VOICE of the PRESS

CANADA, THE EMPIRE

THE WORLD AT LARGE

CANADA

THE MEN BEHIND

Mr. Howe, the new Minister in charge of railways, canals and marine, told the Ottawa branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada, when its members were his hosts at dinner, that in his tow departments were 152 professional engineers. The statement gave point to his observation that it was "a strange anomaly" that the Dominion Government, being possessed of so splendid a staff of technical experts in Ottawa, so long should have turned over to small local staffs the problems of Canadian seaports.— Ottawa Journal.

STEVE DIDN'T JUMP

Joe Humphries, famous ringside announcer, writing in a popular weekly publication spoils a great illusion this week. He declares that Steve Brodie, saloon-keeper, never jumped from the Brooklyn Bridge at all, but had a dummy thrown over loaded with iron, and himself and men were in a boat below. Brodie merely got his trousers wet, and faked the story to bring trade to his salon. And it certainly did. Too bad to have the story about Brodie "taking a chance" debunked after all these years. — St. Catharines Standard.

CENSORSHIP

We are willing to admit that books by such writers as James Joyce, D. H. Lawrence, Aldous Huxley should not perhaps be permitted within reach of immature minds, for such minds would only misunderstand them. But it is intolerable that grown men and women should be denied Lawrence, while children are given access to volumes which Lawrence would have refused to have inside his house. — Hamilton Herald.

LEARNING TO FLY

There is a record number of students taking instruction for private and commercial pilot licenses at the Winnipeg Flying Club this Winter. The curriculum includes air regulations, theory of flight, aircraft, engineering, air pilotage and meterology. And arrangements are being made to give courses in blind flying at the beginning of the New Year.

This interest in flying by young Canadians is good news. In a country with such long distances between centres of population, aviation must of necessity play an increasingly important role. And it is correspondingly important that there be an active supply and a reserve supply of fully qualified aviators and air engineers. The Winnipeg Flying Club's activities in this direction deserve commendation. — Winnipeg Free Press.

HIGHWAY FREIGHT TRAINS

The miniature freight trains which now move over the roads of Ontario are undoubtedly a source of considerable danger. It was bad enough meeting or passing large transports which had a tendency to hog the road and to obscure vision, but when trailers began to be attached to these transports, the dangers were doubled, especially at curves and on narrow stretches of highway.

The introduction of such unwieldly vehicles was not forseen when the highways of the province were laid out. Their presence has added materially to the hazards of traffic and in transport concerns wish to continue to operate them, it would seem only right that they should pay more for the privilege.

In view of the steady rise in the number of vehicles engaged in transport service, the time may come when it will be necessary to restrict their use to certain roads in congested districts, leaving other reads available only to light passenger traffic.

There can be little doubt that transports, often with trailers attached, are a source of ever-present danger and that the latter, in particular, are vehicles the extension of which should be discouraged. — Brockville Recorder.

TREES FOR EUROPE

As far back as 1920 the American Tree Association started sending seedling trees to the war-devasted countries of Europe, to be planted in zones where shell-fire had torn up the landscape. Since then some millions of trees have been sent overseas in this way and Canadian trees have likewise been supplied.

Today the results are a magnificent justification of this splendid idea. The trees are said to range from 15 to 20 feet high, are flourishing, splendidly, and have done much to replace forests blasted out of existence along the battle lines in France and Belgium. Other trees are growing in England and Scotland, to replace trees cut down for war materials. — Quebec Chronicle - Telegraph.

A KING WORKS HARD

There is a tendency to look upon positions with the Crown as velvety jobs. It is a mistaken idea. Some of the hardest worked men at Ottawa are the secretaries to the Governor General. That was the case particularly with E. C. Melville and A. F. Lascelles who were secretaries to Lord Willingdon and Lord Bessborough. They had many responsibilities and they handled them well.

It is not surprising therefore to find that Mr. Lascelles has been made assistant private secretary to King George. That will be a heavy task, too. There are people who think that royalty has an easy life; that with all manner of aides and servants and attention they have little else to do but enjoy themselves.

That is another mistake. Their Majesties are under constant strain in receiving deputations, entertainig and going about the country laying corner stones, opening public buildings and doing all the other things that the people expect monarchs to do. We can imagine nothing more tiresome than to be constantly on the go attending public functions, changing from one costume into another, probably being compelled to talk to people who are most uninteresting and going through all the ceremonies until their tiresome end is reached.

Being the occupant of a democratic throne is far from being what is commonly called a soft snap. — Lethbridge Herald.

LINDSAY COW MAKES GOOD

The hardy pioneer stock of Ontario is again suggested in a story from Lindsay, Ont., about a farmer and a cow. The cow disappeared on a farm near Kirkfield. The farmer kept on looking for her, but it was 23 days later that he discovered her wedged between two trees in a piece of "bush" at the rear of his farm. There she had been 23 days, without food, and subject to the exposure of the late November and early December weather. But the story says she is coming along under treatment, a little thin and battered, but still a going concern.

There was nothing weak or pampered about that Kirkfield cow and she should be used for breeding stock. There maybe a great field for the cow business if farmers can get a breed that will be able to go 23 days without eating. About five good meals would carry them through from end of grass season to the new herbage crop next Spring.

Is the Saskatchewan department of agriculture prepared to go into this matter? — Regina Leader-Post.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM CLINTON

For nineteen days, from Nov. 15th to December 7th, The Stratford Beacon-Herald was printed in The Times office, St. Thomas, but Monday the paper was printed at home again, after a strenuous week-end getting ready for it. The Beacon-Herald is to be congratulated on getting the paper out so regularly, without a day's intermission, since the fire which so badly damaged the plant the middle of last month. — Clinton News-Record.

THE EMPIRE

TRANSATLANTIC AIR ROUTES

Probably the first landing-place on the American coasts will be at Harbour Grace in Newfoundland, with a Canadian terminal in Nova Scotia. In this coutry the chances of various sites have been canvassed. Experts of the Air Ministry have recently been examining several places in Ireland. Possibly Cork or Bantry Bay may be selected. There is even some talk of placing the British terminus on the Clyde, though this seems highly improbable, since it would mean that a longer distance would have to be crossed. A terminal English site somewhere on the south coast would be more convenient for Imperial Airways' projected Atlantic service by the Azores, of which the first stage — New York to Bermuda— is also to begun next year. The Azores route offers considerably better weather than that between Ireland and Canada. On the other hand, it is much more roundabout, and one single stage is longer than the entire distance between Ireland and St. John's. — Manchester Guardian.

SPORT AND POLITICS

Sport has always been popularly supposed to be a great leveller. Such apparently is not the view of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, which has received a severe snub from the Home Secretary for its effort to prevent the international match with Germany recently played in England. The Council protested to the Home Office on the ridiculous ground that as a large number of German supporters were coming over for the match they might regard the event as being of some political importance.

Knitting Trade Reports Gains

Industry Employing More Workers, Official says At Toronto

Toronto.—The woolen and knitting industry has been steadily increasing in Canada during the past five years, and October of this year saw an all-time high record for employment in the industry, with 34,000 employees working in 2p7 mills in 137 municipalities throughout the Dominion. This statement was made by H. W. Lundy of Paris, Ontario, president of the Canadian Woolen and Knit Goods Manufacturers' Association, at the seventeenth annual convention of the organization here recently.

For every 10 persons employed in the industry in 1930, there are 129

With the makeup of the population in Canada, and the geographical position of the country, Mr. Lundy said that Canadians have the desire for durability and quality which is British, the flair for style that is French, the seeking for new methods and equipment which is American, and the adaptability to meet conditions, which is Canadian.

The woolen industry employs 8,000 more workers today than in 1930, said Louis Blake Duff, Welland, and last year in two Ontario towns, Hespeler and Trenton, more than $1,000,000 was paid out to employees in the industry. He, too, stressed the fact that the woolen industry in Canada is contributing greatly toward the business recovery of the small towns of the country.

LORD TWEEDSMUIR STUDIES SKIING

New Governor-General Fast Winning Hearts of Canadians

Ottawa.—Lord Tweedsmuir, Canada's Governor-General, has not waited long to initiate himself into the spirit of this country's invigorating winter. His Excellency is learning to ski and is rapidly becoming an adept.

In his public addresses Lord Tweedsmuir has more than fulfilled demands. He has attended numerous functions and has spoken at all of them. His deliveries reveal the craftsman in the English language, the master of "the polished diction and the rounded phrase."

Even when he has prepared no set address His Excellency speaks faultlessly and fluently.

Not unnaturally, his literary works are enjoying a great vogue in Canada. As a historian His Excellency wrote a monumental history of the Great War, and also one of his own regiment, The Royal Scottish Fusiliers. His philosophical studies, as exemplified in "Men and Deeds," are scarcely so well known as his novels wherein his heroes, young men of upright character, get into all manner of scrapes and. His Excellency being a good story-teller, emerges from them triumphantly.

It has been indicated that "John Buchan" will write a story of Canada, accumulating material during his five years in the Dominion.

Number Crossing Border Increases In November

Fort Erie — Figures released here recently showed that 60,291 more persons crossed the border by the Peace Bridge during November than in the same month a year ago. In November, 1934, the number was 179,157; in November, 1935, the total was 247,449. Movement of motor cars across the border increased from 67,042 to 84,731, in November this year as compared with the same month in 1934.

Stay Married

CHICAGO — With 3,000 reconciliations of parted couples to his credit, Superior Court Judge Joseph Sabath celebrated his 25th anniversary on the Bench last week by disclosed his formula for happy marriage:

"The only way to stay married— is to stay married."

The 46,000 marital rifts he has handled during a quarter of a century has convinced him, he said, that divorces are always caused by "a little foolishness."

Whether it concerns finances, or a third person, or something else, the stumbling block usually is a triviality," the veteran jurist asserted.

The judge himself has been happily married since 1887. He has three children, and seven grandchildren, most of whom dropped into his courtroom to congratulate him.

"Life is no 'brief candle' for me.. It is a sort of splendid torch. which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations." — George Bernard Shaw.

WANT DUST-FREE HIGHWAYS IN '36

Co-operation To Increase Tourist Traffic Asked For —Committee Report

OTTAWA—Development of Canada's tourist trade which brings millions of dollars into the country every year will be achieved by co-operative methods between the Dominion and provinces, it was decided recently by a committee of the Dominion-provincial conference.

DUST NUISANCE

EXPRESSING the conviction the dust nuisance on many highways jeopardized the tourist industry, the report urged a comprehensive plan to "achieve a condition of dust free highways."

The committee recommended a national committee to work in conjunction with tourist bureaus; development of national parks and their establishment in provinces now with out them.

The committee reported as follows

1. Whereas the scenic and recreational attractions of Canada from the basis upon which the ever-increasing tourist traffic depends and

Whereas the preservation and development of such historic, scenic and recreational attractions are vital to the promotional efforts now being made by the different tourist agencies in Canada, both public and private.

DEFINITE PLAN

Therefore be it resolved that the Dominion, the provinces and the local municipalities or districts should decide upon a definite plan designed: (a) To carry out a stock-taking of all Canada's tourist attractions, potential and actual; (b) Evolve a co-operative policy to ensure the preservation of all such resources; (c) To stimulate public interest in the idea of leaving nothing undone in the matter of making as well as keeping Canada beautiful.

2. Whereas the tourist industry is of vital interest to Canada.

Therefore, be it resolved that the promotional work already done by the various official tourist bureaus be acknowledged and that these services be continued and augmented, where possible.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE

And be it further resolved that a permanent committee be set up representing the various official tourist bureaus to maintain contact and to meet at least once a year for the purpose of co-operation and co-ordination of services.

3. Whereas federal authority has established national parks in several of the provinces, and

Whereas said parks provide recreational centres within the provinces and afford attractions to tourists which are of substantial economic importance, and

Whereas certain provinces have no national parks and, in consideration of the importance of such national parks as a factor in expanding tourist traffic, are consequently deprived of advantages enjoyed by other provinces,

NATIONAL PARKS

Therefore, be it resolved that such provinces as are not now provided opportunity to have such parks established within their borders to enable them to participate in all the advantages accruing from such development.

4. Whereas the future of our tourist industry may be jeopardized by the dust nuisance on many highways

Therefore, be it resolved that it is vital to the best interests of all the provinces that a comprehensive plan be devised and put into execution to achieve a condition of dust-free highways.

Canadian Flax Seed For Northern Ireland

For the first five years the Fibre Division has been rendering an extremely important marketing service. Canadian flax growers have found a ready and remunerative market in the North of Ireland for special pedigree fibre flax-seed. Original test propagations of Irish seed were made in Canada in the years 1928, 1929 and 1930 under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture of Northern Ireland and in co-operation of the Fibre Division, and each year since has seen an increased demand n Ireland for Canadian grown seed. The excellent results that have been obtained are indicative of an encouraging future for Canadian fibre flax-seed growers. Continued assistance in this important marketing program is assured by the Division.

U. S. Farm Incomes Jump 844 Millions

Washington — An $844,000,000 increase in the gross income from 1935 farm products as compared with 1934 was estimated recently by the United States agriculture department. The monthly crop report set the value of farm products at $8,110,000,000, while the 1934 value was $7,266,000,000.

"How we waste the precious time, the irretrievable moments, of one short life!" — Andre Maurois.

NEW METHOD OF ASSAYING

Enables Determination In 20 20 Minutes of Gold Values —Micro Spot Test

HAMILTON. — A new method of assaying ore, known as the "micro-spot" test and discovered by the science department of McMaster University, was announced in a recent issue of the McMaster Silhouette.

Professor W. O. Walker of the chemistry department and Miss Doris Hiscox, B.A., discovered and developed the method.

The discovery is said to be of great assistance to prospectors and will enable them to determine in 20 minutes the gold values of ores to an accuracy of one part of 500,000.

"Until now the problem of assaying has been the check-rein of gold mining, hindering the prospector in his coverage of the field," said Prof. Walker. "Prospectors hitherto have been forced to load themselves with the different samples of ore and bring them long distances to the assay offices, which in many cases requires weeks."

The test will provide a preliminary indication as to whether ore contains gold. It will in no way compete with present assaying offices.

Prof. Walker said he hoped the test may be developed to a point where it will tell definitely whether gold is present in ore to a sufficient degree to warrant mining; whether it is present in amounts worth from $5 to $10 a ton.

The tests will be carried out with a small, compact kit costing about $20 and no more bulky than a shoe box. Its contents will be a few liquids in specially constructed bottles, a few candles and reagents for dissolving the gold out of the ore. It is claimed no scientific knowledge is necessary for applying the tests.

Through the "micro-spot" test it is believed persons without experience can compete with veteran prospectors, and in this way the mining fields of northern Canada will be more quickly developed.

Ore Samples Supplied

The Ontario department of mines arranged to have ore samples supplied Prof. W. O. Walker, discoverer of a new assay method, T. F. Sutherland, deputy minister, said.

Samples were sent from the mines to McMaster University in Hamilton, where Prof. Walker and Miss Doris Hiscox, B.A., carried out tests in development of the new method.

Mr. Sutherland said the department had no comment to make on the discovery.

Air Transport To The Rescue

How a young bride outwitted the elements threatening to delay her marriage in Honolulu by resourcefulness plus the aid of modern air transport, was the romantic story related in Victoria, B. C., by Miss Jennifer Greenwood of Elstree, England.

The bride, Miss Gwynydd Watson of Devizes, Exeter, was married to Geoffrey Dawson of Honolulu immediately following the arrival of the Empress of Japan at the Hawaiian port on December 5.

But for the resourcefulness and assistance of Miss Greenwood, however, it is feared Cupid would have suffered a temporary defeat.

The storm experienced by the Aquitania on the Atlantic was responsible for the predicament the bride found herself in on arrival at New York.

Lashed by successive gales on the voyage from Southampton the Aquitania reached New York late. Miss Watson's train itinerary was arranged to permit her to catch the Empress of Japan at Victoria and the bride was frantic when she discovered she had missed her connections.

Miss Greenwood came to the rescue and suggested to the bride that it might be possible to keep her wedding date if she hopped aboard a plane to overtake the "Empire Builder" steaming westward.

Miss Watson acted with decision, seized a grip, flung her wedding gown and intimate accessories into it, and climbed aboard a plane for Chicago.

She was unable to make the connection at Chicago, so continued by another air liner to St. Paul, where she caught up with her train and entered Canada at Moose Jaw, continuing to the Coast and embarking on the Empress of Japan, which sailed from Victoria November 30 for Hawaii and the Orient.

With the bride's baggage, consisting of a large number of trunks, Miss Greenwood reached Victoria December 4 and sailed by the motor liner Aorangi for Honolulu. She will be too late for the wedding, at which she expected to be a guest, but she was able to aid her friend in her dilemma.

Miss Greenwood is going to visit her uncle, Mr. W. P. W. Turner, British Consul at Honolulu.

Rays Stronger

Magnetic Field Of Earth Extends More Than 100 Miles

Paradena, Calif.—Robert A. Millikan, California's specialist on cosmic rays, dispels another fallacy of terrestrial magnetism. The earth's magnetic field was formerly thought to be effective at no greater heights than 100 miles and essentially uniform in strength throughout.

In the course of his cosmic ray research, however, Dr. Millikan finds that the earth's field extends at least 10,000 miles into space with an intensity stronger on the side of the globe exactly opposite to North America.

His results were all obtained on the surface of the earth and showed a greater cosmic ray intensity from the north pole to the equator in the region of India than in comparable latitudes in America. He extended these results out into space using the simple laws of magnetism which govern such things as motors and electromagnets.

Coast Boasts Rare Old Pippin

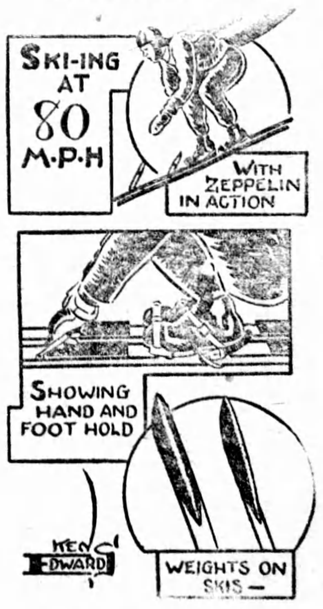
Vancouver.—Seeded 110 years ago, the oldest apple tree in the Pacific Northwest at Vancouver, on the lower Columbia, still flourishes. There was romance in its planting, and the history of it was written many years ago by Dr. J. R. Cardwell, a veteran horticulturist of Oregon and long president of the state horticultural society.

"The introduction of the first cultivated fruits in the country in 1824, by employees of the Hudson's Bay Company, is a pretty story with a touch of romance. At a dinner given in London in 1824 to several young men in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, bound for the far distant Pacific Coast, a young gentleman ate an apple, carefully wrapped the seeds in a paper and placed them in the vest pocket of the young gentleman, with the request that, when he arrived in the Oregon country, he should plant them and grow apple trees.

"The act was noted, and in a spirit of merriment other ladies present from the fruits of the table, put seeds of apples, pears, peaches and grapes into the pockets of all the young gentlemen. On their arrival at the Hudson's Bay Company fort at Vancouver the young gentlemen gave the seeds to the company's gardener, James Bruce, who planted them in the spring of 1825. From these seeds came the trees now growing on the grounds of the Vancouver barracks, as transferred to the government on the disbanding of the H. B. Company. One of these trees has recently been identified, marked and protected.

"Seeds from trees in the Hudson's Bay orchard were brought to the interior by employees of the company."

By KEN. EDWARDS



Human Rockets

Ski-ing with a balloon at 80 miles an hour sounds impossible to many of us on this side of the globe, however in some countries this sport has been accepted with great enthusiasm

Zepplin ski-ing is a combination of two of the riskiest sports ever devised by man. In England a ban was put on gas bag jumping due to the appalling death rate that resulted. The modus operandi was for the participant to harness himself to a balloon but counter-balance his weight, then to step over hedges, barns or other structures by gently springing into the ozone.

Applying the same principle to ski-jumping you have the whole story in above illustration. Leo Gasperl, the Austrian, amazed and astounded spectators by attaining a speed of 84 miles an hour with streamlined gas bag and weighted skis of this desgin. Figure I in illustration shows position and action, figure II shows foot and hand holds., figure III shows weighted skis. Each one has 65 pounds evenly distributed over its length.