VOICE of the PRESS

CANADA, THE EMPIRE

THE WORLD AT LARGE

CANADA

PROMISE OF SPRING

Once again the seed catalogues for a new season are appearing in the mails to set the gardener building fairy-castles of achievement for the coming Spring and Summer. They open out for him hours of enjoyment by the fire-side, laying plans and creating visions that gain a special joy and value from the contrast with the snow and ice outside.

The gardener is one of the shining exponents of human optimism. He never reaches his goal fully but every year he hopes to do so; or, at least, to come closer to it. The seed catalogue is one of the perennial stimulants to his ambition, leading him to fresh planning and joys of anticipation almost as sweet as the joys of actual realization. As he turns over its pages and considers what he will grow in the coming season he sees in his mind vegetables reaching a perfection and flowers a uniformity of beauty and bloom that they seldom, if ever, attain.

There are few more pleasurable occupations than fire-side gardening with its distinctive advantages of requiring neither labor nor money. It brings to those who indulge in it the promise of Spring. It marks in them the possession of Spring in their hearts.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

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STAYING OUT LATE

A good many folk who seem bent on late hours never consider the worry they cause their parents. Many times the parents go to bed and then stay awake listening and waiting for the door to open and close with the homecoming of the young folk.—Peterborough Examiner.

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MOTHERS' ADVICE

Most mothers advise daughter to marry a man she can trust and then not trust him far.—Brandon Sun.

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SENSE IN A CENTENARIAN

Aged 103 and still active, a Windsor woman replied: "Le Bon Dieu regulates that, not me," when asked for her recipe for longevity. In such a response she exhibits a great deal more common sense than other centenarians who commonly attribute their ages to the fact that they have drunk barrels of whiskey or never washed their hair. — Brockville Recorder.

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FOR LETTER-WRITERS

With the New Year resolution period started the Herald respectfully suggests to writers of letters to the papers that they should resolve to shorten up their epistles. Letters to the editor are always welcome, provided they conform to correspondence rules, otherwise they are likely to be a source of trouble and worry.

The letter the editor likes best to see is that dealing with a subject of general public interest in which the writer's viewpoint is clearly and concisely expressed. Generally speaking this is the sort of letter the reading public wants; it is not interested in lengthy, discursive epistles in which are embodied enough points, necessarily poorly expressed, to make material for a book.—Calgary Herald.

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THE JOB OF THE PRESS

The job of the press is mainly to give people the news. If the news is not always the cheeriest, whose fault is it? Possibly the blame should go in part to persons whose special job in life is seeking to make the world better. Perhaps their technique or approach to problems is defective.

The Leader-Post believes it is largely a superficial view that the newspapers are responsible for the state of the world. The state of the world may be responsible for the newspapers, good, bad or indifferent. There is quite a tendency on the part of human beings to push the blame off on the other fellow. It's one of the easiest things in life.

As a matter of fact, there has been no difficulty at all about writing the above paragraph. — Regina Leader-Post.

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ALMOST AS GOOD

Wallace township in Perth county was given publicity lately as having a very low tax rate, no debenture debt and no bank borrowings. The WoodstockSentinel-Review points out that West Zorra's record is almost as good, there being no debentures outstanding except a few for local improvements. A glance through the Ontario governments reports shows that there are (or were in 1933) many such townships in the province. The heaviest township debt is that of York, which stood then at close to $13,000,000, but York is practically a city, though in name a township.—Toronto Star Weekly.

RADIO GATHERS NO NEWS

It finally gets under the skin to hear it said "The radio seems to get its news faster than the newspapers" . . .

Let us try and make this point clear. The radio companies are not news gathering agencies. They get their news from the newspapers or from associations of newspapers like the Canadian Press or Associated Press.

Radio stations do not maintain a staff of reporters or news editors to gather their material and then put it in shape for use. News is first gathered by the staffs of newspapers all over the country; it is then forwarded to the central stations for distribution by wire service to other newspapers.

The news gathering services maintained by the newspapers supply the news which comoes over the radio.—Peterboro Examiner.

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A LITTLE MIXED

A Goderich bank clerk out of force of habit is said to have addressed a letter "Halifax, N. S. F." The young man must have gotten confused between Nova Scotia and Alberta.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

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SMALLEST NEWSPAPER

When it comes to boyish enthusiasm and enterprise, a word is to be said for I. A. Shortliffe, editor, and R. E. Cann, assistant, who produce the Tiny Tattler, "Canada's smallest newspaper", in Central Grove, Nova Scotia, a farming community of about 25 families. These two lads embarked on their publishing venture nearly three years ago when each was only 13 years old, and the paper has never failed to "go to press" every other Saturday.

The Star is in receipt of a copy of a recent issue, the pages of which are only six by four inches in size. There are 12 pages which contain cleverly condensed reading material, social notes and so on, and "the largest display of advertising" in the unique paper's existence. The type is sizeable and easily read. There are several full-page and smaller advertisements from dealers in nearby towns.—Windsor Star.

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THE EMPIRE

FEWER ROAD DEATHS

Congratulations to the Ministry of Transport on the decrease of 822 in the total of killed upon the roads in 1935. It is the biggest drop since these lugubrious statistics were published, and it is the more important because there has been an increase of 160,000 in the number of motor vehicles upon the road. There is a colossal task still ahead. Further improvemeint can be secured by responding enthusiastically to the appeal which Sir Malcolm Campbell makes when he urges courtesy, consideration, and circumspection on all drivers—unselfishness, in fact. That is the ultimate path to safety.—London Daily Mail.

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A FORGOTTEN MAN

The Government plans that in future days the farm labourer will be insured against unemployment. Praise the Government, who have given justice at last to the lowliest and the most needy of all workers. Man lives by bread, if not by bread alone. Yet of all toilers this one has been left naked to the charity of his employer. The land is good, but life on the land is hard. Driven down by foreign competition, the farmer pays the best he can, but it is little enough. You rich towns! Defend the labourers! They are worthy of your hire! Vote the farms the prices that enable them to pay a decent wage! — London Daily Express.

In Musical Wedding

Marie Iturbi, 18-year-old daughter of Jose Iturbi, Spanish pianist and orchestra conductor, who became the bride of Stephan Hero, 20-year-old violin prodigy, at Bedford Hills, N.Y. Romance began three years ago when Hero was a pupil of her father.

British Woman Doctor's Report On Maternal Mortality

An important contribution towards solving part of the problem of maternity mortality has been made by Dr. Dora Colebrook, and the results have been issued by the British Medical Research Council.

Of the 3,000 maternal deaths which occur in England and Wales each year as a direct consequence of childbirth it is estimated that 1,200 are due to "sepsis," that is to say, to blood poisoning and other serious forms of infection.

Of these deaths, 900 are attributable to a particular microbe called the haemolytic streptacaccus, and it is estimated by Dr. Colebrook that 64 per cent., or 576 deaths, is definitely preventable, together with the non-fatal illness of over another 2,000 women.

SOURCES OF INFECTION

This figure of 64 per cent. is based upon the research dealt within the Report, which mainly consisted in tracking down the actual source of the infection of mothers admitted to hospial.

Broadly speaking, the results go to show that the microbes lurk in the nose and throat of the patient or of those in contact with the patient and that the identification of such germs obtained on swabs from the nose and throat), with those actually causing the septic condition of the patient can be proved in a high proportion of cases.

The technical difficulties of the work are very great and at times it almost resembles pure "detective" activity. It was shown, for example, that apart from microbes in the nose and throat there were other dangers.

The sreptococcus responsible for a patient's illness was traced once to the ear of a child of the patient, and on another occasion to the septic finger of a child of the patient.

The microbes were found in the nose and throat of doctors and midwives attending the patient in some instances, while in others it was traced to the handy-woman, the husband, child, mother or father of the patient.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The great importance of these results is that their acceptance will result in the development of methods of preventing contamination of the mother.

Evidence is produced to show that in certain maternity institutions this task has been brough near to achievement.

The work upon which the results are based has been largely carried out at the Bernhard Baron Memorial Research Laboratories of the Queen Charlotte's Hospital Isolation Block at Hammersmith, supported in part by the Medical Research Council and by the Rockefeller Foundation of New York.

Skating Garb Is Gone Military

PARIS.—Skating costumes have gone military along with the rest of feminine fashions. One practical ensemble in green wool consists of a long-sleeved dress and a loose cape. The dress is made with a fitted bodice, which is double-breasted and fastens with twin rows of military brass buttons.

A green leather belt encircles the high neck and the flaring skirt is cut circular. The cape is lined with fleecy sheepskin, as is the attached cowl-like hood. The cape fastens securely at the neck and has slits for the arms in case the weather is cold enough to necessitate wearing an extra wrap while skating.

Less military and more feminine is a skating dress in hunters green wool, which is trimmed with a high, round neck poke of string embroidery in red, white and green. A wider band of the same embroidery trims the waistline and a tiny skull cap of red, white and green string with gloves to match rounds out the outfit.

For the woman who doesn't go in for arduous skating there is a suit in brown, white and putty plaid tweed, which is worn with a blouse of brown suede. The revers, cuffs and pockets of the finger-tip coat are likewise trimmed with patches of brown suede. Either a divided skirt or a full skirt can be worn, with a double kick pleat in front and back to insure sufficient freedom of movement.

SPORT HOT SHOTS

By KEN EDWARDS

Nicholas John "Red" Metz, who has won himself the name of "Pokerface" due to the fact that hever smiles or cheers even though his mates might slip in a dozen goals at one time, was born in Wilcox, Manitoba.

Metz, a former St. Michaels College player got his break in big time hockey when Joe Primeau was forced out of action. Nick filled his position between the great Charles Conacher and Harvey Jackson making a very favorable impression on the hockey authorities.

Metz is a powerfully built lad for 22 years, his suppleness being a feature that enables him to take a pass from any position without great exertion. Weighing 170 pounds Red Metz of the Infant Line is a wonderful back-checker and a good shot either way.

This coming kid plays left wing with the Toronto Leafs and does a mighty fine job of it. This young war bird speaks very little (no fault), probably he believes in that old adage "Action speaks louder than words".

SO THEY SAY!

"America is being steadily driven to the closer and closer co-operation with Europe, both economically and politically."—Viscount Cecil.

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"The theatre, it seems to me, is as various as the world its drama reflects, and as constantly changing." —George Jean Nathan.

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"There are so many small pleasures and so few big ones that the part of wisdom leads us to pay close attention to these little ones." — Burris Jenkins.

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"The most vulgar behaviour possible anywhere in public is that which purposely attracts attention to what one does or says."—Emily Post.

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"There is no such thing as unimaginative scientific man." — Dean Inge.

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"The capriciousness of the motion picture public is amazing. Why should they want the things they do and why should they want them when they do?"—Lionel Barrymore.

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"Marriage is a case of give and take. I regret to admit that from the American woman's point of view it is often much more take than give." —Elsie Janis.

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"A university degree is not a favor, it is a responsibility. It is not a gift, it is a debt."—Harold Bell Wright.

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"We are no longer so much inclined to feel that if something is foreign and unintelligible, it must be good."—Lawrence Tibbett.

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"The Good Samaritan has always fascinated me. What fun he must have had!"—Sir Wilfred Grenfell.

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Broadcasting the culture of other nations helps us to understand their thoughts."—Guglielmo Marconi.

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"Pruning is indispensable in growing fine plants, thinning too; is it not possible to learn from Nature a basic and irrefutable lesson?" — Eva Le Gallienne.

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"Only fools fear crime; we all fear poverty."—George Bernard Shaw.

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"Change is one of the most perilous things in the world.. There is only one thing I can think of more dangerous—not to change." —Harry Emerson Fosdick.

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"Let us have training in hygiene and eugenics. Let us have training for motherhood and fatherhood. Let us get ready for living." — Edwin Markham.

Farm Problems

Conducted by Professor Henry G. Bell

with the co-operation of the various departments of Ontario Agricultural College.

The business of farming is yearly becoming more and more dependent upon facts that have been gathered regarding livestock and livestock management, crop production, soil management, disease and insect control and business organization of the farming industry. Individual problems involving one or more of these, and many other phases of agriculture, engage the attention of Ontario farmers from day to day. During the winter months there is a little more time for study of the most acute problems.

Through this column farmers may secure the latest information pertaining to their difficulties. To introduce this service Professor Bell has prepared the following typical probems to indicate the information which should be given in order that a satisfactory answer can be made.

If answer is desired by letter enclose stamped and addressed envelope for reply. Address all inquiries to Professor Henry G. Bell, Room 421, 73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto. Ontario.

* * *

Question:

R. P. Wellington—

Question:—My orchard of spies and a few other varieties is not doing well. I have manured it pretty well, the past couple of years—placing the manure around the tree, fairly close up. There are a lot of small greenish apples that do not ripen up well. The orchard soil is a stoney loam. What can I do to improve the apple crops?

Answer:—To obtain a good crop of apples it is usually necessary to follow an "all-round" or balanced programme of proper spraying, soil management, pruning, and thinning. Mature trees in good vigor should make a annual shoot growth of 6 to 8 inches in length. Poor growth may be an indication of a shallow or fertile soil and will result in poor crops. If the soil is deep and well drained, applications of manure should improve the growth. The manure should be applied from about 2 feet from the trunk out as far as 2 or 3 feet beyond the spread of branches..

A heavy crop of small apples indicates a need for heavy thinning. The apples should be thinned to 6 or 8 inches apart as soon after the June drop as possible.

E. A. H. Banks, M.S.,
Dept. of Horticulture, O.A.C.

Our Official Censor Explains His Duties

From the National Review Herald

During the past calendar year, as in former years, a considerable degree of success has attended the efforts of the department in preventing the importation into Canada of indecent books and magazines. Vigilance by collectors of customs and other officers has resulted in the interception of large quantities and there has been constant co-operation by all concerned with the official examiner of publications at headquarters. Many books and magazines were after examination prohibited importation by departmental memorandum. Others were seized or returned to the exporters in other countries.

It would appear that some misconception exists regarding the powers of the department in this regard. Censorship is not by any means a new thing. Power to prevent the importation of immoral or indecent publications has existed in all tariffs since Confederation, and was incorporated in the tariff schedules of the provinces prior to 1867. It is therefore not a new departure.

In order that the matter may be made clear, the following details are given:

Item 1202, Schedule C of the Customs Tariff, classifies as prohibited goods: "Books, printed paper, drawings, paintings, prints, photographs or representations of any kind of a treasoable or seditious, or of an immoral or indecent character."

Section 13 of the Customs Tariff Act reads: "The importation into Canada of any goods enumerated, described or referred to in Schedule C to this Act is prohibited; and any such goods imported shall thereby become forfeited to the Crown and shall be destroyed or otherwise dealt with as the Minister directs; and any person importing any such prohibited goods, or causing or permitting them to be imported, shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding $200."

The question is sometimes asked as to the methods employed to prevent the importation of indecent publications. Collectors of Customs are constantly forwarding sample copies covering importations to Ottawa for the attention of the examiner of publications. In addition many organizaions and individual citizes draw attention to undesirable books and periodicals.

During the calendar year 1935 the examiner of publications received 2,300 letters. The number of individual books sent in for examination was 1,380, representing shipments totalling 5,290 copies. In the twelve months official memoranda prohibiting importation of 95 individual titles were issued. A memorandum is sent to collectors only when a book or magazine is likely to have a general circulation. In many cases obviously indecent books, photographs ,etc., are ordered to be seized and no memorandum is issued as their importation is not likely to be of a general character.

It is particularly desired that collectors and others continue to forward to the examiner of publications any book or periodical of a doubtful character. Delivery of such importations should be withheld in all cases until a report is received thereon. Close co-operatin is essential.

During the year samples of alleged treasonable or seditious publications, many of them in foreign languages, covering shipments of 17,157 copies were received.

Champion At Spelling Backwards

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Mrs. Mary Lewis Cole, 77, a native Canadian who claimed the world's championship in spelling words backward, died here recently as she was about to enter a hospital for treatment.

She collapsed on the sidewalk in front of the institution and died of a heart attack within a few minutes.

Mrs. Cole said she had been able to spell words backwards since early childhood. She received international recognition for her unique ability and was a popular figure at spelling bees in this vicinity. She was born in Burlington, Ont., but had lived here for more than half a century.

Every farm product has its day. The farmer who raises the same product year after year is sure to be on the right side of the market sometimes, while one who keeps shifting from one line to another may miss most of the good market turns, besides not learning all there is to know in any one line.

Slenderizing Model

A smart and lovely model which is suitable for matrons and younger women, is today's pattern.

If carried out in crepe silk (like the original), it will be charming for afternoon wear, and could be worn very effectively also for informal evening affairs.

Lightweight woolens, sheer crepes, etc., are other good mediums.

It's simplicity, itself to make.

Style No. 3330 is designed for sizes 16, 18 years, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46-inches bust. Size 36 requires 4¼ yards of 39-inch material with 3½ yards of braid.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of pattern wanted. Enclose 15c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide Street, Toronto.