

Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

COST OF RATS.—

It is scarcely understandable that human beings have remained so tolerant of the rat. The latter has invaded virtually every community in the world except the polar regions. Even in a country of limited population such as Canada, the depredations of rats cost millions of dollars annually.—Sarnia Observer.

ON PARKING A CAR.—

A good way to park a car at the curb when the space is small is to back it in. It takes an expert to do this, however, without serious damage to the bumpers and finish of the cars front and rear of the short parking space. It is a useful stunt if done expertly, but downtown streets are not the proper practice ground.—Ottawa Journal.

CLEAR ENUNCIATION.—

The necessity for correct expression and voice modulation has for many years received half-hearted attention in the schools. A greater need which should be the precursor of all the graces of speech has been strangely neglected. This is the need for distinctness of pronunciation.

The result is at once apparent to those who attend a public function of any sort. There is no distinctness of the speakers. Those who by nature of their occupation should properly be expected to understand the need for distinctness of speech are often neglectful in this regard. They do not seem to understand that the purpose of speech is that other people should clearly hear.

A visit to any of our law courts has its interest from a spectacular point of view, but as for hearing what goes on, that is usually impossible. The average lawyer, from whom one should expect distinct speech, mumbles something or other to the presiding justice. The police officials say something else which may be audible to a person a yard away, but is quite unintelligible to the audience. Distinctness of pronunciation needs more attention.—Calgary Herald.

COME TO CANADA.—

According to the Financial Post, United States newspapers are making favorable comment on Senator Dennis' plan for a bureau of tourist and travel publicity for Canada. And they are urging Americans to visit Canada.

The Detroit Free Press, speaking of "this exhibition of enterprise" said: "after seeing their own country first Americans cannot do better than see Canada next."

The Scripps-Howard papers, comprising 25 leading dailies including The New York World-Telegram, have placed themselves behind the Canadian proposal, praising Canadian holiday attractions.

Thus before the House of Commons has voted the money, Canada is getting some direct benefit from the Dennis plans.—Victoria Times.

FANCY THAT.—

Statistician has figured out that the newspapers of Canada and the United States use sufficient white paper each year to make a girdle around the earth 50 miles wide. However, we sincerely trust nothing of the sort will be attempted. Think of all the pretty bathing-girl photos you'd miss!—Border Cities Star.

AND WHERE THE BEAVER?—

In Mrs. Simcoe's Diary, which has just been republished in a special centenary edition, the governor's wife wrote as follows under date of Oct. 30, 1793: "At eight this dark evening we went to see salmon speared.... seeing them swimming in shoals around the boat is a very pretty sight.... The flights of wild pigeons in the Spring and Autumn is a surprising sight." Where are the salmon and the passenger pigeons in the Toronto area now? Where, for that matter, are the pigeons anywhere?—Toronto Star.

OUR TALL YOUNG MEN.—

Hamilton police department has applications for places on the force from several young men who are six feet four inches tall, but they fail to compete with Harry Shelton, 22 years of age, who is seven feet one and a half inches and weighs 213 pounds. The chief and his associates are said to be favorably impressed with this young man and he stands a good chance of receiving appointment.

We have no records which can be consulted, but our impression is that this generation is producing a fair share of men who are of the six foot type or over. Within recent years there have been a number of them in the collegiate, and they have been well built so they carry their height with ease. We can think of one family where three sons, all of them quite young fellows yet, are over the six foot mark.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

CANOE COMMANDMENTS.—

With the canoe season definitely here and the local boat livery advising canoeists to make sure of getting a boat by having one reserved two

or three days ahead of time, no doubt many young people are planning canoe trips for a vacation.

Ten commandments that will assure a happy and successful camping trip are:

Build your campfires small, close to the water's edge on a spot from which the leaves and moss have been scraped away. Drown it with water when leaving, and stir the ashes with a stick to make sure no live coals are left.

Leave your campsite clean. Bury all rubbish, bottles and cans. Never throw glass or tin in the water where others may bathe.

Learn how to swim, and first aid methods.

Do not sit or lie on the bare ground.

Never run a rapid without first making sure that it can be done with safety. Examine it carefully for logs, boulders and other obstructions. Two canoes should not run a rapid at the same time.

Do not make your packs too heavy; about 40 pounds is a good average.

Avoid crossing large lakes or rivers in rough water.

Make camp before dark. Erecting a tent, or preparing a meal by firelight, is not easy.

Learn how to prepare simple meals over a campfire.

Unless familiar with wilderness travel, never attempt a trip through uninhabited country without competent guides. Charts of the route and good maps of the surrounding country are essential.—Lindsay Post.

THE EMPIRE

ANOTHER BUSINESS IS BOOMING.

Business is picking up elsewhere. The armament industry is active. Sorry, there will be no cheers for that.... When those guns of admirable British workmanship go off, where will they be pointed? If you look in Bedford Park you will see a notable war trophy. A gun captured from the Germans, and bearing a British trade mark. The Dardanelles were sown thick with mines, made in Britain, which blew British seamen sky high in that campaign of bloody memory. For whom are we making the shining instruments of death?—London Daily Express.

SHE STARTED SOMETHING.—

The young man who has been confronted by his aunt with the choice of marrying and settling down before Christmas Day, 1936, or of forfeiting £100,000, should be a prey to conflicting emotions. "Give me liberty or give me death," exclaimed a historic patriot who was not, as it happens, faced with the necessity of embracing the one as the only alternative to losing the other.—London Evening News.

BATH CHAIR VERSUS CRADLE.—

A decreasing birthrate and an increasing expectation of life are altering the balance between youth and age. Whereas in 1901 there were less than 1 1/4 million people of 65 years and over, in 1976 there will be 5 3/4 millions of or over 65. Whereas in 1901 there were 12,000,000 children up to 15 years of age, by 1951 there will only be 6 1/2 million of such children. The proportion of children to old people, which was nearly seven to one at the beginning of the century, is growing less and less, so that, in the Nineteen-Sixties the children will be actually outnumbered by their elders.—London Morning Post.

GOLF DEMOCRATIC.—

There has been too much snobbery about golf in the South. It ought to be everybody's game everywhere, as it always has been in Scotland. Working lads from Troon hoisted their sawmill comrade, Jimmy Wallace on their shoulders after his victory over Jack McLean, at Prestwick, in the amateur championship. The Prince of Wales, mixing in the crowd, saw that match. Golf, properly regarded, is a great leveller—the most democratic game of all.—Manchester Sunday Chronicle.

HARDWORKING ROYALTY.—

In common with the people of Australia, New Zealanders will regret the reason which will bring them the pleasure of a visit by the Duke of Gloucester instead of that projected for Prince George. Prince George has completed a particularly arduous tour of South Africa and it is not at all surprising that the strain upon his health should make it inadvisable for him to undertake so soon afterwards another, extending over six months, of Australia and New Zealand. The members of the Royal Family live lives of incessant duty. The ideal of service is deeply implanted in their hearts. They give a lead to a vast variety of social causes and their example is far-reaching. But particularly when they are engaged upon Empire tours, the King's subjects, in their delight to honour them, may become hard taskmasters. This has been seen in New Zealand. Every Royal tour has become a test of endurance. That must have been the case in South Africa, and it will un-

Fire Fights Insects



Dreaded foe of the world's timber growths, fire is being proved an aid at United States Forestry Station near Ogden, Utah. Carrying tanks of oil, workers spray insect-infested trees and set them ablaze. Controlling crew follows with shovels.

questionably be the case in Australia and New Zealand.—Auckland Weekly News.

EMPIRE RECOVERY.—

The story of the present economic conditions in Canada is a heartening addition to the recent evidence of improvement in Australia, in South Africa and in India. The Empire as a whole is out of the depths. In Canada every one of the ordinary tests of well-being shows the Dominion making rapid recovery.—London Daily Telegraph.

Leads in Silk Kills Rodents

May Hurt Women Weavers—Metal Content Dangerous Experiments Reveal

New York.—The fate of rats which became ill or died from wearing silk weighted with a lead treatment was described recently to the American Home Economics Association. The silk, said Miss F. Belle Kessinger, is the same material sold over the counter to women, without advertising to warn them that it has been lead treated. She made the experiment with the rats at the Pennsylvania State College, under a fellowship of the American Economical Association.

Not All Weighted. Not all silks are weighted, and not all the weighted silks are treated with lead. Other metals may be used. Miss Kessinger said, for example, that unweighted silks showed no bad effects on her rats.

The rats were chosen as models because they are among the few animals which perspire. They were enclosed in silk sacks, tied about their necks, for one hour daily for 10 weeks. They were kept warm enough to perspire. Their skins became irritated from contact. One rat died. Other rats similarly garbed in silk without lead showed no signs of trouble.

Miss Kessinger said these rat experiments seem to contradict results obtained at Harvard upon human beings, who showed no ill effects from the lead type of silk. She said the Harvard experiments indicated that the lead was not soluble in perspiration, this was true in the Pennsylvania State College experiments, only while the lead-weighted silk was very new. After it had been aged a few days the lead washed out in water.

Must Have Operations

Montreal.—Operations have become quite the rage among the natives of Jobat, India, and no patient feels that he has received proper treatment without one, according to Miss Isabel McConnell, missionary, speaking at the biennial meeting of the council executive of the Women's Missionary Society, Presbyterian Church in Canada (western division).

This represents a change in attitude, for the first surgical patient was so frightened at the idea of being "put to sleep" that he jumped from the operating table and ran home.

Among the instances showing the great work being done for the people through the hospital was that of a blind man who had to be led there, and who, after cataracts had been removed, went home unaided. The gratitude of the patients is most touching, stated Miss McConnell.

Big Cheques Given Women

To Cover Low Pay—Charges Against Montreal Employer Dropped.

Montreal.—Fat cheques were handed recently to 27 girls in the employ of the Cooper Dress Company here because of failure of Morris Cooperberg, their employer, to comply with the Quebec Women's Minimum Wage Act. Charges against Cooperberg were dropped when the Quebec Labor Department announced receipt of an accepted cheque for \$2,333.05 from Cooperberg covering minimum wage discrepancies for the 27 girls over a period of one year.

Lucien Rodier, K.C., counsel for the Quebec Labor Department told the court that Cooperberg had committed only a technical offence against the act. He failed to obtain necessary permits to allow these girls to work for less than the minimum scale.

It was pointed out that Cooperberg could have merely pleaded guilty to the infraction and escaped with a maximum fine of \$50 and costs. Chief Judge Gustave Perrault complimented Cooperberg from the bench on his gesture.

Some of the girls received cheques for as high as \$295.

Change Air Mail Rates

Scale of Charges from Canada to U.S. Reduced

Ottawa.—Air mail rates from Canada to the United States will be reduced July 1, according to an announcement issued by the postoffice department recently. The rate is to be six cents for each ounce. Previously it was eight cents for the first ounce, and 13 cents for each subsequent ounce. The rate to Bermuda will be the same as the new United States one.

No change is made in the domestic rate of six cents for the first ounce and five cents for each subsequent one. The scale for Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland is the same as the domestic one.

An increase has been ordered in the rates to West Indies, British Guiana, Mexico, Cuba, Central America, Asia, Africa and Australia. This will be 35 cents for each 1/2 ounce, instead of 15 cents as before.

The rate to Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Dutch Guiana and French Guiana, is advanced from 45 cents to 55 cents for each half ounce. Scale for Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, is advanced from 45 cents a half ounce.

Registration, if desired, is in addition to the regular air mail fees.

All changes become effective Dominion Day. "We can't go fifty-fifty between the New Deal and the Old. We must either go on with the New Deal or abandon it."—Edward A. Filene.

Adolescent Child Needs Guidance From Parents

But Don't "Boss" Him—Encourage Him to Develop Hobbies by Sharing Them with Him

Probably the most discouraging epoch in the life of the child to the mother is the time of adolescence.

And not only is the mother, but to the child, whether boy or girl. Also it is the most difficult for writers on child training because each growing youngster now becomes an individual with a vengeance and no blanket rule of handling may be applied.

Moreover there is a difference of opinion about freedom during these years. We read one day that we keep our children babies too long and deprive them of responsibility at an age when they should be learning to stand on their own feet. The next day we hear some master mind declaring that children during adolescence need more protection than ever, because they have no judgment and may pay too bitter a price for experience.

There is something to be said on both sides, but experience inclines toward the latter.

A ROMANTIC PERIOD

During the fourteenth and fifteenth years especially, and even the thirteenth and sixteenth, depending on the boy or girl and their adult outlook, it is necessary for mother and dad to exercise that eternal vigilance which is the price of safety. This does not mean that our children are not to be trusted, but they are likely to get confused. These are beautiful years when the world unfolds its doors to a new fairy land. The flowers are of more bewitching beauty, the moon one long shudder of delight even a street car or a fence can glow with rosy romance. Look back and sigh for those lovely lost years and then try to realize that your boy or girl is going through the same thing.

Therefore we do not want them disillusioned or bitter. Nothing should spoil the emotional beauty of this time.

One thing that will spoil it completely for any girl is to tell her constantly that boys are not to be trusted. While it is true that some are not one of the finest persons in the world is this very youth who is so cock-sure of himself and who springs surprises on us every day by his vagaries and comedies. As far as that goes, we could tell him that some girls are not to be trusted either.

Parents have two jobs to do. One is to keep youth's faith in youth, the other is to be entirely aware of the company these children keep, where they are and how they spend their time.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

It is not wise to immerse a girl away from boys too long. Such a plan has failed in too many ways. The "crowd" well-chosen and chaperoned, (yes, chaperoned) is the best answer. Plenty of parties in homes, mothers and fathers entering into the crowd spirit and learning to know the friend of these children.

There will be some trouble of course Time and again they will protest. Each day there will be a new problem to face. You will have to be very cheerful, very sympathetic but firm. Social and sex facts should be told to girls by their mothers and to boys by their fathers, and warnings are necessary; but to harangue on the subject forever may set distrust or resentment and in that way lies danger of another kind.

To keep the adolescent child happy and busily interested in something is very helpful. Hobbies should be encouraged and shared.

If we don't help children to fill in their spare time they will fill it in for themselves. The truth is that a child won't have any spare time if he can help it.

By spare we mean "free" time—the hours not actually filled with school, practicing or home duties.

Naturally when he is away from chains it is right and proper that the child be left largely to his own devices. If we are going to supervise his play as well as his obligations when will there be time for him to develop on his own account.

The idea is to suggest a hobby and then remove oneself apparently from the scene of action as far as his part in it is concerned. We can help with a hobby but never boss it.

HOBBY MUST INTEREST

At first he may rebel against the stamp album or the camera and its attendant laboratory work. Or she may resent collecting patches and working out the intricacies of a quilt. But once interest is cornered it does very well by itself. A mother will know the disposition of her offspring and this helps in introducing something suitable.

The boy or girl who wants to be outdoors and dear knows they should be much of the time will probably rebel at first against finger-craft, and vice versa. Yet if it can

be managed this is often the very thing needed to balance his development. No use trying to force a hobby on a child it just won't work but sometimes it will be the means of putting over something the mother had failed in before, once he is interested.

This is the one great thing about a hobby. It doesn't greatly matter what it is, but it acts almost invariably as an agent through which its rider may be reached.

PARENTAL COMRADESHIP

If a father for instance feels that his child is getting away from him, has lost interest and comradeship, he could do nothing better than to go into partnership in his son's new interest. For father and son to share an urge for stamps is a tremendous tie. They are boys together sharing triumphs or disappointments alike. A mother and daughter scavenging for bright silks for patches, getting their heads together over designs, thinking up new ideas with their woman's wit makes a fine hour for confidence.

We mention stamps and patches, but almost anything under the sun may be used. Carving or shipbuilding is good boys' play, making notes on the habits of birds in long walks, or kite flying. This is a real science. As far as girls go they are usually interested in the same things as their brothers only not at the same time.

Hobbies stop the dawdling, time-wasting bored habit. They sharpen wits and ingenuity and promote ambition. They are good things for everybody.

A Problem

Try to Find Proper Prison For 14-year-old Kidnapper

Chicago.—Fourteen-year-old George Rogalski, believed to be the youngest person ever convicted of kidnapping, is resigned to a 10-year term of imprisonment.

"I expected to get punished," he said, following his conviction for the kidnaping of Baby Dorette Zeitlow, two and a half years old. He thanked "everybody concerned" for their "kindness" to him, and said: "I don't know why I did those things."

"Those things" included luring the little girl with the promise of a nickel to an abandoned ice house, where he stripped her of her clothing and then abandoned her. She was found many hours later, weak, but still alive. She died later in a hospital. The crime was done last April.

Although sentence was pronounced the court granted a stay of execution to give the court time to decide what special provisions should be made for the boy's imprisonment.

The defence made no effort to prevent a conviction, and contented that its chief interest in the case was to see that the boy defendant would be held in some proper place other than a penitentiary.

Schiaparelli Offers Rumba Hats

Paris.—Schiaparelli devotes look ravishing on the beach with her new Rumba hats. The net sun veil which she attaches under the rolling brim at the back lends an Andalusian allure. These hats form the high note of the whole costume, which consists merely of a pair of linen tweed trousers or a knee-length jersey skirt—of the wind-blown tunic variety—worn over a plain knitted swim suit. Schiaparelli as usual gives us some charming fresh-color combinations. The hat generally matches the maillot in color and the sun veil affords a clear contrast—white hat and maillot with a sapphire-blue veil and a gay plaid skirt, or navy and white-checked trousers, navy swim suit, navy hat and a vivid rose veil.

Cards Tell 'Postie' Who Needs Stamps

Calgary, Alta.—The Calgary post office authorities have notified the citizens that in future postage stamps would be sold by the postmen on their beats.

No longer will the card for the iceman to leave 25 or 50 pounds of ice be the only one propped in the front window, as cards have been distributed for the use of the householder or business firm, who will place it in a conspicuous place to notify the letter carrier that stamps are required.

THE REVOLVER

The revolver is a weapon for which the average Canadian has no particular use, and the sooner it is outlawed altogether the safer it will be for merchants, bankers, and private individuals. The revolver is playing a part in far too many crimes these days yet few things are more rare than reports that such weapons have done any good.—Lindsay Post.