VOICE of the PRESS

CANADA
THE EMPIRE
THE WORLD AT LARGE

CANADA

FAULTY BRAKES

The man or woman who takes out a driver's license performs a voluntary act which involves an implied contract with his fellow citizens. Surely one of the terms of that contract is a declaration on the driver's part that he possesses and will exercise that speck of sense which tells him that brakes are life-savers. It is no life-and-death matter if the engine won't turn over, but a car that can't be stopped within a reasonable distance is the equivalent of a mad elephant.—Winnipeg Tribune.

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GREATEST SPORT

The most popular sport in North America is neither baseball nor football, golf or tennis. It is, on the contrary, the age-old sport of swimming. This finding is reached by statisticians of the United States National Recreation Association, who report that in 1935 no fewer than 46,500,000 people went to the public beaches, and 18,000,000 to the outdoor swimming pools in the continent. This compares with a seasonal participation in baseball of 10,250,000 and in golf of slightly more than 6,000,000 . . . Swimming is the most informal of all sports, and the cheapest, and is also the most enjoyable.—Vancouver Sun.

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DRIVING DANGERS

A Toronto business man announced to his luncheon companions the other day that he had got too "jittery" to drive downtown to work. He referred in particular to the day's local automobile fatalities, which ran high on the heels of drunken driving, hit-and-run speeders, and otherwise incapable chauffeuring. And whether you live in Toronto or Clayville, you can readily sympathize with this fellow who refuses to risk his life driving a car any longer. The moment you hit the open road to-day you're automatically exposed to inebriated, unconscionable fools and morons—all operating under the ineffective control of the license tag.—Guelph Mercury.

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AN UNUSUAL CASE

Donald Learmouth, a community garden plot worker in Hamilton, was killed by a bolt of lightning, and the circumstances are so unusual that we doubt if another case similar would be reported in a year.

While he was at work a thunderstorm came up quickly and with several other workers he started to run for shelter. He was going along a cinder path when he was struck. He was struck on the temple and the lightning on its way to the ground ripped off his clothing.

He was carrying nothing which would attract lightning and was not near any object which might serve that purpose. He was merely struck down out in the open, and that happens so seldom that the case can be regarded as extremely unusual. —Peterboro Examiner.

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THE USUAL EXPERIENCE

A Stratford man who grows huge vegetables tells of obtaining directions from a woman who appeared to him in a vision as he slept. Most of us who do any backyard gardening have been driven to it by a woman who appeared in broad daylight. —Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

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PETITION SIGNING

If anything is worth petitioning for, sign it, but don't get the habit of signing every petition submitted to you. Remember your name is, or ought to be, worth something to you. —Chatham News.

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RIGHT OF WAY

Pedestrians generally may find comfort in the ruling of a Chicago judge that in the middle of the street they "must be held" to have the right of way. Many of them, in Montreal at all events, have more than once been painfully reminded that their only right seemed to be to get out of the way.—Montreal Gazette.

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TOO FAST

Kaye Don, who once drove an automobile at close to 200 miles an hour, believes that fifty miles an hour is too fast for cars on highways, but his reason is one that will strike the average person as a bit unusual. He contends that when a car is travelling at fifty miles an hour it hasn't the extra speed available that may be needed to cope with an emergency.—Sault Star.

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RESTORE THE TREES

Undoubtedly, if people wish to see water supplies restored, they must not only cease the unscientific cutting of trees that is now practised, but must return to something approaching its natural state a very considerable acreage in every county of older Ontario, which was never fit for agriculture and which should never have been divested of its forest growth. In addition, they must consent to the restoration of swamps or else to the establishment of similar storage basins by means of dams.—Brockville Recorder and Times.

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THEN AND NOW

The bathing girl used to dress like Mother Hubbard, says an exchange, but now she dresses like her cupboard. —Halifax Herald.

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MARRIED LIVE LONGER

Statistics have taken the point out of the old joke that "married people do not really live longer than single ones; it only seems longer," says the Los Angeles Times. Findings of life insurance companies assure us that married men and women actually register better in the mortality tables than do bachelors and spinsters and that, from all important causes, their death rates are lower.—Brandon Sun.

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SHARING THE WEALTH

J. P. Morgan was quoted as having said that if the U.S. Government continued to spend twice as much as it earned big American fortunes would be dissipated within thirty years. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., asked to comment on the statement, said he thought Mr. Morgan "gave the fortunes a good long time." Many will say it is a good thing that wealth should be distributed more evenly, that every great fortune represents injustice to the masses. But when we put wealth on the stand in its own defense we find there is much to be said. With few exceptions, if any, the great fortunes are used for the public advantage. The wealth of a Morgan or a Rockefeller reaches the point where it is utterly senseless to think of piling millions on scores of millions, and its owner looks about for ways of spending a share for the general good. Thus the people have been given great universities splendidly endowed, hospitals, public libraries, parks. Life has been lengthened by medical research financed by these fortunes. Is it certain that as much would have been done for the people if the United States, in the past half century, had possessed a law saying no individual might have an income of more, say, than $5,000 a year? One-half the incomes of the larger fortunes is taken by government as a tax. Wealth is being shared.—Ottawa Journal.

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CANADIAN RECOVERY

This business revival in Canada has been contemporary with a general revival in the British Commonwealth of Nations, which began some years ago with the remarkable improvement in the economic condition of the Mother Country, and which has been extended to all parts of the Empire. This is a revival which has been a little better with the peoples of the Empire than with any other great nation, and especially it has been better than recovery made by the United States In other words—for the benefit of the croakers—it has been better to be part of the Empire during these latter years than to belong to any other nation of the world.—Vancouver Province.

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INSANE?

It is probable that not more than five per cent of the human race desire to engage in war. Yet even today, when the world is supposed to be at peace, there is bitter fighting taking place in China, Central Asia, various parts of Africa and Arabia, in Palestine, and in Spain, while force is being used by more or less tyrannical governments to suppress the suffering and discontented populace in Japan, China, Siam, the U.S.S.R., parts of India, Persia, Syria, Bulgaria, Hungary, Germany, Poland, Italy, Portugal, and a dozen States of Latin America. And nine qualified observers out of ten predict a new world war within five years. Is the world insane?—Ottawa Citizen.

"LET'S SPEND A QUIET HOLIDAY BY THE SEA"

August Bank Holiday in England usually suggests a "sniff of the ozone" to tens of thousands. Londoners flock to the southern resorts in hundreds of special excursion trains. Some idea of the tremendous rush to the seaside can be gleaned from the picture above, taken at Margate.

The Cooking of Fish

This is the season when city folk are indulging their fishing fancy along Canadian streams and on our lakes and tidal waters. To those who take luck with them the question of cooking their catch naturally arises. The Toronto Star has been considering this, and recalls that Stefansson, who lived nearly two years at the time almost wholly on fish, after experimenting with frying them, grilling, baking and boiling, settled down in the end to a daily diet of boiled fish. On his experience the conclusion is drawn that boiling is best.

This may be all very well for the bass or pickerel or 'lunge of Ontario, but it is not good enough for the trout of our British Columbia fresh waters or the grilse or large salmon caught along our coasts. None of the arts of cooking has improved upon the primitive method of barbecuing them, split open and suspended flat at the side of a beach-wood fire, or along trenches of mark coals—the way it is done in the cooking of salmon by the ton for the thousands at the annual Sooke picnic. In this way all the richness and flavor of the fish is baked, in, retained in its natural proportions and unmarred by the grease of the frying pan or drawn out or diluted by boiling water. Until our fish thus cooked to brown crispness on the outside is tasted, one knows nothing of their gastronomic possibilities, all the love of Stefansson and the fanciest chefs of the contrary.

—Victoria Daily Times.

Not Every Woman Is Married But Where Are The Old Maids?

Like the Aztecs, Amazons and Incas, the "old maids" are a vanished race, observes the Kingston Whig-Standard. A literary searching party sent into the field to look for spinsters by one of the woman's magazines found some evidence that they once existed and traced legends that had been handed down from generation to generation. Some day, perhaps, fossilized remains will be found to enable scientists and historians to complete their data.

The searching party discovered that there are still unmarried ladies of past marrying age, but they are no longer spoken of as spinsters. Nor are they contemplated sadly, made the brunt of derisive wit, or found to conceal their state as something disgraceful and unblessed. The "old maid" of the joke boks has simply vanished from the face of the civilized earth.

Once upon a time unmarried women over 30 kept very quiet about their "single blessedness". Now such women count their state as a virtue, and have no hesitation in parading it before the world. Of old it was hurt pride that made old maids profess preference for their lonely existence. The world did not believe that any woman could be so benighted as to prefer to live alone. Today many women are sincere in protestations of that sort and their statements are accepted at face value without question.

A number of factors have contributed to this social revolution. Emancipation of women played a prominent role. Industrial independence and virtual equality between the sexes in business helped remove the old-maid stigma. The changed economic order which placed millions of women in a better position to support a husband than millions of men are to support a wife added fuel to the feminist's fire.

Sentimentalists who weep for the old and decry the new will concede, at least, that abolition of the bondage of spinsterhood was humanitarian stroke.

Unjust to Our Guests

Toronto Telegram writes the American tourists coming into Canada for an extended stay are forbidden to use their motor cars for profit or for other than personal purposes. The regulation is designed to prevent competition by transients with tax-paying business establishments. The intent is reasonable.

Several incidents have come to light recently, however, which indicate that local authorities are applying a narrow interpretation. From St. Thomas is reported the case of a son on holiday who hauled a small quantity of lumber from a nearby mill to his father's home. He was fined $25 for his kindness. Brockville reports that a summer resident at Delca Lake was fined $25 because he allowed his Canadian guide to use his car for securing a supply of cornmeal to preserve the catch of a day's fishing.

These violations of the law, if they can be classed as such, were purely technical. Either the statutes or the magistrates are at fault in inflicting punishment in cases of this kind.

Canadians do not want visitors to this country to be treated unfairly or unjustly. Treatment of the sort described is not only unjust but it is stupid as well. The tourist business will not long flourish if such conditions are allowed to prevail.

Good Memory

Chief: "Your wife reminds me of a girl I used to go with.'

Second Ditto: "She's always reminding me of the same thing."

"What is alimony, Ma?"
"Something that is considered by many women as an improvement on a husband."

THE FAMILY ALBUM—THE SNACK

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

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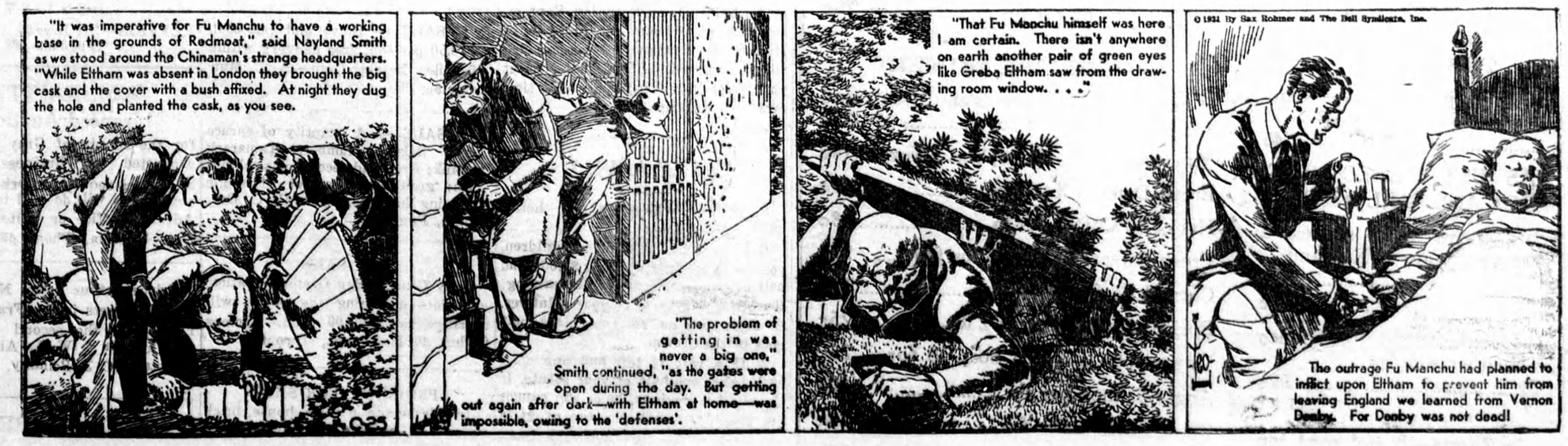
FU MANCHU By Sax Rohmer