

# Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

**CANADA.**  
Phases of life. There are two phases of life unfavorable to peace and comfort; the one is adversity, the other prosperity. It is hard to tell which a man is more discontented with himself and more offensive to others. When prosperous he patronizes; when trouble falls upon him he whines and is a hostile boot. When he is down his friends wish him up on their own account; when he is high up they sigh for mountains to fall on him and bury him out of sight.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

**Speaking of Poker.**  
Authorities differ as to whether a poker room should be classed as an anteroom or a drawing-room.—Ottawa Journal.

Stud poker, of course, would be played in a study.—Toronto Star.  
And strip poker should be played in a bedroom.—Chatham News.  
And when the house is short of chips, the boys should adjourn to the woodshed.—St. Catharines Standard.

**Himself to Blame.**  
When a man commits a crime and his name comes out in the paper, he hasn't the newspaper to blame, but himself. He should take the note of the publicity of it before he indulges in the misdemeanor.—Regina Leader-Post.

**Old Gas Mains.**  
A Londoner writes about having found that city with gas since the year 1856. Brockville can boast that since 1853 gas has been sent through the mains of this community.—Brockville Recorder.

**Two Ways of Looking at It.**  
Pessimists will say that 18.7 per cent. of Fort Erie population is getting direct relief from the public treasury. Optimists will point out that, despite hard times, 81.3 per cent. of Fort Erie's population is managing to pay its way.—Fort Erie Times-Review.

**The Home First.**  
Homes, school and church all need to play their parts in the difficult task of rearing decent citizens, and of these the home has the earliest and most constant opportunity. It is a serious duty imposed on parents, and it needs to be faced seriously with a constant recollection of the fact that on home influences depends the character of the child who will eventually face a world full of difficulties and temptations.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

**Self-Reliance.**  
Under the heading "More of This Needed," the Nugget of North Bay tells a fine story of Canadian self-reliance. In that city is a modest little restaurant run by a mother and her two daughters, both of whom are going to school. The father is a prospector, but he has not struck recently. The mother is a good cook and proud of it. So she started the restaurant before starting to school. At the noon hour they wait on the dinner table. Again after school they help mother. In the evening they wait on their school work for next day. The mother is happy because she is giving her children education.

**Compulsory Poverty.**  
Mrs. Latta's recent spirited protest at Johannesburg against the exclusion of married women from the civil service gained greatly from her sensible attitude on the kindred question of competition between men and women. . . . When married women are employed, they are not employed for fun, but because they have special qualifications. The few exceptions are merely to bring the foot up sharply and kick him just under the chin.—Border Cities Star.

**That Innate Urge.**  
Everyone probably has surmised a pet longing to perform some foolish action, like, for instance, sticking his finger into his neighbor's cup of tea at a well dinner to see if the tea is still warm.

The ideas vary from the insane to the freakish, but almost everyone is bothered from time to time with a desire to do something which would bring on him the shocked stares of bystanders.

One Lindsay man once told the writer that he discontinued sitting in the gallery of a local church because after the sermon had been going for five or ten minutes, he had a longing to run down the aisle, put a foot on the rail, and lean over into space in hopes of grabbing the big chandelier that swung from the ceiling. The desire to do this had seized him so often that he decided it was better to change his seat so that he would get some peace of mind and be able to listen to the sermon.—Lindsay Post.

**Millions in "Soft Drinks."**  
What are popularly known in Canada as "soft drinks," officially termed non-alcoholic carbonated beverages, are consumed in substantial quantities, as the recently issued report on the "Soft Drinkers" industry for 1922 declares.

**Warms the Blood.**  
"Singing warms the blood," declares a doctor in Scotland.

# Looking For a Fight

Britain to Fight Back at Aggressive Interests

London, England.—Declaring that Great Britain should "hit back and hit hard" at aggressive countries fighting her shipping, Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, declared a subsidy for tramp ships was being considered by the government.

Not only would it aid industry, he said, but it would be a defense measure in the event of war.

Mr. Runciman's statement followed that of Neville Chamberlain, chancellor of the exchequer, that an early merger of the Great Britain and White Star North Atlantic shipping lines is indicated.

When the merger is completed, Mr. Chamberlain asserted, he will present a program for facilitating completion of the huge Cunard liner 534, which would be the largest ship afloat.

Work on the 534 was suspended more than a year ago, but is government assistance is received it is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Mr. Runciman said the government was "taking into account disabilities under which British lines labor," referring to the United States ban on foreign coastwise shipping.

It appears to be, he continued, "a very unjust thing that the United States should regard a trip from New York to London as a coastwise voyage." But if we were to make anything like a replacer to that we must bear in mind that we have a large interest in foreign trade and would expose a very broad track for attack.

An opposition proposal for public ownership of shipping and shipbuilding was voted down by the House, 221 to 34.

Mr. Runciman said "the experience of the United States and Australia was sufficient to dispose of this idea to hand the merchant navy over to the government." He deplored what he described as the failure of other big countries to support British anti-subsidy policy.

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# May Assist Tramp Ships

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# Women Barred From Dinner

U.S. Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins, Only Cabinet Member Not Invited

Washington.—The gridiron was lit for boys, but Mr. Roosevelt is to entertain again for the ladies, including Labor Secretary Frances Perkins.

She issued invitations to her own officials, cabinet wives, wives and women of the press, but she barred from the semi-annual stag dinner of the club which the President will attend.

The gridiron is one of the latest preside clubs of the world, its members being strictly limited and its membership drawn only from the senior male journalists in Washington. It is considered an honor to be invited to these semi-annual functions.

On the last occasion, Mrs. Perkins, chatting with other White House guests, laughingly said the club might just as well have invited her, but she had graciously declined.

Only cabinet member ever to have been invited to the club was Mr. Perkins, who was invited to the club by the president's wife, Mrs. Roosevelt.

She was invited by Mrs. J. P. Morgan, who was the dinner of December 8, 1917. At the next meeting, on May 12, 1918, the club passed Mrs. Perkins to the women's club, the Gridiron Club.

Mr. Perkins said the government was "taking into account disabilities under which British lines labor," referring to the United States ban on foreign coastwise shipping.

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# Told in Brief

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So perfect has the system of watching home life in Gt. Britain that every 7,000 facts about the weather are at the disposal of forecasters. The attendance at the London races last week was 1,000,000. The attendance at the London races last week was 1,000,000.

There are 30,000 old dwellings in London, dark, damp, and beset by women and children. This statement is made by E. Friend, chairman of the London Trades Council.

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# From Overseas

Like Honest Vulgarities

London.—"I like honest vulgarities," said Mr. George Robert at a literary and social gathering in a West End restaurant.

To an audience of 500 he tried to make a serious speech on "Vulgarity," but the audience and his own eye "Robeque" at moments.

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