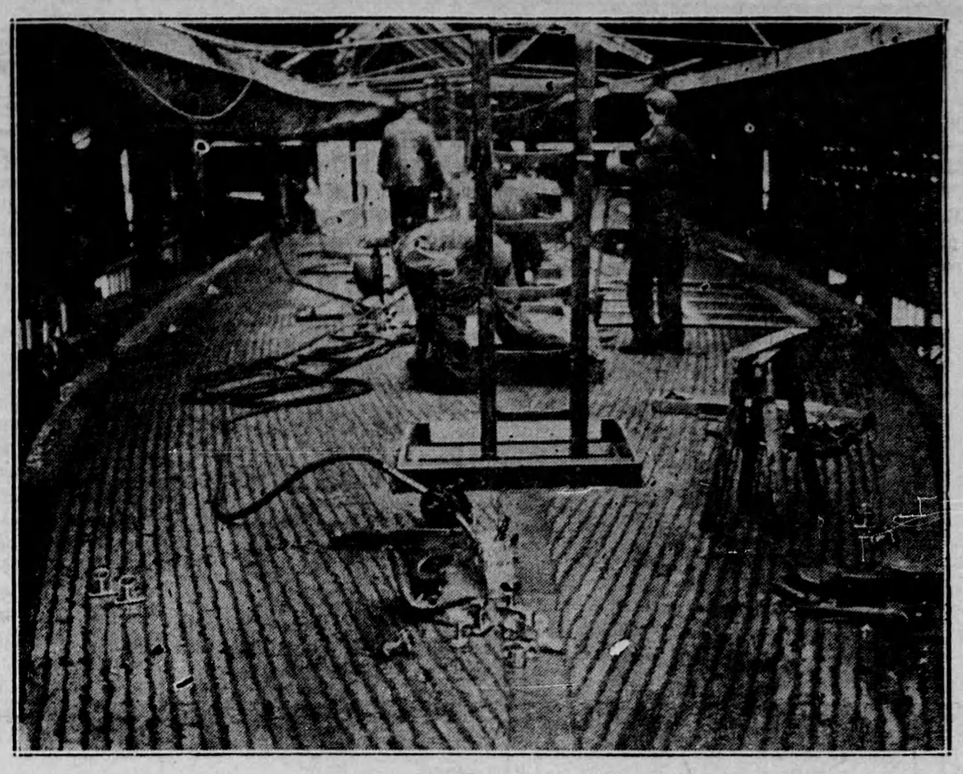
THE CAMPAIGN FOR TEA

In an attempt to rationalize the industry, the producers of Ceylon, India and the Dutch East Indies have now entered into an agreement whereby wasteful competition will be eliminated, and each will have its own fields for development. In this country the producers of India and Ceylon are to have a free hand to build up the market for their own teas, for at present the Dutch East Indies supply 160,000,000 out of the 500,000,000 pounds which we drink every year. In Canada and South Africa the Ceylon producers are attempting to popularize their own wares, and in the United States, India, who has already been making inroads on the coffee-drinking habits of the people, is to continue her efforts. The Dutch are to make a determined drive on the continent of Europe. But above and beyond all these markets there lies one of almost unlimited potentialities — the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, whose tea consumption has declined by more than 50 per cent. since the years before its birth. It is believed that if reasonable credit facilities could be given to the Russia Government, they would be able to take as much as 100 million pounds a year, an order which would enable an immediate large reduction to be made in the restriction quota.—Philip Jordan in The Fortnightly Review (London).

THE STUDENT ON THE LAND

Undoubtedly a scheme of this character (to place unemployed university students on the land) assumes a spirit of adventure and enterprise on the part of those who desire to take advantage of it. To most persons accustomed to city life and inured to the sedentary habits of the student, outdoor work, involving some fatigue and a good deal of manual labor, may in its early stages appear repulsive. Indian university men are known to possess rather orthodox notions of personal dignity and a positive distaste for manual labor. But if recent tendencies are a guide, the strength of such prejudices is weakening in the face of the compelling circumstances of our time. Nevertheless the cautious attitude of the Committee towards the colonization of the large unoccupied tracts of the United Provinces is justified, as it is necessary in the first instance to make sure that sufficient men of the type that will make good colonisers would be willing to enter the scheme.

BRITAIN'S ENTRY NEARING COMPLETION



Workmen are seen here putting the finishing touches to the deck of the Endeavour II, the British yacht which is to challenge for America's Cup.

Ailments Guards

Intestinal Ills Protect You Against Infantile Paralysis

Chicago. — To minimize your chances of catching infantile paralysis, stay in a region where stomach and intestinal ailments are common—that is the prescription drawn from discoveries by Dr. John A. Toomey, of Cleveland.

Dr. Toomey reported new theories about infantile paralysis to the American College of Physicians.

His research showed that apparently there is some connection between infantile paralysis and diseases of the digestive tract, and that people in regions where intestinal troubles are prevalent develop an immunity that protects them from the infantile paralysis virus.

Dr. Toomey said that in south eastern United States, where intestinal troubles are more common than in some other sections, and in China, where they abound, infantile paralysis is not prevalent. Presumably, this is because south eastern Americans and the Chinese have more immunity.

Three new conclusions regarding infantile paralysis were drawn from evidence, disclosed by Dr. Toomey's experiments.

Its most probable channel of entry to the human body is through the mouth, stomach and intestines.

It is caused by a combination of a virus—an organism too small to see under any microscope—and poisons produced by other kinds of bacteria that live in the intestines of most humans.

Immunity against it is produced either by immunity against the infantile paralysis invirus the body through the digestive tract contradicts the former belief of many scientists th tait entered through the nose along the olfactoyr nerves, "the sense of smell route."

His experiments indicate the virus spreads from hte intestinal tract of the human body by way of the fibres of the sympathetic nervous system to the chain of nerves that runs down either side of the spine and from there first to the loins and then upward to the neck.

$136,000 Is Awarded To Broker Firm

Halifax.—The Montreal brokerage firm of McDougall and Cowans was awarded $136,000 by the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia recently in its $148,000 suit against T. C. Glennie, the Nova Scotia lumberman who made and lost a small fortune in the wild stock market of 1929.

Glennie was sued by the brokerage company for the amount of his losses on its books after the 1929 crash. He had run up a $10,000 stake to more than $500,000 and then had seen his huge profits turned swiftly into a deficit.

Before a Supreme Court jury he successfully contested his claim that the losses were caused by inefficient handling of his account by the firm. But the full benech reversed this verdict in a majority decision recently. though the judges differed in opinions as to the amount due the firm.

The company's counsel indicated they would be satisfied to have the amount reduced by $12,000 to meet the finding of Mr. Justice R. H. Graham and an order to this effect was granted.

Short of "F's' and "K's'

Here is an authentic extract from the first issue of a Western newspaper:

We begin the publication of the Roccay Mountain Cyclone with some phew diphphiculties in the way. The type phounders phrom whom we bought our outphit phor this printing ophice phailed to supply us with any ephs or cays, and it will be phour or phie weeks bephore we can get any. We have ordered the missing letters, and will have to get along without them until they come. We don't lique the loox ov this variety ov spelling any better than our reader, but mistax will happen in the best regulated phamilies, and iph the 'ph's' and 'c's' and 'x's' and 'q's' hold out we shall ceep (sound the 'c' hard) the Cyclone whirling aphter a phashion till the sorts arrive. It is no joque to us—it's a serious aphphair.

New Regulations

The Minister of Education makes the following announcements with regard to Second Year Normal Course, commencing in September, 1934-5: 1. Interim Certificates issued in July 1930 to teachers will be extended one year If they wish to continue teaching after that date, they will be required to return for the Second Year Course in September 1935. 2. Teachers who completed the 1st Year Normal School Course in 1929 and whose Interim Certificates were extended to July 1934, will be obliged to return to Normal School in order to take their positions. This Course will be given each of the Normal Schools. Forms of application may be obtained from the Deputy Minister of Education after July 1st.

Let's You Eat And Grow Thin

Baltimore—Dr. George A. Harrop, Jr., of Johns Hopkins has worked out an eat-and-grow thin diet

Bananas and skimmed milk are the answer. Moreover the patients do not go hungry, the doctor says.

As tried out at the Metabolism clinic of the Johns Hopkins University patients eat four to six bananas and drink three or four glasses of skimmed milk daily for two weeks. They lose six to ten pounds.

Then follows a two weeks off diet period, in which they eat, meat, fish eggs and vegetables, but refrain from fats and starches. Then back to the diet again for two weeks losing six to ten pounds more. Some, by following this alternating system, have lost 50 pounds in a few months.

For milder diets the bananas are increased to seven or eight and the milk to four glasses. Dr. Harrop, authority of treatment of disease by diet, began the experiment to reduce waistbands but on hearing of deaths from reducing drugs he became willing to make his findings public.

Coffee and tea are allowed, but no cream or sugar. It's considered advisable to drink large amounts of water

Bombing of Rabbits Successful Plan

Liberal, Kan.—Southwest Kansas nimrods have conceived the idea of bomb-hunting rabbits from airplanes

In a recent rabbit drive near Hereford, Tex. Doc Henderson and Ovart Pinkerton dropped bombs on scurrying cottontails from planes and although 300 foothunters participated in the drive, the air-hunters accounted for 2,000 of the 3,000 rabbits obtained.

Health in China

For centuries the Chinese have paid their doctors to keep them well rather than to cure them when they were sick. Many an effort has been made by inquisitive visitors to China to check up this well-known bit of scientific information. The results have been discouraging, however, showing that until recently the Chinese have had no doctors worthy of the name to practise preventive medicine, or any other kind. Even though the Chinese doctor story is evidently a myth, it carries a valuable suggestion. Positive health, periodic health examination, early diagnosis, prevention of disease, make up the message that is begining to prevent much suffering and save many lives.—The Canadian Medical Association Journal, November, 1933.

WINNING DEBS

The most beautiful debutante and the debutante with the most character, selected recently at the Blue and White Ball in New York. Miss Betty Kipp, left, was selected as having the most character and Miss Joan Power, the most beauty.

Focus New Hopes In Ireland's Bogs

Motor Spirits Distilled From Lowly Turf and Potatoes

Dublin—Peat from Ireland's bog lands is making a bid to drive the wheels of industry and transport as well as warming cottage firesides and cooking griddle cakes.

A scheme for producing industrial alcohol from potatoes and turf has been planned by the Fianna Fail Government. It is intended to mix the home-produced alcohol with imported gasoline in order to reduce the country's present petrol bill of more than £500,000 a year. Five distilleries and one refinery are scheduled for erection during 1934.

Further indication of the importance turf is expected to play in the future development of the Free State was given at the recent annual meeting of the Grand Canal Company here. While regretting a loss of revenue following the introduction of tariffs, Mr. John McCann, who presided, said that the company anticipated compensation from a big extention of turf carrying as a result of the campaign for increased utilization of native products.

A committee of investigation has already reported favorably here on peat for motor spirits, and in 1925 Irish turf was successfully tested in France for this purpose. Further work in developing this new use for the Free State's widespread bog lands will be one of the tasks of the Industrial Research Council which is being established by the Government.

In the meantime potatoes are to be used as the raw product in the distilleries. The scheme will at first be experimental rather than a commercial proposition with little interference, it is pointed out.

Discussing the project in the Dail, Mr. Sean F. Lemass, Minister of Industry and Commerce, said that the distilleries would utilize about 25,000 tons of potatoes a year at a price near 35 shillings a ton. The by-products of the industrial alcohol, he said, were a valuable cattle food, and farmers would be encouraged to use them. The first year's working of the distilleries would be taken as an indication of the advisability of developing the project on a big-scale commercial basis.

Referring to the Government's plan for wide activities of the Industrial Research Council, Mr. Lemass pointed out that in recent years rapid progress has been made in other countries in the organization of research work.

But the time had come, the Minister continued, when the Government must take part in an intelligently planned system of research. It was intended to compose the council of honorary members with specialized knowledge. They would be entitled to travelling and incidental expenses. In addition there would be a permnaent secretary, and a small staff and library. The annual grant called for was estimated at £5,500.

One of the functions of the council will be to advise the Government on the granting of assistance to inventors whose activities are likely to have beneficial national results.

65,000 Words

Columbia 'U' Commission Finds Poverty Evils Can Be Cured — If

New York.—The Columbia University commission of economic reconstruction reported recently, in 65,000 words, that society could overcome the evils of poverty and unemployment if:

1. It continually utilized to the full the productive capacity which is actually available.

2. It equitably distributed the national income.

"What happened during the war," says the report, "when the volume of goods taking war and peace products together, increased at the very time when millions of the younger and more vigorous workers were withdrawn from productive functions, is an indication, highly peculiar though conditions then were, of the manner in which potential productivity lies utilized in normal times.

3,000,000 Lbs. Of Wool Stolen

Denver.—Reports of operations of cattle rustlers and horse thieves are an old story here, but depredations at the expense of sheep men have been rare until recently.

Thefts of wool are now being reported from all sections where sheep are raised. Sometimes the wool is pulled from the backs of live sheep, but more often the animals are killed and the wool pulled from the dead carcases a few days later. The wool is also removed from animals that have died from natural causes. Such "dead" wool is worth about half the price commanded by this year's clip.

It is estimated that 3,000,000 pounds of wool have been stolen in the last few months in the region from West Texas to Montana.

DROUGHT RELIEVED

Heavy rains are saving crops near Buenos Aires, Argentine, from the drought.