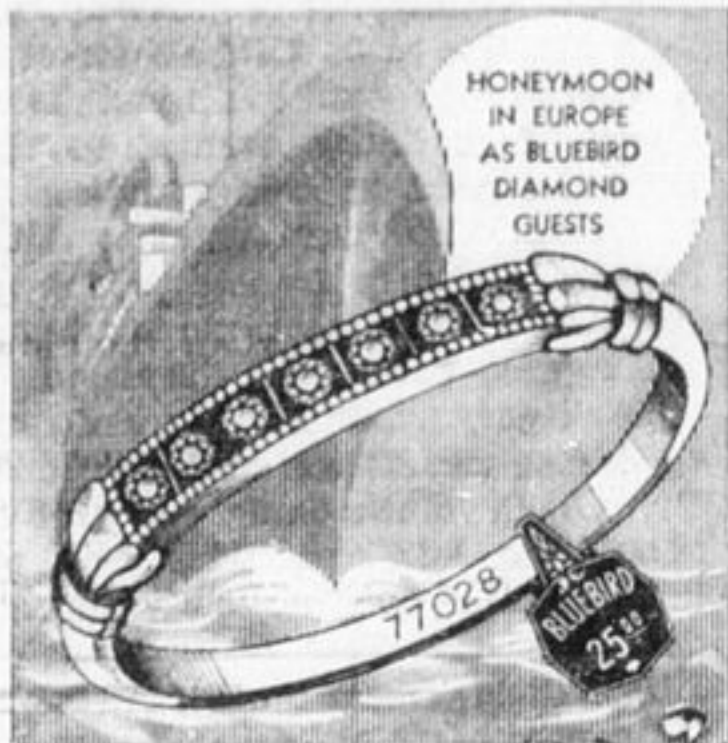


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Many Changes in Status of Dominions

Expect Delegates to Deal With Problems at London Conference Next Month.

Empire statesmen, when they gathered in conference on May 14, at London, England, will survey a rapidly evolving Empire.

Their official agenda, in respect of constitutional relations, does not carry them far. It is limited to questions of nationality, treaty procedure, the international status of members of the British Commonwealth and channels of communication between them—all questions which, in one form or another, have previously been under review.

Yet delegates will witness changing scenes. They will be brought face to face with changing problems. When the Imperial Conference of 1926 formally accepted the Balfour report recognizing the dominions as autonomous communities within the British Empire "equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs," it seemed as though the coping stone had been finally placed on the steadily growing structure of dominion autonomy.

Constitution Altered

Passing years have seen many developments; nowhere more than in the Irish Free State. For the newest of dominions has made vital changes. The original Irish Free State constitution consisted of 83 articles. Successive amendments have deleted 21 articles in their entirety, including the article prescribing the oath to be taken by members of the Irish Free State parliament to the King and all the articles relating to the constitution and procedure of the Senate.

Here are a few of the more outstanding changes:

1. The oireachtas (parliament) consists of one house instead of the King and two houses.
2. The governor-general no longer summons and dissolves parliament.
3. Recommendation for the appropriation of public money is made by the executive council (cabinet) instead of by the governor-general.
4. The executive council exercises the executive authority and power of the Free State instead of the King but for the purposes of diplomatic and consular agents and the conclusion of international agreements, the council may avail of "any organ used as a constitutional organ for the like purposes" by any of the members of the Commonwealth of Nations.
5. The president of the executive council (prime minister) is elected by the Dail Eirann (lower house) instead of appointed by the governor-general on the nomination of the Dail.

The net effect is that for internal purposes, at any rate, the King's representative is wiped out of the constitution of the Irish Free State.

East and west too, changes have come. Newfoundland no longer enjoys dominion status. In consequence of financial troubles and need to secure assistance from the United Kingdom, the constitution of Newfoundland was suspended in 1933. Government in Newfoundland is still carried on by a commission responsible to the government of the United Kingdom.

India, on the other hand, is emerging from tutelage. On April 1, there came into effect the first stage in the great scheme of a federated India. The scheme, when it comes fully into being, will mean a federation of British India and Indian native states—a federation with a population three times that of the United States.

The first stage provides the first real approach to responsible government in the 11 governors provinces of British India. It is an responsibility limited by much-criticized safe-guards, yet a turning point in India's tangled history.

Elections for the 11 provincial legislatures have already been held. In six, the Congress party (which has declared against British rule in India) has won.

IN-ART-HIC-YOU-LATE

(Kapusking Northern Tribune)  
Old Man Ontario (1937): "Well, I've got a pro (hic) vincial surplus again, by (hic) heck! Mitch sold more alco (hic) holic, and kept me tight so my right hand didn't know (hic) what my left elbow was doing. Aw heck (hic)!"

Toronto Telegram:—Announcement of what it costs to support the quintuplets reveals a fairly modest outlay. The girls haven't arrived at the permanent wave stage yet.



PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

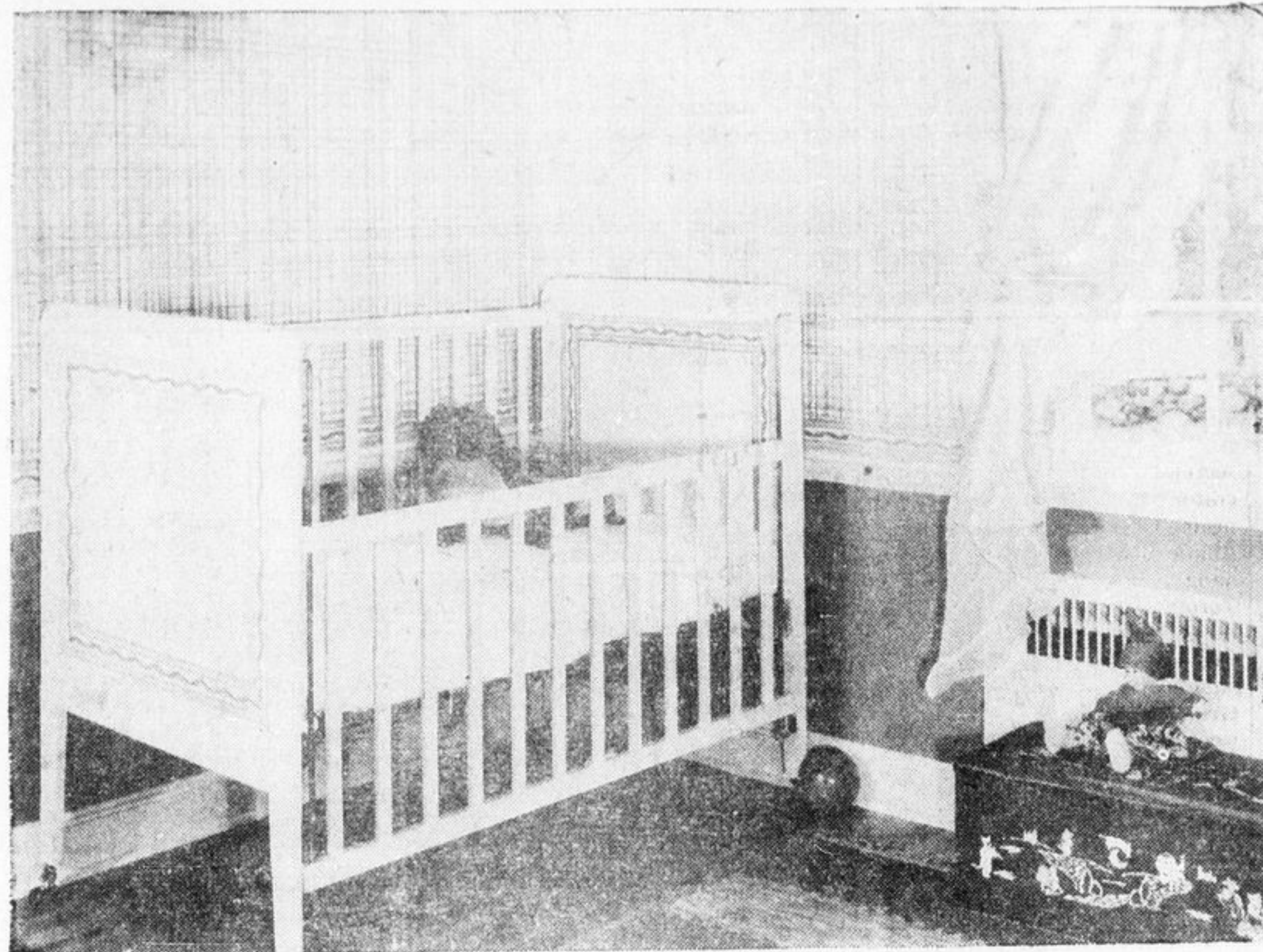
Children's Rooms in Busy Families

Net and Ruffles are all Right for the First Baby, but a Busy Lady Doesn't Have Time to Keep Them Up. Here are Ideas for Young Rooms that are Both Practical and Attractive.

It's quite right and proper for a mother with her first baby to have a bassinette frothy with lace and satin bows. But later when she really gets deeper into this business of making a pleasant home, she won't have time to keep all those ruffles crisp and fresh. From then on she will be watching for things that look as nice and demand less in the way of up-keep. To-day we're going to describe some children's rooms of this type that we've visited lately and liked.

There was Jay's room... he was the second baby in the family so by that time his mother was ready to get down to brass tacks. She had his room papered in a fresh plaid wall paper—white with blue and red. This went all over the side walls and on the ceiling which sloped here and there since it was under the roof. About two feet up from the floor a moulding ran around the room. Above this went a wall paper border in red and blue on white and between this and the baseboard the space was painted blue. The plain and white panel and crib had the same wall paper

border outlining the panels. A clothes cupboard, painted white to match, also finished with wall paper borders. A studio couch cover of blue with white fringe, a little toy chest in red, starched white curtains, some blue rag rugs, and Jay's room was finished to a T. It looked as fresh as a daisy and had a clean crisp charm about it. And the beauty of it, to a busy lady, is that it would be no trouble at all to keep that way. And we liked Bruce's room, too. Bruce is eleven and has a tiny attic



This is Jay's room, and it is boyish with crisp, clean charm. Plaid wall paper with blue below, and a wall paper border between establishes the colour theme. Note how the wall paper border is used to decorate the crib.



Bruce's room is decorated according to his own taste, which runs to pictures of airplanes, locomotives and dogs. The radio was purchased with money he earned himself and the bedspread is a blue and white one.

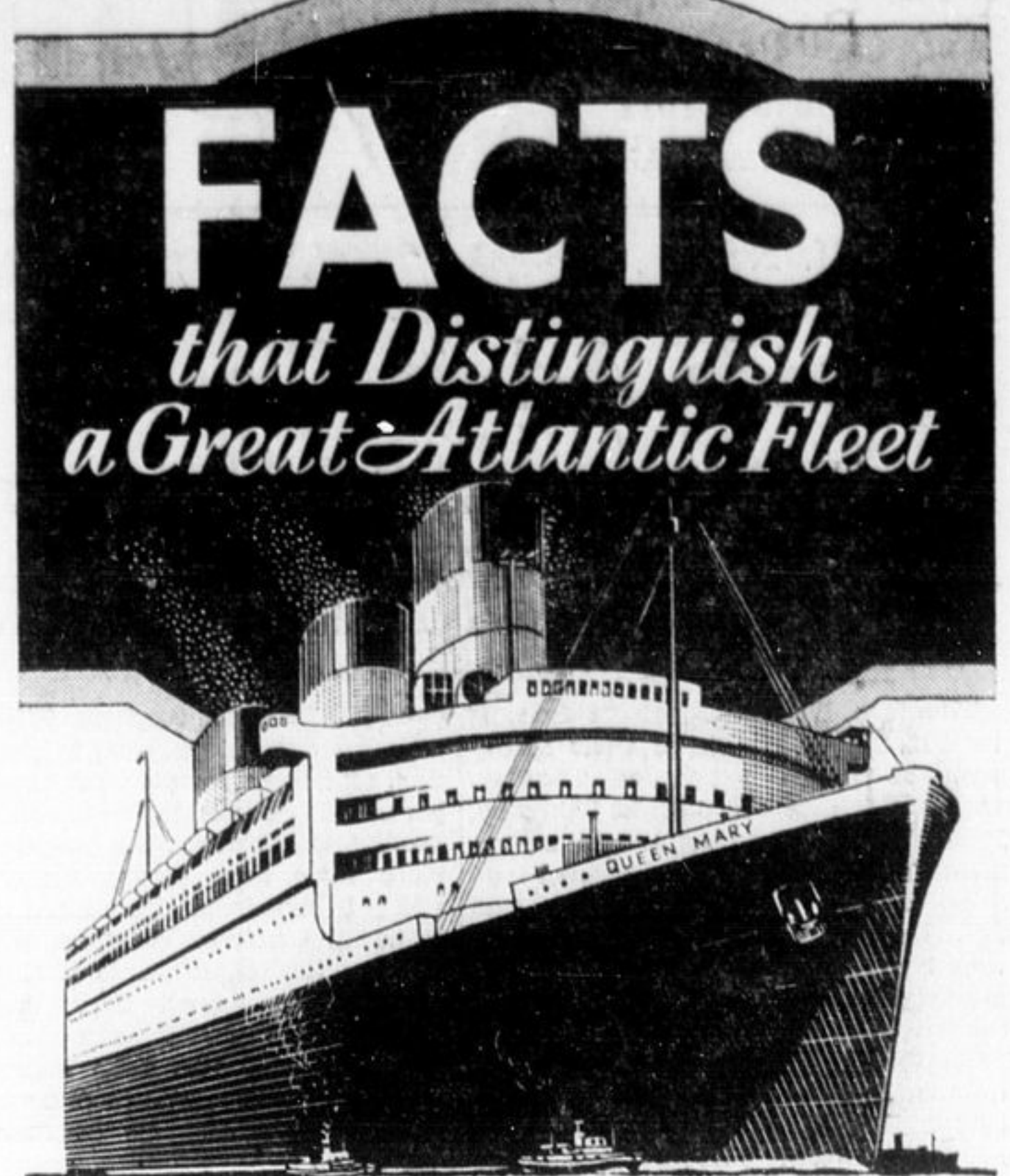
room to himself, just big enough for a single bed, a chest of drawers and a desk, all of maple. Beside his bed he placed a radio of his own (bought with money he earned selling vegetables he raised last summer) with some book shelves near by. A plaid woven coverlet in dark blue and white does beautifully for the bedspread, while the dresser scarf is a bright length of Scotch plaid... the Bruce plaid by the way. But the thing that really delighted us in Bruce's room was the wall decoration. He had covered the walls with pictures of his own choosing and they ran all the way from a large locomotive to an autograph picture of President Roosevelt. After all, it was his room so why shouldn't he have what he liked? And the very boyish haphazardness of the design made a pattern of its own. Needless to say, Bruce takes a lot of interest in keeping his room in nice order, thus saving his mother responsibility there. And the day we photographed it, he was so pleased he could not keep the grin off his face!

Kate has had a hand in the decorations of her room also. It is painted in pale pink enamel, quite a sweet little girl's shade. But a good washable enamel. The curtains are light blue and white checked gingham and so is the bedspread, so they can go right through the electric washer and ironer. The walls, being washable, are left to Katie's discretion. Usually they have large paper dolls pasted around them, though sometimes she draws crayon balloons or umbrellas or daisies there. And sometimes she gets a roll of wall paper with children's designs—the motifs she cuts out and pastes up to her own taste.

Poco's real name is Deidre, but she's much too snub nosed and freckle faced to live up to such an ethereal sounding title, so she's Poco which doesn't mean anything. But she's just the type to outgrow her Poco personality and turn into an exquisite Deidre after all. Her room looks like a combination day nursery and library. We counted nearly twenty dolls the day we were there, and the bed is placed in a bookcase frame, that holds dozens of the books selected by this ten year old. Poco's room itself has white walls with doors and woodwork painted a bright turquoise blue. The curtains and spread are white dotted swiss with accents of bright red, and the rug is a machine hook. Altogether it's a room that's very right for Poco at ten, and it's not a room that complicates her mother's housekeeping in the least.

In selecting furniture for a child's room, keep in mind, of course the fact that it should grow up with him. If you feel you must have real nursery furniture, then you can plan to paint it later, because with the exception of the crib the other pieces can be made to last a good many years. As a rule, the most practical way is to buy a separate crib, then a chest and whatever else you may have room for. Maple is our favourite wood for a child's room because it can take a lot of rough and tumble. Painted furniture is fresh looking and very pretty and our next preference, maybe because we're thinking of all the children's rooms that have to be fixed out of what furniture is on the place—that usually means a paint job. Oak, when you can get it in simple designs, is appropriate. Walnut and mahogany are all right if your child is respectful enough.

In buying floor covering for a child's room, simplicity of upkeep is the big point. We're partial to linoleum for this reason plus the fact that it's a very clean sanitary floor. For practicality and enduring usefulness, it's probably better to get a plain and pleasing colour that will fill an older decorative plan later. On the other hand you can have the linoleum inlaid with a nursery motif, or with a monogram if you are feeling plutocratic.



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How Long Does It Take to Stop an Automobile?

(Montreal Star)  
What distance does it take a motorist to stop a car going 40 miles an hour? Theoretically this is a comparatively simple question to answer, but police and others interested in safe highway travel state that a definite answer is out of the question.

It is, of course, a well-known fact that when braking conditions are 100 per cent. efficient, a car travelling at 20 miles an hour should be brought to a standstill in 13.4 feet; at 30 miles an hour, in 30.2 feet; and at 40 miles an hour, in 71 feet. Unfortunately, however, these figures do not allow for the human element that enters every time a motorist reaches for the brake pedal. It is this human element, known as "lag" or "reaction distance," that makes the exact answer impossible.

Many tests have been carried out in an effort definitely to establish the amount of "lag" required by the average driver. It has been found that many drivers take a second or more to apply their brakes after observing danger.

An experienced and alert driver takes action almost immediately, while the average good driver reacts in three-quarters of a second. In three-quarters of a second a car moving at 40 miles an hour travels 44 feet and at 60 miles an hour it travels 66 feet. This means that an average good driver, driving under 100 per cent. efficient conditions, will take approximately 105.8 feet to stop his car travelling at 40 miles an hour from the time danger is first observed.

Under the same conditions it will take him approximately 226 feet at 60 miles an hour. Even these figures are far from accurate, however, for they are based on a 100 per cent. efficient

THE CAT CAME BACK

(Powassan News)  
Wife: "Where can Harold be?"  
Her Friend: "Why?"  
Wife: "He's been trying for a week to lose his cat, and as a last resort he took her up in a plane this morning. He said he would take her up three thousand feet and drop her over the side."

Her Friend: "Well, what is there to worry about?"  
Wife: "Lots. Harold isn't home yet, and the cat is!"  
Globe and Mail:—It's a brave boy who will risk his life to save a dog, even if it is a Dalmation, which is good only in spots.



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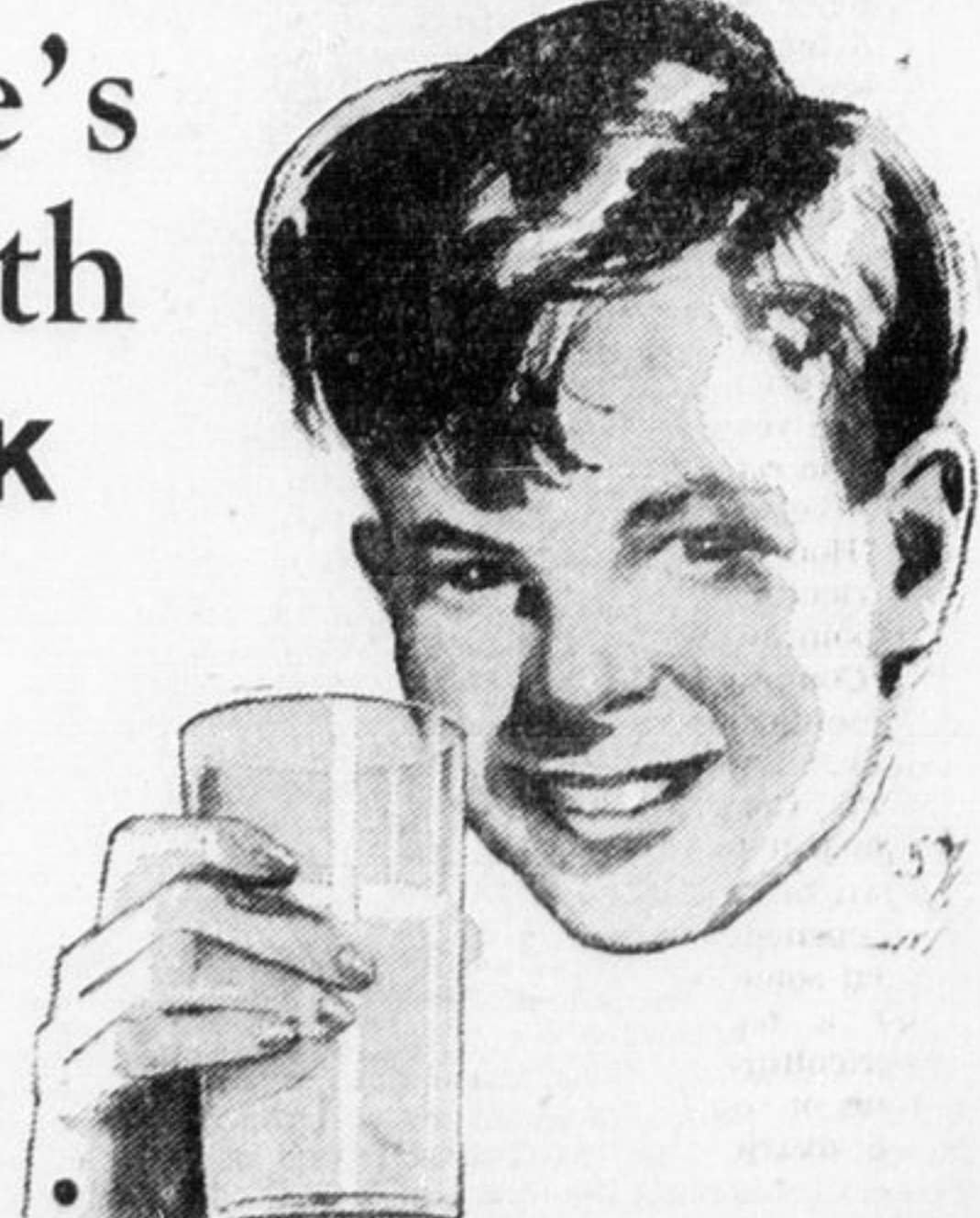
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New "G.M." Beacon Light at Melbourne for Aircraft

The new Australian plant of General Motors located at Fisherman's Bend on the River Yarra, in the vicinity of Melbourne, was recently opened with great ceremony. In the presence of over 1500 specially-invited guests, the Prime Minister of Australia, the Rt. Hon. J. S. Lyons, pressed a button which set the factory in motion. The central sprinkler tower of the administration building, which is beautifully floodlighted, supports a one-and-a-half million candle power beacon for aircraft and also a supplementary beam which continually flashes out the code signal "GM." This tower is visible sea and landward for over 50 miles and is intended as a lead for both ships and aircraft.

Ottawa Journal:—A fortune awaits the inventor of a lifeboat that will float on a sea of trouble.

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