

Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

Good Example

Her Excellency the Countess of Bessborough sailed from Halifax on the Canadian Pacific liner Montclare. The Maritime Provinces will appreciate this example set by Her Excellency in the use of Canadian winter ports. In many respects sailing from Halifax is more comfortable, although the ships are less elaborate, than sailing from New York.—The Ottawa Citizen.

Force of World Opinion

After all, the cautious policy of the League of Nations has borne fruit. Critics who spoke of the impotency of the league and jeered at its inaction must admit that, had it not been for the international complications which have arisen, no one can say what would have been the result of a vigorous assertion of the power conferred by the covenant, or the adoption of the coercive expedients proposed by some impatient counsellors. Moderation, and the force of world opinion, have had their effect. Instead of being discredited, the League is vindicated as an agency of international co-operation against a common menace, when emergencies arise.—Hamilton Spectator.

International Affairs

In the realm of international dealings the United States has provided no record which Canada would desire to parallel. It has guessed wrong on matters of foreign policy far oftener than any other major power. Few parts of its program in recent years could justify either blind imitation by Canada or excessively-ambitious attempts to meet its wishes. If Canada needs outside advice on foreign policies she will be wise to remember that Britain still holds the world's all-time record in the matter of guessing right on international questions.—Toronto Telegram.

World Trade Decline

A graphic idea of the extent to which depression affected the trade of the world during the past year may be gained from a perusal of the statistics just issued by the British Board of Trade. There was a decrease of 27 per cent in comparison with 1929 and 41 per cent from the total for 1929. But British trade stood up very well compared with American trade, since British imports fell off by 16.6 per cent, and American by 32 per cent, while British exports decreased only 31.8 per cent, compared with a falling-off of 37 per cent in exports from the United States.

The Enigma of Germany

The devastating effects of Australia's fiscal policy were reflected in a decrease in her imports of 51 per cent. Australia's exports, however, fell off only 17 per cent. The depression hit the rubber industry very heavily in Malaya, and this is indicated in the fact that British Malaya showed the heaviest decrease in exports—57 per cent below the figure for 1929.

Empire Trade

One of the points brought out by the Minister of Finance in his budget speech is that, owing to the policy of the present Government, Canada is trading less with the United States and more with the British Empire than it did in other years. For the 11 months of the past fiscal year for which reports are available our imports from the British Empire were 25.3 per cent of our total imports as compared with 22.6 per cent the previous year; our imports from the United States 69.9 per cent as against 64.5 per cent, and our imports from other foreign countries 13.3 per cent compared with 12.9 per cent. Our exports have shown a somewhat similar change for the better. This trend is encouraging to all those who entertain high hopes of closer trade relations within the Empire as a result of the forthcoming Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa next July. It is moreover to be repeated that for 11 months of the past year Canada has a favorable trade balance of over \$25,000,000 compared with an unfavorable balance of nearly \$71,000,000 in the previous corresponding period. In other words there has been a change in Canada's favor of nearly \$100,000,000.—Mail & Empire, Toronto.

Unemployed and Placer Mining

It would be far better in every way, and cheaper in the longer run, to put unemployed men in the way of earning a good living for themselves than continue to keep them in idleness by way of direct relief. It is a matter of organization chiefly to transfer a large body of men to the placer gold districts of British Columbia, where climatic and general working conditions are highly suitable to outdoor work. They need employment and Canada needs gold.—Calgary Herald.

Paying the Piper

The great middle class of white collar workers in offices, stores and factories is the backbone of society, the big tax-paying class and the big purchasing class. And it is the class that stands as a buffer between organized labour and organized capital. It is the white collar middle-class worker whose grievances have raised Adolf Hitler to great influence in Germany. It is the white collar middle-class worker who is paying the piper in Canada. What can be done for him?—Vancouver Sun.

The Ottawa Conference

The conference will not be of merely external importance; its intended purpose is inextricably interwoven with the domestic business of this country, and to allow it to be thrust out of thought for the sake of seemingly more fitting affairs would be suicidal. When the "strictly business" nature of its work is appreciated there is met the absolute necessity of a representation fully qualified to deal with

Matters of Trade—Auckland Weekly News.

"Managing" the Pound

If there is any chance of a further speculative bull movement in the pound developing—and we are not disposed to minimize the danger—it would, we urge, be useful if it were made clear by the actions of the Bank of England, reinforced, if need be, by a definite official statement of policy, that while no decision as to the ultimate level of sterling has yet been reached, there is, so far, no underlying justification for any substantial upward movement, and that, therefore, effective steps will be taken, by the acquisition "a l'outrance" of foreign short-term assets (or even gold) to give speculation "for the rise" its quietus.—Economist (London).

Britain's Recovery

We are satisfied that never since the war has there been so firm a case for a more active policy of re-organizing what can be done at once. True that the larger problems are still almost of the same magnitude, and that we are only just beginning to make a real impression on them. But the great work of national reconstruction is fairly in hand.—J. L. Garvin in the London Observer (Ind.).

Prices in Britain

The doleful prophecies that the prices of imported foodstuffs were bound to rise have not been fulfilled. This is due in part to the fact that certain countries from which we purchase 59 per cent of our imports of food followed Great Britain; the gold standard, and other gold countries had to adjust their prices to ours. But it is also due to the price-worth self-restraint of both wholesale and retail traders, who refrained from exploiting such opportunities as offered.—London Daily Telegraph (Ind. Cons.).

Britain's Great Effort

It is fair to say that things are looking up. Our trade balance is better; the stock market has visibly brightened; sterling has risen; we have paid back before it was due a large part of the £80,000,000 credits from France and America. Income tax payments are flowing in well. Budget prospects are reasonably good, and the economies effected by departments more than come up to expectations. All these things bear testimony to the nation's immense strength and to its magnificent capacity for effort.—London Sunday Times (Cons.).

The Enigma of Germany

Germany is a curious country, where the unexpected always happens. From an economic point of view the Germans are perhaps the greatest race of modern times. At any rate, they possess a capacity for work unrivalled by other nations. But politically they are incompetent. Many among them are the first to admit it, and this curious absence of an understanding of politics is one of the tragedies of civilization.—George Soleyvitch in the Nineteenth Century (London).

Unemployed Germans Made to Study Trades

Attendance at a trade school is made compulsory for the unemployed 18 years of age, in Berlin and other cities of Germany. The program includes courses in manual training, typing, stenography, domestic science, general educational subjects and classes in gymnastics and hygiene. Books and school materials are free.

Connecticut Boys To Mark Airways

New York.—Boy Scouts of Connecticut are launching a program of co-operation with aviators through the construction of at least 100 airway markers in an many locations throughout their State.

"Graf" in Brazil Again

Pernambuco, Brazil.—The Graf Zeppelin arrived from Friedrichshafen on her second trip of the year here on April 7th.



Greyhounds of the racing track keep fit. A group of dirt-track riders ready to leap out for a sprint at their Wimbledon training quarters, make use of greyhound starting boxes there.

Sunday School Lesson

April 24. Lesson IV—Abram's Generosity to Lot—Genesis 13: 5-15. Golden Text—In honor preferring one another.—Romans 12: 10.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE DISPUTE, vs. 5-7.
II. A GENEROUS PROPOSAL, vs. 8, 9.
III. A FATEFUL DECISION, vs. 10-12.
IV. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, vs. 14, 15.

INTRODUCTION.—To-day's lesson forms at once the continuation of the story of the migration of Abram and Lot into Canaan (12: 1-8) and also the introduction to the story of the visit of the three strangers to Abram (chapter 18) and of their visit to Lot (chapter 19). It is a very human account. Abram and Lot were uncle and nephew (12: 5); together they migrated to Canaan and together they wandered through amicably until the land was drawn to his uncle by the latter's greatness of soul and and his spiritual greatness. The two men had no difficulty in dwelling together until a miserable squabble about property drove them apart.

I. THE DISPUTE, vs. 5-7.
Although he had not come to Canaan for hope of gain, Abram had become wealthy there. Lot, his partner, shared in the prosperity. On the whole, the men of the Old Testament believed that devotion to God brings wealth. Abram's conscience and conviction would serve to illustrate and confirm that conviction. Now, one of the dangers of wealth is that it may sow the seeds of discord. As long as Abram and Lot were not too rich, they got along together amicably. As their means increased, however, their relationships became complicated and precarious. They were nomads, shifting at intervals from place to place, and their possessions consisted chiefly of flocks and herds, and a few articles of water and food. The land was not able to bear them. It frequently happens that the increase of their flocks and herds compels nomadic people to separate. Bickerings among the herdsmen about the rights to pasture-lands and wells, and the masters of the flocks, spread to the narrative to the increase of wealth in the Canaanite (who lived in walled towns) and the Perizite (country-folk living in open villages) dwell that Abram and Lot, both committed to the high adventure of faith, should quarrel before their heathen neighbors.

II. A GENEROUS PROPOSAL, vs. 8, 9.
Abram now rose to the full stature of his moral greatness. "His calm, strong figure," says Strachan, "rebuked all petty feelings. In the midst of strife he was tranquil and self-possessed. His speech was gentle and courteous." First, he condemned strife, especially when, as in their case, the sacred ties of kinship should bind them together. Then he proposed that peace should be maintained by separation. The patriarchs were men of peace, although the world around them was continually aflame with strife and war. Their principle was to win peace by isolation. If one cannot live amicably with another, then it is better to separate from him. The Christian principle, we believe, is higher—to turn one's foe into a friend by the way of self-sacrifice. Abram's proposal involved him in a great re- nunciation. As the older of the two, he could have claimed the right to the first choice of the land, but this right he generously waived aside.

III. A FATEFUL DECISION, vs. 10-13.
In contrast to Abram, Lot was selfish and covetous—a man who had his eyes upon worldly success. It never occurred to him forthwith to concede to Abram the choice portion of the land. From the elevation at Bethel where they stood (v. 3) the two enjoyed a wide outlook: over the land; on the west rose the austere highlands of Judah and on the east, below them, lay the fertile valley of the Jordan. To the covetous Lot the plain of the Jordan resembled, in fertility, the Garden of Eden or Egypt, where harvests are uniformly good from the Nile. So Lot chose the Jordan valley. His decision was made without consideration of the character of the neighborhood among whom he would live. For the Jordan valley was known, not alone for the fertility of its soil, but for the great wickedness of its inhabitants—especially the men of Sodom. Lot had, therefore, none but himself to blame when later he became involved in the ruin of Sodom, chapter 19.

IV. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, vs. 14, 15.
The purpose of God's appearance to Abram was not only to assure him that he had done the right and wise thing, but to remind him that the future possession of the land rested, not on human choice; but on the sovereign will of God. The decisions of men are over-ruled by the unailing purpose of God.

Early April

Behold the robin's breast aglow
As on the lawn he seeks his game.
His cap a darker hue doth show,
His bill a yellow flame.

Now in the elm tops see the swarm
Of swelling buds like bees in May;
The maples, too, have tinted blood
And willows show a golden ray.

Up from the marsh a chorus shrill
Of piping frogs swells in the night;
The meadowlark shows flashing quill
As o'er brown fields she takes her flight.

Now screaming hawks soar o'er the wood,
And sparrows red haunt bushy banks,
The starlings gossip, "Life is good,"
And grackles pass in sable ranks.

The rye fields show a tender hue
Of freshening green amid the brown,
And pussy-willows clad anew
Along the brook in silver gown.

The purple finch hath found his tongue,
From out the elm tree what a burst!
Now once again all things are young,
Renewed by love as at the first.
—John Burroughs.

Titanic Disaster Twenty Years Ago

April 15 marked the twentieth anniversary of the greatest sea disaster of modern times, the sinking of the liner Titanic off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. Her passengers and crew numbered 2,200; of these only 705 were rescued by the liner Carpathia, while 1,555 went down with the ship.

The Titanic's trip from Southampton, which she left on April 10, 1912, was for the first part without incident. The weather was fair, and the liner, on her maiden voyage, was steaming along with the probability of making a speed record. On Sunday, April 14, she was in the ice fields off the coast of Newfoundland. There was talk of icebergs, and several were sighted.

At 11:40 p.m. the Titanic struck a berg and her engines stopped. The shock was almost imperceptible, and the passengers were only momentarily diverted from their pastimes. A quick turn to port enabled the ship to escape direct collision, but her bottom was torn open by the submarine part of the berg. Only a few saw the ice mountain that slipped silently by.

Wireless signals—it was the second time they had been used in a great sea disaster—were broadcast; first the international "C.Q.D." then the new call for help, "S.O.S." These were picked up by the Marconi station at Cape Race, Newfoundland, and relayed to New York. Several ships near the scene of the wreck—among them the Carpathia, the Virginian, the Olympic and the Baltic—also caught the distress signals and started for the disabled liner.

Soon came an order from Captain Smith: "All passengers on deck with life-preservers." Even this command did not alarm those on board. But the ship began to list; distress signals increased and rockets went up from the bridge.

Launching the Boats
"All men stand back and all women retire to the deck below," came the captain's order.

The first lifeboat swung out from deck A. As it reached the level of deck B a group of women and children were helped in and its descent continued to the calm sea below. Other boats followed. Some collapsed.

At 2 a.m. the ship began to settle rapidly. At 2:17 all wireless communication ceased. "Every man for himself," ordered Captain Smith. Slowly the ship tilted straight on end and slipped quietly out of sight beneath the waters, carrying her captain with her.

Three hours later the Carpathia picked up the survivors in sixteen lifeboats, floating on a sea full of mushy ice, with a dozen icebergs looming in the distance. And the journey to New York was continued.

The Titanic was built, at a cost of \$10,000,000, at the Harland & Wolff yards in Belfast, being completed in February, 1912. She was 323½ feet long and measured 115 feet from keel to the top of her funnels. She had eleven decks, luxuriously fitted cabins, a gymnasium, a swimming pool and the finest equipment of all kinds. She had many watertight compartments and was considered the last word in ship design.

Canada's Art

Toronto.—Canada has truly an art of her own, Fred S. Haines, curator of the Toronto Art Gallery, told the Board of Trade Club in an address here on art as a philosophy of life. "Art," he said, "should be an expression of the people and of the times."



Scouts and Accidents

During 1931 a total of 16,577 accidents occurred in Ontario. Of this number 1,728 proved fatal. The mishaps include practically every accident against which we give Scout training, either directly or indirectly. There were 211 accidental drownings, 23 electrocutions, 21 deaths from poisonings, 15 from strangulation, 19 from septic poisoning from wounds, 61 from burns or scalds. There were 159 accidents with fire arms, of which 45 were fatal. There were 521 cases of fractures and sprains, and 299 accidents to hands or feet. Two of the latter resulted in death. There were 355 accidents during sports, the being fatal.

For Canada the totals can be multiplied approximately by five.

Is this not an almost dismaying reminder of the importance of our first aid instructional work, and the general objective of Scout training—teaching to be mentally prepared to use the head under all circumstances?

Toronto Scouts Boost Ontario Apples

That the Boy Scouts of Ontario could do more in one day than the provincial department of agriculture could do in a month to make Ontario "Ontario apple conscious" was affirmed by Hon. Thomas L. Kenney, provincial Minister of Agriculture.

He referred to the Boy Scout Apple Day held on April 1st, when, to assist their district financial campaign, the scouts of Toronto sold Ontario apples on all the street corners of that city, and earned an appreciable profit for their funds. What about a Lone Scout Apple Day in your district?

Scouts' Good Work at Shanghai

Reports from Shanghai record work by Boy Scouts during the recent Sino-Japanese outbreak that reminds one of the slogan of "making where the service idea of Scouting originated in 1900. The first call was for 12 Scout cyclists. Soon 90 boys were on duty at various relief headquarters and municipal bureaus of the International Settlement, as messengers, guides, phone operators, hospital orderlies, etc. The boys came from troops of

many nationalities—British, French, German, American, Russian, Jewish.

Sleep Out and Live To Be 100!
I know that there are quite a few Lone Scouts who sleep out of doors nearly all the year round, and you should see what fine healthy boys they are!

Did you know that the Chief Scout, Lord Baden-Powell, who is 75 years of age, sleeps outside water and summer?

Writing the Editor of "Camping" to deny a statement that he had given up sleeping out of doors, Lord Baden-Powell demands, "What has 'over 70' to do with it? I've learned wisdom in my 75 years, and that tells me that if everyone slept out we should all live to be 100 or more. But as this would overwork the clubs it is perhaps just as well that some should sleep in and die early—say at 90. But for me to sleep inside! Not if I know it!"

So, Ladies, sleep outdoors and be healthy!

Our Weekly Scout Law

No. 4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.

Hence the oft used phrase "The Worldwide Brotherhood of Scouting." In this law in which we build all our Scouting on which we build all our hopes for the future of the world. To be a friend to ALL! There is no room here for quarrels and fighting. War can have no place in Scouting, while this law remains in the constitution. And if Scouts of every nationality, color, creed, or tongue are brothers, as well as being friends, then we have an organization more powerful than any League of Nations can ever be.

Important Law of all. Make it a part of your life, and see that YOU fulfill the obligations required of a real friend. Someone has said "A friend is one who knows all about you but loves you just the same!" Need I say more?

N.S. Scouts Plant 80,000 Trees

As reported by Provincial Chief Forester Schlerbeck, Nova Scotia Boy Scouts in 1931 planted 80,000 trees in Scout restoration areas in various parts of the province.

Don't forget to let all your farmer friends know that they can obtain all the trees they want from the Ontario Forestry Branch, free of charge. We hope that you have posted all your Tree Signs by this time.

For particulars of how to become a Lone Scout, write to the Boy Scouts Association, Lone Scout Dept., 339 Bay Street, Toronto.—"Lone E."

Outlook For Saskatchewan Farmers This Year

The drought-stricken areas of Western Canada, including a portion of the Province of Saskatchewan, have claimed a good deal of attention by Canadians in other sections of the Dominion for the past year or two. It was good news, therefore, which came a few days ago that Spring work had been started by the farmers in the vicinity of Swift Current. The public mind, naturally, reverted to a receipt of this news to the statement made before the Toronto Canadian Club recently by Hon. Robert Weir, Federal Minister of Agriculture, that what was considered drought-proof seed had been produced for distribution in the Western areas which had suffered so greatly.

In this connection it is interesting to note a bulletin issued by Dr. W. Allen and Prof. E. C. Hope, of the Farm Management Department of the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture. It is entitled "The Farm Outlook for Saskatchewan, 1932," and says that most Saskatchewan farmers are still unable to discover any major enterprise as satisfactory as wheat production although farm incomes have been almost obliterated by the continued depression of wheat prices.

The chief interest of the farmers now is to secure sufficient funds to support their families and carry on their farming operations. Taking stock of the situation, the bulletin states that in the district of Turtleford, Kenderley, Davidson and Craik and Maple Creek, of the 411 owners or part owners, eight per cent were reported free from debt, the remaining 92 per cent having debts averaging \$4,782 per farm. Debts against real estate secured by mortgages plus unpaid amounts on agreements of sale were reported by 81 per cent of all the 411 owners, and amounted to \$4,341 per farm. The debts of tenants usually average less than those of owners as their assets are smaller, movable and depreciate more quickly.

The general physical conditions of the 1932 Saskatchewan wheat crop are said to be decidedly more favorable than a year ago. Pre-

cipitation since last harvest has been better than average in the northern agricultural sections, and decidedly better than for last year in the southern districts. The southern area must secure adequate rains during the growing season to harvest even a moderate crop. There are possibilities also of considerable damage from cutworms, and grasshoppers.

Conditions in agriculture at present are said to be very much like those of 11 years ago when prices for grains, stocks and live stock products were all at about the lowest points in their respective cycles. The outlook for livestock, therefore, is not considered favorable. Recovery in such prices are looked for in the following order: Poultry products, hogs and sheep, but-ter and cattle. The chief factor in farm success is said to be the ability of the individual farm operator.—Mail & Empire.

Ton of Hay Travels By Parcel Post

Denver, Colo.—A ton of hay has been mailed by parcel post to feed dairy cattle in the snow-bound town of Silverton, which has been isolated since Feb. 9.

A Durango firm was unable to ship the hay because the railroad is blocked by snow slides. So it was placed in bundles to conform with the maximum size and weight specified for parcel post, and mailed. It required \$14 worth of stamps.

The hay was transported by pack mule at a cost of 5 cents a pound to the Post Office Department, according to a report to the State Utilities Commission. The Post Office Department thus lost \$86 on the transaction but the Silverton cows are munching hay and the children of the isolated town had their fresh milk again.

Penny for Debts

San Salvador, Salvador.—Children in all schools of the Republic of Salvador will contribute one penny each week to aid the Government in wiping out its foreign debt under a plan just announced.

MUTT AND JEFF—By BUD FISHER

