

the destruction of mankind." There is one thing certain, automobiles are the cause of mere profanity than all other vehicles put together to say nothing of the odours with which they charge the atmosphere. But these are days of novel and nerve-wrecking devices no matter under whose inspiration they may be invented.

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THE SAN FRANCISCO LABOUR UNIONS are blamed in a dispatch from San Francisco to the London "Times," for the friction between the United States and Japan. The correspondent regards the situation as most grave. Not only are the Japanese excluded from the public schools, but it is proposed that they shall be excluded from the street cars used by white people. The railways are being asked to provide separate cars for the Japs like the "Jim Crow" cars provided for negroes in the Southern States. Badly as labour is needed in San Francisco, a union leader, asked what would happen if a thousand Japs were set to work to clear away the debris, replied: "A thousand murders." The Japanese will not accept humiliation, insult or outrage as tamely as do the unfortunate negroes of the South, or as did the unfortunate Chinese in the early days of San Francisco. The United States Government will never permit the continuance of a system of persecution so offensive to a friendly, highly civilized, and great nation.

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THE YEARLY TRADE OF THE PRINCIPAL PORTS of the world, according to the London "Times" is as follows:

London...	£285,000,000
Liverpool...	277,500,000
Hamburg, (Including Coasting Trade)...	230,000,000
New York...	221,000,000
Marseilles...	186,000,000
Antwerp, (Including River and Canal Traffic)...	150,000,000
Calcutta...	59,000,000
Singapore...	43,000,000
Sydney...	38,000,000
Montreal...	33,913,267
Quebec...	2,740,928

The figures for London and Liverpool are exclusive of the coasting trade, and those for Montreal and Quebec (which are not taken from the "Times"), exclusive of the inland navigation traffic. The "Times" questions the possibility of London maintaining its supremacy as the greatest port of the world.

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THE ONTARIO BANK.—The shareholders of the Ontario Bank on Tuesday accepted the resignations of the old Board of Directors presented by Mr. George R. R. Cockburn, the retiring president, and elected the following as a new board: Messrs.

H. C. Hammond, E. R. Wood, Barlow Cumberland, C. S. Gzowski, jun., and George Reedy. Subsequently Mr. Hammond was elected president, and Mr. Wood, vice-president. Mr. Stavert, the curator, announced that the assets would exceed the liabilities by \$500,000, which would give the shareholders thirty cents on the dollar. This announcement confirms what was stated in these columns several weeks ago.

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LONGEVITY.—Sir Lauder Brunton writing in the "London Lancet," says: "There has been a continuous increase in the expectation of life, from a little under forty years in 1854, to a trifle less than forty-eight years in 1900." In connection with this subject a European statistician has published some curious and rather surprising figures with regard to the proportion of centenarians to population in a number of countries. In Germany, the proportion is one in 700,000; in Denmark, one in 1,250,000; in Belgium, one in 1,350,000; in Sweden, one in 600,000; in England, one in 260,000; in France, one in 190,000; in Norway and in Scotland, one in 100,000; in Spain, one in 405,000; in Roumania, one in 5,000; in Servia, one in 4,500; and in Bulgaria, one in 1,000. The extraordinary differences may be due to climatic causes, to the habits of the people, or perhaps to some extent to the imagination or imperfect information of the statistician.

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WINNIPEG'S NEW MAYOR.—Mr. James H. Ashdown, the millionaire hardware merchant, has been elected Mayor of Winnipeg, by a majority of 3,000 on a platform of financial retrenchment, combined with civic improvements in connection with street cleaning and water supply.

PERSONALS.

The many friends of Mr. G. H. Allen, manager of the Mutual Life of Canada for Province of Quebec, will be glad to learn that his health is considerably improved.

MR. J. FRAZER KEMPSON, "Insurance Times," New York, was in Montreal for a few days this week.

MR. C. H. NEELY, manager for Canada Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation was in the City this week. He reports a substantial increase in business throughout the Dominion for 1936. The Montreal branch is under the able and energetic management of Mr. Dale with Mr. Wetmore in charge of the claims department.

CANADIAN FIRE UNDERWRITER'S ASSOCIATION.—The usual quarterly meeting of the Canadian Fire Underwriter's Association was held in Montreal yesterday. A considerable amount of routine business received attention. The following Western managers, were present, Messrs. J. B. Laidlaw, A. Wright, T. D. Richardson, C. M. Kirkpatrick, and J. Root.