

Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

Moral For Motorists

There is a bit of a moral for all motorists in the story of the Texan who wanted to inspect the scene of a fatal traffic accident the other day. A car had gone off the road on a mountain highway, killing its driver, so this Texan drove out to see, and got so interested looking at things that he lost control of his own machine—and it, too, went off the road and down into a ravine, killing the driver. The moral, of course, is self-evident; never get so interested in the sights around you that you forget to watch where you are driving. But that is a fault fatally easy for a motorist to lapse into. All of us have been guilty of it at one time or another. Usually we come through it all right. But we might as well remember that it can be a horribly costly little error.

Other People's Opinions

It is not always easy to decide how much attention we should pay to other people's opinions. It is a difficult course to steer, sometimes, between a slavish bowing to the opinion of those around us and a wrong indifference to such opinion. There is a wholesome middle course to follow; not a middle-of-the-road policy which has no convictions, but a fearless combination of rightful indifference on the one hand and sane sensitiveness on the other.—Toronto Globe.

A Matter of Opinion

If you see a woman wearing something nowadays, and the last thing on earth it looks like is a woman's hat, you can bet your life it is a woman's hat.—Ottawa Journal.

Newspaper in Every Home

The extent to which newspapers are read in Canada has been illustrated in figures announced at the nineteenth annual meeting of the Association of Canadian Advertisers. It was announced that two and a quarter million copies of newspapers are sold every day in Canada. "This means," it was explained, "that every accessible family in the Dominion is receiving its daily paper."

This is an impressive showing, and indicates that even in these present very trying years people are loath to give up their daily paper. On this continent at least the daily newspaper is the most widely read of all publications. It is an indispensable part of virtually every family's daily life.—Kingsland Leader-Post.

Come Again!

A California newspaper says: "Canadian ports are frozen for a good portion of the winter and wheat cannot leave these ports." The more we see of a lack of general world information on the part of the United States people the more respect we have for our own educational system.—Halifax Herald.

Twice-Written Works

The death of the Detroit author, W. H. Lavinton Comfort, recalls the fact that he had to write his most successful book, "Routledge Rides Alone," twice. He labored at it for months while his family almost starved, and when on the way to the publishers, he lost the manuscripts and it was never found. He had no duplicate copy, and although physically exhausted, he set his teeth and wrote the book over again. Other authors have performed much greater feats. Thomas Carlyle, whose "French Revolution" is one of the most stupendous volumes ever penned, involving the assembling of an immense amount of historical data, also wrote it twice. He loaned the first copy to a friend, and it transpired some weeks later that a maid had seen the manuscript on the table, and not realizing what it was, had used the piece every morning to light the fire in the house. Carlyle wrote it all over again. "Lawrence of Arabia" is another who had the same experience. He wrote his famous book on the Arab campaign, numbering 200,000 words, and one day a thief stole the bag containing the complete manuscript at a railway station. So Lawrence re-wrote the whole opus.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Carbon Monoxide Dangers

A season of danger to motor car owners is on, that wherein garage doors and windows are closed against the cold and there is temptation to start the motor under such restricted ventilation. Peculiarly there are many motorists who know nothing of carbon-monoxide gas, and would be astounded to learn that the exhaust from the motor may contain one of the most deadly and quick-acting gases known.—Wexford-Port Colborne Tribune.

Australia Making Headway

It is spring time in Australia now, and the winter has been a sharp one. But the crops promise to be bountiful, and it is anticipated that the wool clip will be larger and better than for some years past. There has been an abundant rainfall, with correspondingly abundant feed. The relief provided by the land tax reduction has heartened the farmers, who are now looking for an upward trend in produce prices.—Montreal Daily Star.

THE EMPIRE

A Fair Deal for the Farmer

With the proper organization and security for the agricultural producers there is room for a million or more of the urban unemployed in the fields which they or their near relatives but recently quitted. But proper organization and effective security are vital, and both these will be fruitless unless the producer is assured of a fair deal.—London Daily Telegraph.

Retrenchment in the Colonies

Whatever hardships the future holds in store for officers in Malaya they will follow on the heels of similar sacrifices which have been borne by officers in other administrations of the Colonial service for some time past. Moreover, this Colony is one of those where an income tax does not operate and, so far as we are permitted to know official intentions, is not contemplated. The fact may help Government officials here to face future financial sacrifices with rather greater equanimity than might otherwise be the case. It is a hard life, but it might so easily be harder.—Singapore Free Press.

World Problems

The return of prosperity to Britain, and all other countries, depends first and foremost on the achievement of sane international agreements to relieve the burden and the increase of armaments, to remove the incubus of debts, to remedy the causes which have thrown the currencies of half the world into the melting pot, and to cut the bonds which strangle international trade.—Economist (London).

Quality and Quantity

The Americanization of industry in Europe has clearly not been a success. High tariff protection, rationalization, old-established societies of highly and mass-production are of no use to skilled people. They bore remarkable results in the United States because of its vast internal market, its undeveloped resources, its continuous supply of cheap immigrant labour, its self-sufficiency in raw materials. Even in the United States the limit of the benefits to be obtained from rationalization and mass-production seems to have been reached, and indeed overpassed. There never were any benefits for Europe in turning from craftsmanship to mass-production; and to craftsmanship Europe should return.—Prof. R. B. Mowat in "The Contemporary Review" (London).

AMERICAN

The League and Japan

The League of Nations is in a rather tight place. It can by no means afford to order the Japanese to withdraw their control from Manchuria, for the Japanese would simply refuse and the League would have no means of enforcing its order. No nation or group of nations is ready to go to war with Japan over Manchuria at this time. No nation is willing to break off diplomatic relations with Japan. Even the aggrieved Chinese have not done so.—Philadelphia Ledger.

French Plow Horse Leads To Interesting Discovery

Chalons-sur-Marne, France.—A neolithic tribal tomb has just been discovered at Villeneuve-Saint-Victres, where the soil caved in under the hoofs of a plow horse, leaving a hole about a foot wide. The farmer went on unheeding, but some passing hunters looked in the hole and saw human skeletons. M. Roland, a Villeneuve archaeologist, informed of the discovery, brought to light a burial place sloping down to a flat stone. When this was lifted, an underground chamber was found in which were several skeletons on the ground and against the wall heads of men, women or children. Six of the room. There were twenty-eight flint-headed arrows, three flint knives, three sandstone knives and an axe-head were also found.

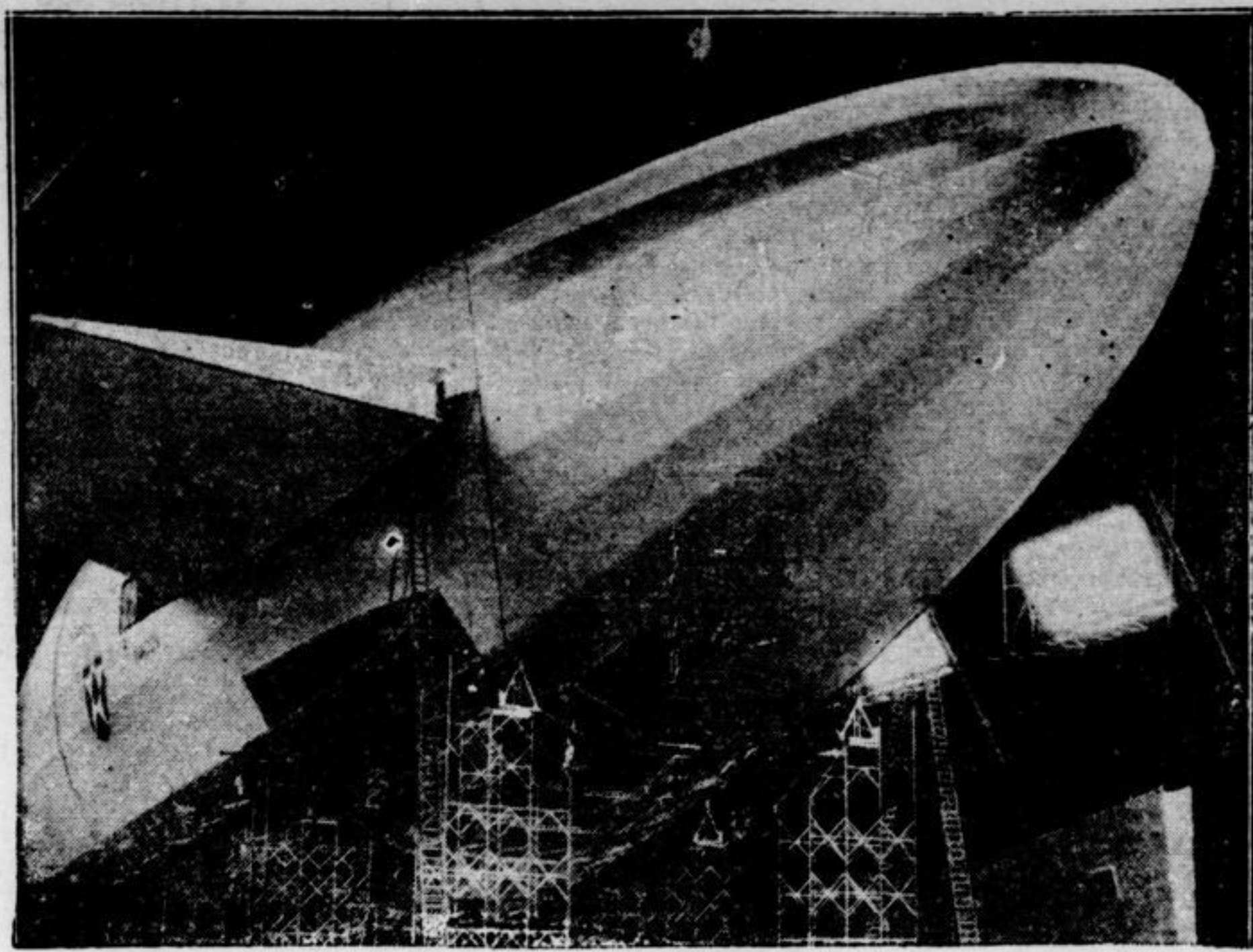
Mexican Gold Supply Consumed Chiefly in U. S. and Britain

Mexico City.—Gold production in 1922 totaled 7,539 kilograms, of which Mexico during the first five months of only ninety-six kilograms were consumed in this country, the rest being exported. During the same period, Mexico produced 910,899 kilograms of silver, of which only 199,079 kilograms were consumed in Mexico, the rest being exported. The figures also reveal that the United States and Great Britain are the principal consumers of gold. Silver went in largest quantities to those two countries and to India, China, France and Germany.

Smokers' Eyes Better At Seeing Red Lights

Los Angeles.—Tobacco smoking, it has been shown in experiments conducted at the University of Southern California, tends to increase the sensitivity of eyes to red and green colors. This sensitivity, experimenters point out, may be a good or poor accident risk for insurance.

Huge Airship To Make Debut in Spring



The new air giant Macon is beginning to take shape and in the spring will be ready to accompany her sister ship the Akron. Fins are being put in place now.

Insurance Officers to Spend \$75,000 in Publications

Toronto.—For the third consecutive year in its record 12 years of progress, the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association voted to expend \$75,000 in Canadian publications during the forthcoming year. A series of advertisements, expounding the principles of life insurance as protection for dependents and for old age income, will appear in 73 English and French newspapers and 18 English and French farm publications from coast to coast in Canada.

In 1931, in the face of the financial situation, the association's members voted to more than double its advertising outlay feeling that the necessity of acquiring life insurance and retaining existing policies should be stressed during periods of reduced income. The following year it repeated its decision, voting \$75,000 again. This year it voted to maintain the standard set two years ago.

For 12 years the association has been widening its active sphere until in the past two years it has attained a record, it is stated, unequalled on the North American continent in cooperative institutional advertising.

Finds Monoxide Gas Can Act in a Minute

Albany.—Numerous deaths recently from carbon monoxide gas poisoning, have led B. R. Richards, director of State Public Health Education, to issue a warning to the public. The State Labor Department is distributing a pamphlet containing instructions for avoiding the gas that comes not only from automobiles but from indoor gas heaters and similar burners.

"Just to see how it works, I tried an experiment," he said. Leaving my son to watch outside our garage, waiting for a signal from me, I closed the garage doors and started the motor of my car. This, mind you, was in a three-car garage. "In just a minute I felt a sort of metallic taste in my mouth. Then I got dizzy and drowsy. I rushed to the door just as my son, realizing what had happened, threw it open."

Children's Ails Psychic

"Fifty per cent. of the disturbances of children are psychic rather than physical," states a prominent children's specialist. He adds that he can determine whether he can be of assistance to the child by the behavior of the mother when he walks into the sick room.

Ancient Chinese Wall Offered for Sale

Shanghai.—The Mayor of the City of Mehsien, in Kwangtung Province, has hit upon the ingenious plan of selling the city wall in ten-foot lengths and using the proceeds to erect modern fortifications to protect the city from the attacks of Communists or bandits. Several years ago the city walls began to disintegrate when bricks were removed to provide culverts for new bus roads. Then, in 1929, came two attacks by Communists and the battlements were hastily repaired.

Recently there has been agitation in favor of tearing down the wall to make room for shops. The Mayor finally decided to divide the wall into ten-foot lengths, each selling for a little more than \$100. Each buyer is responsible for tearing down his portion of the wall and he may retain the bricks as building material for the construction of his shop.

Half of the wall has been thus disposed of at a total return of about \$60,000. This money is being expended on the building of fifteen two-story towers commanding all of the roads entering Mehsien. Ten of these towers have already been completed, the towers being of reinforced concrete. Mehsien is an important center for the distribution of goods to the interior of Kwangtung Province.

New State Pictured of Canada's Future

Toronto.—A bright picture of Canada in the future was painted by Reginald H. Dean for the St. Lambert Women's Club at its recent meeting here. Mr. Dean visualized a new world where the "God standard" and the gold standard would prevail, and the teachings of the Great Master of nineteen hundred years ago would find a definite place. Problems would be faced from a different angle than that of ten years ago; a greater individual responsibility would be apparent. The speaker pointed to the great resources of Canada and its stable institutions. He noted that banking institutions had stood the test of the critical times.

France Builds Big Locomotive

Rouen, France.—The state railroad shops here are putting the finishing touches on a locomotive represented to be the most powerful in the world. It develops 2,500 horse power, makes seventy-five miles an hour and has an automatic stoker.



Santa Claus has indeed gone modern. He landed his new plane in San Francisco, last week, to enquire of Jack and Jill what their wishes were. In addition he took 'em for a ride.

Wheat Shipments To Grow Stronger

Likely to Increase During December—Slow Up First of New Year

Ottawa.—With Russia out of the Empire market, Canadian wheat sales to Great Britain during October were 11,204,000 bushels, or nearly four times what they were a year ago, according to official figures reaching here from Liverpool. This Canadian sale of 11,204,000 bushels represented 67 per cent. of all the wheat bought by the United Kingdom during the month. It made a striking comparison to the figures for October, 1931, when Canada sold to Britain only 3,070,000 bushels, or 12 per cent. of the total British purchases.

Grain authorities here have every expectation that the volume of Canadian sales to Great Britain will remain at their present high level until the end of the year. After that they fear that the currency situation, the disparity between the pound and the dollar, may work to Canada's disadvantage.

Russia, of course, is selling little or no wheat to Britain or any other country this fall. Information is meagre, but most authorities are of the opinion that the granaries of the Soviet steppe hold scarcely enough grain to supply the food-rationed Russians themselves. The Danubian countries, too, are practically out of the export market, crop failures having greatly reduced their production.

Canada Unchallenged

Thus Canada at the moment stands unchallenged in the British market, because the United States, the only other competitor of size at this season, has not yet got its prices down to an export basis. As British stocks, according to the latest figures, are at an unprecedentedly low ebb, it is considered here that Britain will be buying at the rate of 20 million bushels a month during November and December. Canada should sell the bulk of this wheat, it is declared.

January, however, is normally the month in which the Argentine and Australia begin shipping out their crops. In these countries, harvesting is just starting now. It is when these two great producers, both of which have currencies depreciated as low or lower than the pound sterling, that Canadian wheat exporters may feel the pinch of their relatively high-priced dollar, grain men say.

As expressed in terms of dollars, the price of Canadian wheat would have to come down in order to meet this Australian-Argentine competition. The wheat preference accorded by the Canada-United Kingdom trade agreement applies equally to Australia, so that Canada would find no protection there. Moreover it is probable that currency values notwithstanding, the Argentine wheat would be regarded in England as setting a world price lower than Canada's price and consequently under the terms of the trade agreement Canada would not qualify for the preference.

Libraries for the Congo

Brussels.—There is a movement on foot to provide the larger cities in the Congo with libraries. The project was planned long ago, but in many cases has not been put into execution. Bad times are reminding those in authority of the necessity of providing the white population with books of reference of first necessity in a colony and with recent works on Central African colonization and research work. The colonial reference library and museum in Brussels will probably serve as a model for these Congo libraries. As always in Belgium, pictures and diagrams serve better than books. More value is attached, for instance, to specimens of cotton or copper from the Congo, than to works on minerals in general.

Poles Not Artistic

Paris.—The French do not consider telephone poles things of beauty. Within the past month, because of a decree passed by the French Government, 249 telephone poles have been removed from the vicinity of various historic monuments, ruins and picturesque landscapes.

Disappointed

As the result of an operation a thirteen-year-old boy, who was born blind, has just gained his sight at Adelaide, Australia, and his first remark was, "I often used to wonder what things could look like, but now I do, when I see them they are just about what I thought they would be."

1,530,890 Peiping Population Is Largest in History of City

Peiping, China.—Peiping, the ancient capital of China, has a population of 1,530,890, according to the latest figures. Of this number, 62,963 are foreigners, chiefly Japanese and Russians. Peiping now is more populous by 70,000 persons than it was even during the first year of the republic. This is accounted for by the large influx of refugees from Manchuria during the last year. In having attained its largest size in history, Peiping faces an acute housing problem which grows more serious as refugees continue to arrive from the disturbed areas to the northward.

Notable Large Monoplane Ordered by the Prince

The Prince of Wales has been well known as an enthusiastic private air plane owner for the past four years. Hitherto he has flown light machines. He has now ordered for his own use a twin-engine monoplane which will be one of the latest air line craft of comparable size yet built anywhere in the world. It is notable among British aircraft because it is constructed entirely of metal even to the coverings of the wings and tail unit. The restricted space available in small craft has meant that the Prince's attendants have had to travel in escort machines. The new Viasra craft, furnished specially to meet the Prince's wishes, will enable him to fly from place to place when he wishes with his luggage and staff in the same machine. Similar planes operate the air mail service in Australia between Perth and Adelaide; they hold the record for the fastest trip ever made over the 1,450 miles of the route, a journey accomplished with a full load of twelve passengers and much mail on board at an average speed of 115 m.p.h.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

"When I call at the house at Kilbarr for the rent the tenants generally throw me down the steps, and I have to keep a room on the ground floor to retreat into," testified a landlord in a Willesden, Eng. court recently.

Denmark Plans To Lure Tourists

Pleasure Garden Under Construction—Other Notes

Copenhagen.—A popular saying is that one can see Denmark in three days. But Danish authorities are planning ambitious development schemes for holiday resorts to attract foreign visitors for longer periods. An old fortress at Charlottenlund is being converted into a pleasure garden at a cost of 1,000,000 kroner, about \$170,000. The most surrounding new lease of fortress is taking on a new lease of usefulness as a swimming bath. There will also be a large beach and a children's playground. Rows of small summer cottages, to accommodate two or more people, are to be erected in favorable sea-bathing neighborhoods. The town council of Helsingors is to build vacation cabins on a proposed new beach near the castle of Kronborg. The sand for this beach will be pumped from the bed of the sound, as at Belle-Vue Strand, which was constructed two years ago. Dragor, near Copenhagen, is also spending 15,000 kroner in bringing its beaches up to date and in providing new attractions for holiday makers. These projects will also prove valuable in aiding jobless during the winter months.

ART FOR SHOP WINDOWS.

Window dressing has become an especially live issue with many shops in Copenhagen following the opening of a decoration school. Experts can now be engaged from the school to arrange window displays in stores; while pupils are being instructed in the practical and artistic side of the work. It is felt that Danish shop owners have much to learn from America in the art of displaying their goods to best advantage. There has been a tendency in the past to aim at putting a specimen of everything for sale in the window at once, instead of arranging a more artistic and less crowded display. Attention is also being paid to the construction of attractive panels to replace perishable articles. The florists have also opened a school for the teaching of flower arrangement, in connection with the Danish Flower Merchant Union, where pupils attend ten-week courses. Lessons in the arrangement of bouquets for various purposes, table decorations, and exhibition arrangements are included in the course.

ART YIELDS TO UTILITY.

Having two strings to its bow, the Royal Porcelain Factory of Copenhagen has kept its tall chimneys smoking through the economic depression. The factory found itself with a large stock of its beautiful porcelain on hand, but it was not too proud to take a temporary step down and start manufacturing sanitary fittings and a popular line in inexpensive glass crockery. Some 500 employees are now busily producing "fro" porcelain articles, which are remarkably strong and in consequence are popular with ocean liners and caissons. There is also a brisk demand for unbreakable stone for decorative building. The factory has no intention of ceasing to manufacture its famous Copenhagen porcelain, but is waiting for better times.

FRUIT SALES BY AUCTION.

Denmark is following Holland's example of selling fruit and vegetables by auction. At Deden, Aarhus and Esbjerg, auction halls are already being used for the sale of home-grown products. Copenhagen is to have a Fruit Hall near the railway station fitted with cold and warm storage rooms, and packing machines. An auction clock will be installed, which will enable buyers to record their bids by pressing electric buttons, the figures appearing on the clock. All fruit will be standardized, as that, as in the case of graded milk and eggs, even the cottage grower will have an opportunity of competing with the market gardener.

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Paris is

Paris is the result of the awakened by the Exhibition colonial office leans heavily upon aspect. While windows of with a dust goods, assembly display, this ferment. The transformed a fully furnished colonial world habits and the various tries are on the windows—Monitor.