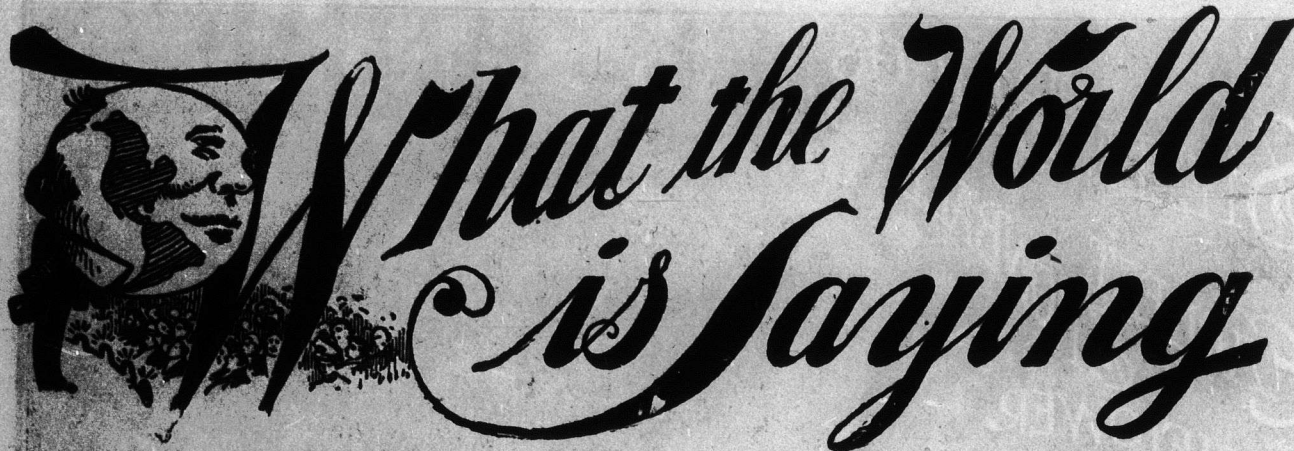




What the World is Saying

The Growing West.

When five hundred children walk out of a burning school in Dauphin, Manitoba, it shows that the centre of population and of political power is steadily moving westward.—Ottawa Free Press.

A National Paradox.

It is a curious fact that individuals in France are invariably endowed with considerable common sense, but collectively they lack it.—Le Journal, Paris.

You Can't Fight Nature.

Some people are asking "What can be done to prevent earthquakes?" One might as well ask "What can be done to prevent the sun from shining?" One can get in the shade, just as one can move away from areas subject to earthquakes.—Detroit News.

Crime in Paris.

Since January 1st many crimes have been committed near Paris, but, unfortunately, no one appears to care. A crime must be artistic, political or mysterious to arouse the interest of the Parisian.—Le Matin, Paris.

Fashion's Color Scheme in Paris.

It is not an easy matter to recollect all the new colors worn by Parisian ladies of today. The latest colors are "dead-rose," "biscuit," "elephant-grey," "billiard-green," and "afternoon-pink."—Le Cri de Paris.

A Project for a Barbers' Combine.

Fifty Toronto barbers want the Legislature to prevent any person "practising the profession"—that is, cutting hair and whiskers—unless he shall previously have obtained permission to do so from a barbers' combine duly recognized by the Legislature. By and by this will be a free country indeed!—Halifax Chronicle.

Unselfish Crusaders.

We Irish have got the name of being an adventurous people. You will hear the Irish accent in every continent. There is no speech or language where our voice is not heard. We have helped to civilize every country except our own.—Irish Homestead, Dublin.

Where China's School-books Come From.

The school-books in China are translations of manuals used in Japan, while military lore is taken from the German, and treatises on mathematics, physics, chemistry, and mechanics are reproduced from English or American works.—La Revue, Paris.

In One Generation.

When Mr. Ashdown, who has just retired from the office of Mayor of Winnipeg, walked into that place to begin business there were not nineteen hundred people in Fort Garry and suburbs. Now there are nineteen hundred commercial travelers who count Winnipeg as home. An instance like this shows how far Canada has traveled in the last generation.—The Banking Review.

Our Dominion's Mineral Wealth.

In twenty years the mineral production of Canada has gone up from \$10,000,000 to \$86,000,000. The increase is steady, widespread, and includes permanent development in the production of a wide range of minerals between coal and gold. The development of the Cobalt region has brought Canada up to the fourth place in the world's list of silver-producing countries. Germany has been passed in the race, and now this country is moving up rapidly upon Australia, which holds the third place. The second place is held by Mexico, and the first by the United States.—Monetary Times.

The Stooping Sort.

Two French scientists have found the remains of a man who about 170,000 years ago used to amble around on all fours in search of cocoanuts and things, because the joints in his back were curved. There are still some descendants of his around, and every now and again they voice their contempt for the man who has a straight backbone and who acts accordingly.—Montreal Herald.

Ignorance in Regard to Canada.

It is a pity that the Canadian Associated Press cannot find better subjects to cable over to Canada than the statement of Mr. Lloyd-George that it was "impossible to export to Canada for four months in the year." The emphasizing of such an exhibition of ignorance by a British statesman can do no good, especially when it is not a matter of news, for the statement was made weeks ago and was given an official denial by the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company as far back as January 2.—Hamilton Times.

Both are Doomed.

The bar-room and the treating system are doomed. They belong to a class of effete institutions and customs that will be forced out of existence by education, knowledge and the development of social determination to create conditions that will promote the general welfare. In this electoral action, the people have shown their practical sense, by not only expressing approval of the proposed reduction, but electing a council with an overwhelming majority pledged to obey the popular mandate.—Toronto Star.

Problems From the Earthquake.

The ruined Italian cities have a perplexing tangle before them if they are to rebuild. Families in great numbers owning houses were all killed. Who owns the wreckage? Real estate lines are shifted and twisted. In many cases right of property rests on the order of death of owners and heirs, a thing impossible to ascertain. The Italian parliament will have to enact special and temporary laws to fit the situation.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

The Western Demand for Pianos.

One result of the bumper crop in Western Canada has been an unprecedented demand for pianos, and more than one Winnipeg dealer has been sold out. No better indication could be given of the return of prosperity to the prairies and no better luxury could be provided for the farmhouses. Music in the home is the best preventive against melancholia—that is after the practical stage has been passed!—Kingston Whig.

Antique Laws in Australia.

It has been often said by those who have been in Australia that one of the curiosities of that country is the manner in which it has retained on its statutes laws which are obsolete elsewhere. New South Wales, for instance, has probably more capital offences than any other self-governing portion of the British Empire, and it also still sentences Sabbath-breakers to imprisonment in the stocks!—Victoria Colonist.

A Baby on the Throne.

Whether the divine right of kings and emperors to rule their fellow mortals is or is not acknowledged, the direction of a nation of 400,000,000 and more is no child's job. The hills of Chang, the hidden fastnesses of Shensi, the vale of the turbid flood of the Hoang-ho cry aloud for a ruler worthy of the land of Ghengis Khan, Confucius and Lao-Tse, who shall with a firm hand and a single mind mete out justice and leave the land no longer to be ruled by a sickly puppet of a ruler or by

An infant crying in the night,
An infant crying for the light,
And with no language but a cry.

—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Capital Punishment.

It was Napoleon who said that it would be time enough to abolish capital punishment when "Messieurs, the murderers," began to cease killing people. France has had a practical suspension of the death sentence for some years now but the murderers have not ceased their practices. Rather have murders been more frequent in France than ever before. It is not surprising, therefore, that the guillotine has been welcomed with a lively satisfaction by representatives of the French masses.—Glasgow Herald.

Women Voters.

Women are given a good deal of the credit, or blame, for the success of the license reduction in Toronto. According to Controller Hocken the women turned out well; but for the most part their interest did not go beyond the license by-law. They asked for the license reduction ballot, and that alone. "They wouldn't be bothered with the mayoralty, board of control or other ballots." This seems in accordance with the usual experience in this country. Except on special occasions it is difficult to get women interested in municipal politics. For that matter, it is often difficult enough to get the men interested.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Woman and Lady.

There are persons (finely organized, of course) who have a horror of the word woman. It is so vulgar, don't you know! Among people so unfortunate as to possess this super-sense has arisen the use of such expressions as sales-lady. Yet woman is the sweetest word in the language. Your mother, your wife, your sweetheart, your sister is a woman. Furthermore, there is the warrant of Scripture for the use of the word. In Genesis ii., 22, it is said that out of the rib taken from Adam was created a woman, not a lady.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Eastern Advice for the West.

The bountiful harvest in the West, and the increase of fifteen to twenty per cent. in the acreage to be put under crop in 1909, are sources of satisfaction. But the prairie farmer is warned that he neglects many avenues of economy and profit. He is not careful to use good seed; he does not use fertilizers to any reasonable extent, nor destroy noxious weeds with sufficient vigor, nor does he prepare for a proper rotation of crops; and it is regrettable that the higher branches of farming, such as dairying, the breeding of good cattle, horses, hogs and sheep, and the raising of poultry, are not more rapidly developed.—Montreal Gazette.

Great Britain is Holland's Friend.

Though foes at one time and rivals for domination of the seas, Great Britain and Holland have been good friends for many years, sentimental, commercial and political ties making it natural for British influence to be cast in Holland's favor when covetous continental neighbors have lusted after her. That Great Britain would protect Holland has been known for so long a time that it is not surprising now to read of a more formal understanding between the two powers giving unequivocal warning to those who may be unneighborly.—Boston Herald.

Humanity and Earthquakes.

Mankind are strangely inconsistent in the matter of running risks. There is no danger that annoys the imagination more than the danger of earthquake; and yet those parts of the world that are most subject to earthquakes seem never to have been therefore shunned by human beings. An earthquake is an "act of God," and men are clearly helpless against it. Like death, no one knows when it may come; but, unlike death, it may never come at all, and therefore men fear it less than death.—London Times.

Safest Traveling in the World.

The splendid security of the English railways has again been demonstrated by the official report issued on Monday. It is shown that only eighteen passengers were killed and 534 injured in the United Kingdom during the whole of last year. The steady improvement is shown by the fact that, on the average for the last thirty years, one passenger was killed in every 40,301,000 trips, whereas in 1907 one passenger was killed for every 70,000,000 trips. One passenger was injured for every 2,300,000 trips in 1907. Thus, when an Englishman enters a railway train at home there is only one chance in 70,000,000 that he will be killed, and one in 2,300,000 that he will be injured. During the year, however, 454 railway employees were killed and 5,813 injured.—London Daily Standard.