VOICE of the PRESS

CANADA
THE EMPIRE
THE WORLD AT LARGE

CANADA

Those Millions

First we have the drought and we are told it is going to cost the country millions of dollars.

Then we have a shower and it is described as worth a million dollars—a shower is never worth two millions nor even half a million, it is always an even million.

Then we have a rain, and it is worth a million, too.

Then there is another dry spell that is to cost millions, which are partially wiped out by another million-dollar rain.

What we want to know is: What becomes of all these millions, and who keeps tabs on them?—Windsor Star.

"Easy Go"

The estate of the late Arthur W. Cutten, former Guelph boy, who died in Chicago, is estimated at $350,000. Considering the fact that at one time, when the late Mr. Cutten was a successful operator in the stoc kmarket. he was reputed to be worth a hundred million, the old adage "Come easy—go easy," seems still to express a great truth.—Chatham News.

A Strange Case

A strange quirk in the law of Canada is revealed in a speeding case dismissed by an Ottawa magistrate. A soldier of the Permanent Force was arrested for driving a truck at an excessive speed. Whe nbrought before the court, the magistrate found that the soldier had been driving too fast and in a manner dangerous to the public. Yet, because the driver was a soldier and because the vehicle was a government truck, the magistrate found that he had no jurisdiction. The case was dismissed. That may be sound law, but it is not sound common sense. Supposing a soldier in a government truck killed someone, it would be of little consolation to go to the bereaved and tell them it was all right, the victim was killed by an army man in an army car. The mourners would get no consolation from that.

Just because a man is in the Permanent Force, he should not enjoy unbridled license to go careening over the highways to the peril of everyone else.—Windsor Star.

Insulation of Houses

The Sault Star argues that use of insulation in al lhouses in northern districts should be made compulsory. That might be going a bit too far. But anyone who can possibly carry the extra initial expense would be foolish not to have a new home insulated, for the saving in fuel would pay for it within a comparatively few years. The saving is marked even if it is an old house that is insulated.——Edmonton Journal.

McGill's Comeback

Heartening news comes from McGill University.

For the first time in over a decade, during the past financial year McGill met its budget without dipping into capital funds. The annual deficit was cut from $303,000 to $181,000, and this remaining deficit was met by the governors out of their own private funds. That shows both generosity by the governors and real co-operation between the university staff and the board. For note that the deficit was cut by $122,000, involving the strictest economies, in which the staff loyally co-operated.—Montreal Star.

Smart Exporting

The Canadian Wait Company, Ltd., of Montreal, one of Canada's oldest exporters of ladies' dresses of all kinds, has introduced a new idea into the packing of goods for export trade. Their new shipping container embodies in a packing case the principles of the wardrobe trunk, the articles being hung inside instead of packed, as is usual, thus eliminating creasing and damage, and landing the goods ready for the show room or window.—Canada's Weekly.

Too Much Speech-Making

Telling of the visit of the motor party of English tourists to Ganonoque and the Thousand Islands, our Ganonoque correspondent writes that some of the guests "stated that they thought future parties from England could re-arrange their visit so that there would be less speech-making and more time to view the scenery of this beautiful country." — Kingston Whig-Standard.

Our Language

We do not bother to hold conversations any longer, but we do make certain animal sounds in our throats which we can interpret and which can communicate simple ideas, while we reserve our better notions for political speeches, letters to the editor or for sale. By this means, we have reduced communication of thought to a remarkably brief and compact process.

Where a man like Dr. Johnson would require several hours and probably twenty pints of tea and several loaves of bread and a couple of cheese to convey a thought to his companions of the coffee shop, a modern young person can do the whole job in a word or two. fff fff

"Zat you, baby?" "Yeah." "Howya?" "Okay." "Howz ever'thing?" "Swell." "Ugh." "Hunh?" 'Whatcha doin' t'night?" "Nothing! "How 'bout a show?" "Okay. About 8." "Uh huh." "Okay." "Okay."

This is what we call a conversation.—B.H. in Victoria Timies.

Honey Bees on Strike

The peculiar type of weather that has been characteristic in Ontario this summer has produced quite a few abnormalities, including water shortage, bad crops, forest fires and ruined pasturage. From Lindsay comes a report of a strike among the honey bees famed for devotion to industry and habits of thrift exemplary for human beings.

It seems that bees in that district have not done any honey-gathering for more than a month. They quit their activities during that spell of terrific heat a month ago and the owners will have to provide sugar to keep them from starving.

The reason seems to be that there is virtually a failure of flowers from which the bees gather honey. Intense heat and shortage of moisture has practically obliterated wild and cultivated blooms and consequently the bees are without the raw material for their work. The net result will be that there will be a considerable shortage of honey during the coming winter for it requires a percentage of the crop to feed the bees.—Sarnia Canadian Observer.

"Wake Up, Scotland!"

In Scotland, the land of the heather and thistle a new slogan is being heard on every side. It is "Wake Up, Scotland!" Such a slogan could be advantageously adopted by many other places besides Scotland.

Scotland, however, has been suffering economically as a whole and the Highlands and Western Isles are described by one authority as a "truly distressed area." The population is statutary at approximately 4,900,000 persons being threatened at the same time with decline.

The new campaign is intended to create a desire to develop the country's great resources in coal and iron as well as shipping and agriculture. If the slogan is taken up seriously beneficial results should be obtained, as there is nothing like getting all classes aroused with the need of progress.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

THE EMPIRE

Return of Canadians

The sight of these men in their crowds in the London streets recalled vividly the war London, with its darkness and rumors. They are middle-aged now and had little of the soldier about them except the medals they all wore—I saw several with six—and the look of men who had come through a lot.

One remembered that it was the Canadians who withstood the first gas attack in the war and how their heroism thriled England at the time. Many of them had a puzzled look in their eyes as they went about the new monumental London that had replaced so much of the homely London that was in their memories. Some of them were taking their sons to hotels and restaurants that have long since disappeared, such as the Tavistock Hotel in Covent Garden and the Golden Cross at Charing Cross. They were relieved when they could show their sons St. Paul's and the Cheshire Cheese.

Now the Canadians have vanished, too, back to the land whence they had come so manfully and hopefully in 1914. The thing that many of them took back in their minds was that the men here still take off their hats as they pass the Cenotaph.—Manchester Guardian.

Chronic indigestion may be due to the simplest of causes, we are told. We heard of one man who was a martyr to dyspepsia for years and all because of a misprint in his wife's cookery book.

LONDON PREPARES FOR THE CORONATION

Thousands of plaster busts of the King are being made in the City of London, for distribution to all parts of the Empire in readiness for King Edward's Coronation. The busts are cast in molds and some of them afterwards sprayed bronze. This picture shows a workman removing a bust from a mold.

'Hopper and Drought

An American Scientist Explains a Mystery of the Bible

The locusts of the Bible were not locusts at all. Just grasshoppers. They did not hop. They flew. Our grasshoppers hop. Query: Why don't our grasshoppers fly? And why didn't the biblical grasshoppers hop? Dr. J. R. Parker of the Department of Agriculture thinks he has found the answer. It has a bearing on the drought.

Ask Dr. Parker and he will tell you that hopping grasshoppers can be changed into fliers, thereby clearing up the biblical mystery. He kept Western grasshoppers in his laboratory, juggled temperature, humidity, food, and noted the effect. Heat and hunger changed hoppers into fliers. Wings became longer and finer, bodies slimmer, colors brighter.

What is the reason? Dr. Parker explains in terms of the survival of the fittest. When there is no food—the case in hot deserts—hopping and walking are accomplishments of little aid in the struggle for existence. Flying ability counts. So the hoppers develop it. Fifty years ago—in 1880 to be exact—clouds of grasshoppers darkened the European and American sky. The insects clustered three inches thick on some railroads. Wheels simply slipped.

The conditions must be right for the physical transformation that Dr. Parker brought about in his laboratary. Hence we are not likely to see clouds of grasshoppers. After all, rain has been reported here and there in the West. And even though there is a drought there is still food enough.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PAY BILLS FOR THIS FAMILY?

The Croughs Use a Peck of Potatoes a Meal and 12 Loaves of Bread Every Day

Peterborough, Ont. — The Miller "stork derby" is entering the homestretch in Toronto, with $500,000 going to the woman having the most children over a 10-year period, according to the terms of the will of Charles V. Millar, but Mr. and Mrs. James Crough of Ennismore Township are not interested.

The Millar contest applies only to Toronto—that is why they are not interested. If they were not barred by geographical location, they would doubtless be very interested indeed; for with their 18 children, they would be right up among the leaders in the derby.

Sixteen of their children are living. Twins died at birth 13 years ago. The couple were married in Ennismore Township 18 years ago last June, and the eldest in their large family is 17-year-old Timothy Crough, at present working as a laborer and contributing to the support of his eight brothers and seven sisters.

Next to Timothy comes 16-year-old Vincent, followed by Carmel, 15; Urban, 14; Patricia, 12; Helen, 11; Peter, 10; Theresa, nine; Doreen, seven; Jack, five; Michael, four; Emmett, three; Paul, two; and the babies, Colette, 17 months and Shirley, four months.

Ten of the children, including the twins who did not survive, were born at the farm home; the other eight in hospital.

Every day the family consumes 12 large loaves of bread—representing 100 pounds of flour every ten days. A peck of potatoes is used at each meal, so a bag and a half of potatoes a week is just right.

Fortunately, says Mr. Crough, his crop of late potatoes has survived the prolonged drought. Bread and potatoes are their main diet, he says—adding the family is of Irich descent.

WE NEED MORE IMMIGRATION FROM THE BRITISH ISLES

Toronto. — The British Empire should immediately face the problem of immigration and dispatch more people from the British Isles to settle in the vast spaces of Canada and Australia, Lady Elibank told members of the English-speaking union here.

Speaking at a luncheon meeting, the wife of the 11th Baron of Nova Scotia said the immigration subject was a "thorny one," but unless English-speaking people tackled the problem for themselves, foreigners would do it for them. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, former premier of Ontario, expressed appreciation for Lady Elibank's remarks.

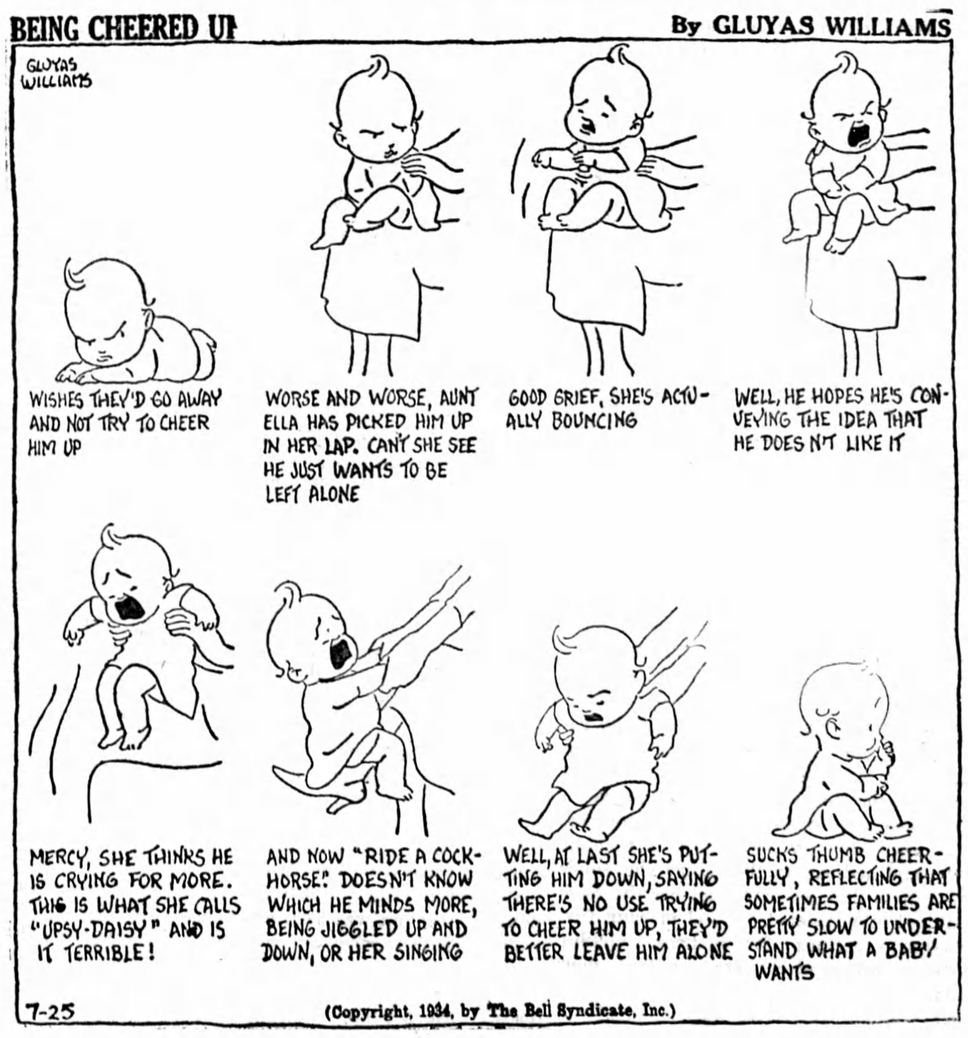
"The English-speaking union stands for the binding together in bonds of fellowship of English-speaking people of the world," he said. Retention of world peace would be greatly assisted, Lady Elibank stressed, if all English-speaking people would continue to work together in close co-operation and friendship.

Junior—Mother Dear, what is a "second-story man"?

Mother—Your father is one. If I don't believe his first story, he always has another ready.

BEING CHEERED UP

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



THE WONDERLAND OF OZ —

Based on the stories by L. Frank Baum

When Jinjur declared war upon Glinda and the newly discovered Princess Ozma, Glinda gave orders to her soldiers to attack. Immediately the army marched upon the Emerald City with pennants flying and bands playing. But when it came to the walls, this brave assemlage made a sudden halt, for Jinjur had closed and barred every gateway, and the walls of the famous Emerald City were built high and thick with many blocks of green marble.

Glinda bent her brains in deep thought, while the Woggle-Bug said in his most positive tone: "We must lay siege to the city and starve it into submission. It is the only thing we can do." "Not so," answered the Scarecrow. "We still have the Gump, and the Gump can still fly." The Sorceress turned at this speech and smiled. "You have reason to be proud of your brains," she exclaimed, "let us go to the Gump at once."

It took but a few moments to reach the spot where the Gump lay. Glinda and Princess Ozma mounted first. The Scarecrow and his friends climbed aboard and there was still room for a captain and three soldiers, which Glinda considered a sufficient guard. At a word of command, the Gump flapped its wings and carried the party over the palace courtyard. There sat Jinjur, confident that the walls would protect her from her enemies.

The Gump landed safely, and before Jinjur had time to do more than scream, the captain and three soldiers leaped out and made the former queen a prisoner. This act really ended the war for the army of revolt submitted as soon as they knew of Jinjur's capture. The city gates were opened and amidst stirring music the herald announced the accession of Princess Ozma to the throne, at which there was great rejoicing among the men of the city.