

CANADA
THE EMPIRE

Voice of the Press

THE WORLD
AT LARGE

CANADA

BETTER TIMES.

The demand for automobiles in the west has shown a tremendous increase. That is a good indication of better times all over Canada.—Oshawa Times.

KILTS IN SCOTLAND.

But kilts are changing. Kilts are becoming quite a common sight in Edinburgh and other centres and larger sales of tartan goods than for many years past are reported. "The change," says the Stratford paper "is believed due to the popularity of hiking. Kilts are found to be ideal attire for walking and business men and office workers are taking the ancient garb of the country when out on recreation."—Sault Star.

OPTIMISM AMONG BUILDERS.

There is a growing opinion that it won't be long before the building trades have the biggest revival in many years, and by the circumstances of necessity alone, supply meeting the demand, it will be no flash in the pan.

Nothing can help the country more than to have construction well on the way. In this respect the projected program to come from Ottawa is being eagerly anticipated.

For the first time in four years, real estate men, builders and the trade in general have an optimistic outlook.—St. Catharines Standard.

SIGNS OF BETTER TIMES.

Ontario automobile sales are picking up in a remarkable way. Toronto reports that during the past seven months 3,500 families have voluntarily dropped off relief registers, while 2,640 families were stricken off. Car loadings have made an extraordinary recovery after a fortnight slump. The business barometer is the most promising it has been for some time.

"MENTALLY ILL."

There is decided merit in the proposal of the Hon. Dr. J. A. Faulkner, the provincial Minister of Health, that the word "insane" shall be deleted from Ontario's statutes wherever it may occur and be replaced by the phrase, "mentally ill and defective."

We have made much progress from that dim period in which individuals suffering from mental illness were considered to be in such a hopeless state that they were confined in virtual prisons and set apart from the world for the remainder of their days.—Brookville Recorder.

STEADY PROGRESS.

Steady progress is being made in Kingston toward the goal of one hundred per cent immunization of the children in the schools. While substantial additions have been made this year to the number immunized previously, however, there is still some way to go toward that objective. The indifference of parents appears as one of the chief obstacles to its attainment. Let them take to heart the lesson of the first death in Toronto from diphtheria in fifteen months.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

IT'S WHAT'S IN 'EM!

Our experience is that the public does not care very much who writes the editorials. The people who read newspaper comment upon the issues of the day judge of what is written, not of the writer. They are just as likely to disagree with as to approve what is written. Every editor knows that. It is not who the writer is, but what he says, that counts.—Hamilton Spectator.

WORD OF CAUTION.

If the people of Edmonton are wise they will limit new capital expenditures during the next five years to absolute essentials, even if a building boom or other industrial expansion brings a high level of prosperity to the citizens and the cities. It is always difficult to resist spending money freely in good times. Yet it is that spending that has to be paid for in lean as well as fat years.—Edmonton Journal.

A SCHOOL WITHOUT HOMEWORK.

In Texas an interesting experiment is being made to prove whether it is feasible to conduct a school without homework.

The new school day begins at 8.40 a.m., has three 70-minute class periods before lunch and two afterward, on the days ending at 4.20 p.m. With the lunch hour shortened the total elapsed time of the school day is lengthened 50 minutes. The claim is made that the pupils make quite as rapid progress as if required to do night work at home, and there is more uniformity.

Failures, it is said, have almost disappeared from the records. The children are studying contentedly, even happily, because they always understand thoroughly the assignments and know exactly what they are expected to learn. The dread and fear of home work at night is gone. Parents are relieved from the worry of getting the children to do the homework and frequently helping them.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

OUR NEW SONG BIRD.

Most of us only know this new bird, the starling, as a p.t. When seen alone or in pairs most people mistake them for blackbirds, and do not go to the trouble of perceiving that they are not purple grackles, being too small. They are similar in size to robins, but shorter, less stout of body, have smaller heads and longer bills and whiter.

Most of us never observe the starling until in the Autumn when these birds gather in their thousands and tens of thousands at eye, do marvelous convolutions in the air, twisting and turning, manoeuvring, nerving drills and quadrilles. Even the worst deeds of these birds seem to a watcher largely atoned for by the astonishing and gladsome air performances which they put on.

There is something else about this bird. It is a new song bird in Canada. At this time of year the starling is not a clan bird but an individual. A pair goes away and nests. And a starling, male or female, will sit in a tree and with no particular song of its own will imitate most of our native birds, the robins, the sparrow, even the song sparrow and the catbird.

The starling will sit in one place and imitate several birds in succession. At times it will sing and while doing so it will champ its beak as an accompaniment to its song. This bird does vaudeville. This bird is an artist and if you will stand and watch and listen to it, it will go on indefinitely, letting you hear what it can do. It appreciates your interest.

The starling only shows its art in the mating season, but, as a bird expert tells us, that is true of nearly all the birds.—Toronto Star.

LOOKS SUSPICIOUS.

Mr. Easterbrook, C.P.R. operator at Robindale, has a large black dog that is a fixture around his master's premises. Mr. Easterbrook this win-

A Pointed Problem



Miss Elizabeth Reller solves the problem of holding a porcupine by wearing thick leather gloves as she arrives from Europe. Animal is one of seven shipped from France for medical experiments.

ter brought home with him a police (German shepherd) puppy. The black dog never liked the pup and kept aloof from him. This spring however when the ice was breaking up on the river nearby the black dog enticed the pup down to the water and returned some time later without him. When Mr. Easterbrook went to look for his pup, he found him drowned. What happened is more conjecture, but the circumstantial evidence against the black dog is most damaging.—Trenton Courier-Advocate.

ETHEREAL ECCENTRICITY.

The receiving set evidently is not the only apparatus that catches sound from the air waves; a despatch asserts that when a baker at Courtenay, B.C., turned on his cakemixer, music came from the mixer and entertained him while he worked. Which suggests that he had currents as well as currants.—Border Cities Star.

THE EMPIRE

BRITISH NATIONAL PHYSIQUE.

If the physical condition of men offering themselves as recruits for the Regular Army were a fair test of the physique of the working classes as a whole, the statement made by Mr. Hacking would be highly reassuring. On the one hand the standard for acceptance had become higher—it was higher than would be required by any insurance company for a first-class life. On the other hand the number of rejects had gone down 60 per cent. in 1931 to 45 per cent. in the present year. But it should be remembered that, thanks to unemployment pay, there are fewer men of the class supplied so many recruits to the army; and also that a soldier's life is more attractive in itself and a better avenue of approach than it used to be to subordinate employment. But the percentage of rejections is still a more important fact than the recent improvement. The national standard is far too low.—The Spectator (London).

PUBLIC CONSCIENCE.

There is something wrong when crime takes place in frequented streets and eye-witnesses have nothing to tell about it. It is a natural impulse to avoid being "mixed up" in a sordid case, but it is none the less a social duty to support the law by assisting the police in every possible way. For we are all "mixed up" in the fate of ordered society, which requires every man's protection on every necessary occasion.—Glasgow Herald.

WHEAT WORRIES IN S. A.

The nerves of the whole (wheat) industry are justifiably on edge. The

situation prophesied by The Argus several years ago is now in sight. When the Minister shut out imports and told the farmers not to sell below 22s. 6d. a bag he created a farming Utopia which every farmer in the Union wanted to enter. We claim no particular credit for foreseeing that the result would be to drive wheat-farming to the same level as maize-growing by creating a surplus which, exported at a fearful loss, would drag down the net return to all growers. But the motto of all parties was "Sufficient unto the day".—To tide over one crisis the seeds were sown of another, much more serious one. And now the crop is about to be reaped. But if the outlook for the grower is gloomy, the outlook for the taxpayer is even less attractive. So far he has merely been requested to pay more than twice the price at which wheat could be imported. According to every precedent he will soon have to find export subsidies as well. Having created the surplus, the Government will be obliged to find ways and means of disposing of it, and its natural course is to do what it has done before and what other governments are doing. It is typical of the topsy-turvy state of affairs in the world that Australia, one of the great wheat-exporting countries of the world, is distributing £4,000,000 among its growers this year in the form of a bounty of 3d. a bushel, a payment of 3s. an acre and a half a million as special compensation for those who have sustained crop losses.—Cape Argus.

SOME FACTS ABOUT BRITISH RAILWAYS

Banffshire Journal
The acute competition offered to railways by road traffic has obliged the former to embark on a variety of forms of publicity and one little book in particular provides information on quite a number of subjects that are associated with the railway services.

We learn, for instance, that the railways form Britain's largest private undertaking, the capital invested in them amounting to the huge sum of £1,092 million. They are also the world's largest dock owners and the world's largest hotel owners. Britain's railways also have the world's highest authentic rail speeds by steam—102.3 m.p.h. by the Plymouth Ocean Mail Express, on 9th May, 1904, and 100 m.p.h. Flying Scotsman test train, on 30th November, 1934. Coming too late to be included in the book is the record of 108 m.p.h. reached a fortnight ago on the L.N.E. railway in course of an experimental run from Newcastle to King's Cross.

The world's fastest regular steam

train is the Cheltenham Flyer, with an average start-to-stop speed of 71.3 m.p.h. The world's longest non-stop runs are—Flying Scotsman, King's Cross and Edinburgh, 392 1/4 miles, during Summer, and the Royal Scot, Carlisle to Euston, 299 miles, all the year round. The world's largest suburban electric train service is that of the Southern Railway; the world's largest covered goods station is at Temple Meads, Bristol; and the world's largest group of sorting sidings is at Whitmore in Cambridgeshire.

Great Britain's largest passenger station is Waterloo (24 1/2 acres); Britain's longest station platform is at Manchester (2,194 feet); and Britain's longest tunnel is the Severn (four miles, 628 yards).

There are 31 British expresses daily scheduled for part of their journeys at start-to-stop speeds of 60 m.p.h. or over, and 53 at 58 m.p.h. or over. Of the 60 m.p.h. trains the G.W.R. have 16, the L.M.S. eight, and the L.N.E.R. seven. There are 570 express freight trains which run daily and nightly between great centres such as London, Glasgow, Newcastle, Manchester, Liverpool, Exeter, Plymouth, Cardiff, &c.

Every day the railways bring milk from Salisbury to London (82 miles) for less than a farthing a pint, and prime Scotch beef from Aberdeen to London (532 miles) for less than a halfpenny a pound; eggs from Bristol to London (117 miles) for less than a halfpenny a dozen; and flour from Cardiff to Leicester for one-eighth of a penny a pound.

Fourpence-halfpenny per week would more than pay for the transport of the average household's bacon, milk, tea and coffee, from a point 100 miles away. In the year 1934, every £ of revenue paid 10s. 11d for salaries and wages, 3s. 11d for materials, 10d for rates, taxes and insurance, and 8d for sundry items, leaving 3s. 8d available for interest and dividends. Annual purchases by British railways include these:

Coal	(tons)	13,900,000
Timber	(cub. ft.)	12,800,000
Ballast	(cub. yds.)	1,481,000
Rails	(tons)	195,000
Number of sleepers		4,635,000
Number of bricks		14,160,000
Paint and varnish (tons)		6,000
Cloth for uniforms, yds.		2,600,000

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED IN TURKEY

Woman's Suffrage Alliance Meets In Old-Time Harem

Istanbul, Turkey.—Women from 42 countries convened here recently in what was once the world's largest harem, to demand equal recognition of their equality with men. They were delegates to the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, meeting in 12th annual congress.

Turkey, the most recent country to open its doors to women suffrage, permitted the women to gather in the luxurious palace home of the Ottoman sultan's wives, always kept under lock and key.

Turkish women, triumphant over their newly-won freedom, acted as hosts. A number of their recently-elected women deputies in the Turkish National Assembly addressed the conference.

The British contingent included Lady Astor, American-born member of Parliament. The conference aimed to attain equal voting rights and equal status legally, socially and in business, for women throughout the world.

There is now only one silent picture house in the British Isles, in Manchester.

Woman Ordained Minister In England

In view of the vote being taken in the presbyteries of the United Church of Canada regarding the ordination of women to the ministry, it is interesting to note that Miss Edna Victoria Rowlington, a former teacher who graduated with a B.A. honors degree at London University was ordained recently at the Cowper Congregational Church, East Dereham, Eng.

She is the only woman minister in Norfolk and one of 17 in the Congregational Union. She became pastor of the large church which is a memorial to William Cowper, the poet, when she received an invitation after preaching there as a supply teacher.

Dr. A. E. Garvie, an ex-president of the Congregational Union and a noted theologian, in an address after Miss Rowlington's ordination, declared: "Read the Bible, but read your newspaper also and know where you are. It is no use denouncing the sins of the eighth century B.C. because the prophet of those times condemned them."

Declares War Is Impossible

Paris.—War for the present is impossible, said David Lloyd George, Britain's war-time Premier, in a signed article appearing recently in the French weekly Volla.

Lloyd George declared Germany was no match for any of her big neighbors.

"Certain politicians have been trying to sow panic," he said, "by declaring that France has only 350,000 men to oppose Germany's incalculable horde of Nazis."

"Truth is different, for France in case of war can put into the field an army of 1,500,000 men. Behind that army is a reserve of 2,000,000 men who can be sent immediately to the front.

"Moreover, France has the strongest artillery in the world. Nobody can rival her tanks, excepting perhaps Russia."

He declared France always had hidden her "gigantic reserve" and that other nations also had preserved silence.

"Hitler," he wrote, "is well aware of that. In the course of his conversations in Berlin he appears to have revealed their existence to a stupefied and probably incredulous Simon."

Women Not Better Jurors Than Men But Just As Good

If any one had any remaining doubts of the soundness of having women serve as jurors, the good, calm sense with which Miss Doris Byrne supported her bill in the New York Assembly ought to end them, says the Herald-Tribune editorially.

The Bronx made no extravagant claims for the bill. Women were not by nature better jurors than men. But they were as good," the paper says, "and it was possible to secure women jurors by reason of their reader availability of service. Such was her argument, and such has been the experience wherever women have been used."

"Miss Byrne urged her bill not as granting a privilege to women but as imposing a duty. This is beyond question the fundamental reason for the change. When women secured the ballot and entered upon an active public service as citizens they made entrance into the field of jury service right and inevitable. The state, in truth, needs their service in this vital and often evaded field of public duty."

Carrot seed is so small that it takes 257,000 to weigh one pound.

Weaving Instructor Suggests Revival Of Lost Industry

Charlottetown.—How Prince Edward Island and the Maritime Provinces generally might benefit by the revival of a lost industry—weaving—was unfolded here recently by Miss Ruth Miller, instructor at the Mount Allison University studios where six looms are humming these days making maritime cloth from maritime wool.

And the Mount Allison studio workers have a discovery that is of special interest to islanders. Out of her trunks filled with tweeds, women's sport clothes and suit lengths, which Miss Miller is placing on display in Charlottetown, she pulled out a yard long piece of material made from the combings of fox fur. It had a silkiness and fluffiness; resembling angora and provided a further suggestion of how, by revival of the home loom in maritime rural districts, a profitable industry might be developed and by-products of the farm and fox ranch be utilized.

In the early days of Prince Edward Island looms were busy and the skilled hands of the women were at work producing cloth, blankets and other fabrics woven from island wool. Woolen mills at Charlottetown and Tryon have long since gone out of operation.

Stretch Your Mouth For Beauty's Sake

New Orleans.—Milady was advised recently by Dr. J. Howard Crum, New York plastic surgeon, to stretch her mouth.

"Stretch your mouth 50 times a day," said he, "if you want to keep it beautiful."

"Some women are afraid to smile because they think it will cause wrinkles. That is ridiculous. "Stretching exercises should be given in conjunction with facial massages. Everything should be done to help retain the elasticity of the skin."

Dr. Crum gave his advice in an address before the American Cosmetics Association.

Mrs. Wilfred Fayant, of Philadelphia, national president of the organization, said that Milady, to be beautiful in 1935, must:

- Shun platinum tresses for golden locks.
- Substitute peach glow tints for dark powders.
- Avoid severe types of make-up. Forget about sun-tanning. Pursue a "feminine" trend.
- "It's all in keeping with the feminine trend," she said. "The new trend that calls for floppy-brimmed hats and ruffy dresses. There is a demand for more natural style in beauty with curly hair and a peach and cream complexion favored."

A Daily Madness

H. V. O'Brien in Chicago Daily News
At five minutes past shave, a man spends four days out of his year perverting nature what nature stubbornly resists. It is proof, if any were needed, that man is not a reasoning animal. If he were, he would not follow this daily madness with the still greater madness of modern dress. He would not remove his own fur and then cover himself with that of the sheep. Certainly he would not put a collar on his neck and pull it tight.

And then, I am sure, he would not run from a hasty breakfast to catch a train for a distant city, there to spend his day selling things to people who had run from hasty breakfasts to catch trains for distant cities.

Life is ridiculous. And it is small wonder that we cannot understand such probably simple things as money. It is only by accident that we do anything sensible, and when we try to think we succeed only in discovering that we can't think. We are creatures of habit, guided by the rare flares of intuition that we mistake for thought.

And here I am at the end of my space—the vitally important topic of razor blade disposal still untouched.

Middle-Aged Women Are Best "Sports"

St. Louis.—Jobless middle-aged women—not men—are the real heroes of the depression.

That's the conclusion of Miss Betty Inman, assistant manager of the Missouri State free employment service, who has found the unemployed middle-aged woman faces misfortune more stoically than do men the same age.

The ten best "depression beaters" here in 1934, listed by Miss Inman from 249,487 job applicants, all were women approaching middle age. Most of them were without special training or previous working experience before the depression—"the very age and type of person hardest to find employment for at any time."

"Women are more philosophical," Miss Inman said. "Our list includes a former society woman. When her money vanished, she cheerfully gave up her teas and bridge parties, took a saleswoman's job, and works at it like a good fellow."

Building Has Reached

The building trade vicinity has reached over existing stimulus furnished Government in the large addition Building on Front of the issue of Building Commission is reassuring. For March, according to the permit value those for the first quarter of 1934, as compared with 1933, is \$322,662 for the month of March, as compared with \$191,157 for the same month of 1934. In 1934, as compared with 1933, the value of new construction is reported to be \$218,575 more than in 1933. The outlook is bright.

Intense interest in commendations made by the Gannett-Harris plan for a public treasury led matched by \$200,000 sources to finance a building scheme. The \$250,000,000 on such a far to galvanize trade into new life. Many industries engaged in production of building would do more to the ment.—Toronto Mail

MATERNITY CHEER

Prolactin Used to Motherly
The motherly instinct that can be soon put corner drug stores, compounded pills, a casual injection, the hardest-hearted woman children and gather next-door neighbor who chemical that performs prolactin, about W. Riddle of the Carnegie Washington, has been much of recent year scientific publications.

Prolactin is a hormone tract of the anterior pituitary body which base of the brain. It is injected into very doves with astonishingly nested, brooded as themselves like actual dead, were ready to be administered to man. Many started the brood and caused them to already prolactin is physicians who spare of babies and mothers.

Physiological Society summarized the resultant laboratory studies of prolactin. Ernest L. Lahr and Rats prove to be just animals for experiment. The mother's instinct is young. The effect is twenty-four to forty after the first injection.

Germany has the highest rate—over ten per the population—in Europe. Poland with 8.3, Holland with 7.6, England with 6.5.

"NAUGHTY MARIETTA"



The Governor's palace in New Orleans is brilliantly ablaze for the ball in honor of the French Princess Marie who has escaped from her aged sister Don Carlos and her cruel uncle, the Prince, only to be found again. Tears spring to her eyes for when she sails she will be leaving Warrington, her lover, forever. But in response to the assembled throng she mounts the grand staircase and sings her song, "Ah Sweet Mystery of Life." Her breath catches as she sees Warrington at the door for she knows there is a price on his head. But as her glorious voice goes bravely on, ringing to the roof, Warrington's magnificent baritone joins her. Together they sing out their love. But at the last note Warrington disappears, the men after him in pursuit.



In her room Marie is overcome by despair when suddenly she sees Warrington at the balcony window. He says he has come to take her away. Half-lauding and crying, she descends the balcony trellis with him while the Prince and Don Carlos pound angrily on her door. But on the grounds the sloping lovers are stopped by some French soldiers who quickly surround them.



For a moment Marie is terrified, then joy surges over her as she sees that the "soldiers" are Warrington's men in disguise, come to lead them safely away. And as the men's voices rise in the "Tramp, tramp, tramp" of their marching song, Marie and Warrington, secure in their happiness, move at the head of the band, across the vast wilderness and into the Golden West.

Victor Herbert