

Princess Margaret's Future

OF ALL the comments made upon the ordeal of Princess Margaret in rejecting marriage to Group Captain Townsend, few carry more sympathetic insight into the problem now facing her than those of Beverley Baxter.

Admitting his belief that Princess Margaret has been sacrificed to the interests of church discipline, Mr. Baxter, a Canadian-born writer whose London letters enjoy a wide reading in this country, remarks in his latest dispatch:

"I ask forgiveness, or at any rate understanding, from those who take the clerical view. If my feelings were merely my own they would be unimportant, but you may not quite understand as we do, the unhappy life to which Princess Margaret is now condemned. If in public she is lively, the chattering tongues will say she is a woman without a heart. If she does not smile, they will say she lacks spirit. If she is seen twice in public with the same male escort, the tabloids will start another romance debacle. Where can she go? What can she do? There is one thing worse than lack of sympathy, and that is too much sympathy.

"It is known that there are some women who love only once. I have a haunting feeling that it may be true of Princess Margaret.

"This sensitive girl faces a bleak and barren future. And which among us is ennobled by such a spectacle? History has few stories so wistful, so poignant. Yet even as I write those cruel words I balance against them this one undoubted truth: she chose the path of sacrifice. Regardless of our conflicting points of view we can and must pay tribute to her for the selflessness and sense of dedication which inspired that sacrifice. Those poignant lines come back to me: 'Out of sorrow have the worlds been built and at the birth of a child or a star there is pain.'

"I wish I could feel that the loneliness and the tears of this woman, this royal princess, were necessary for the good of humanity."

Press And Paper

A SERIES of articles on the editorial page of the Trail Times written by Fraser Robertson, financial editor of the Toronto Telegram, show that the Canadian pulp and paper industry is enjoying a record-breaking year of profits.

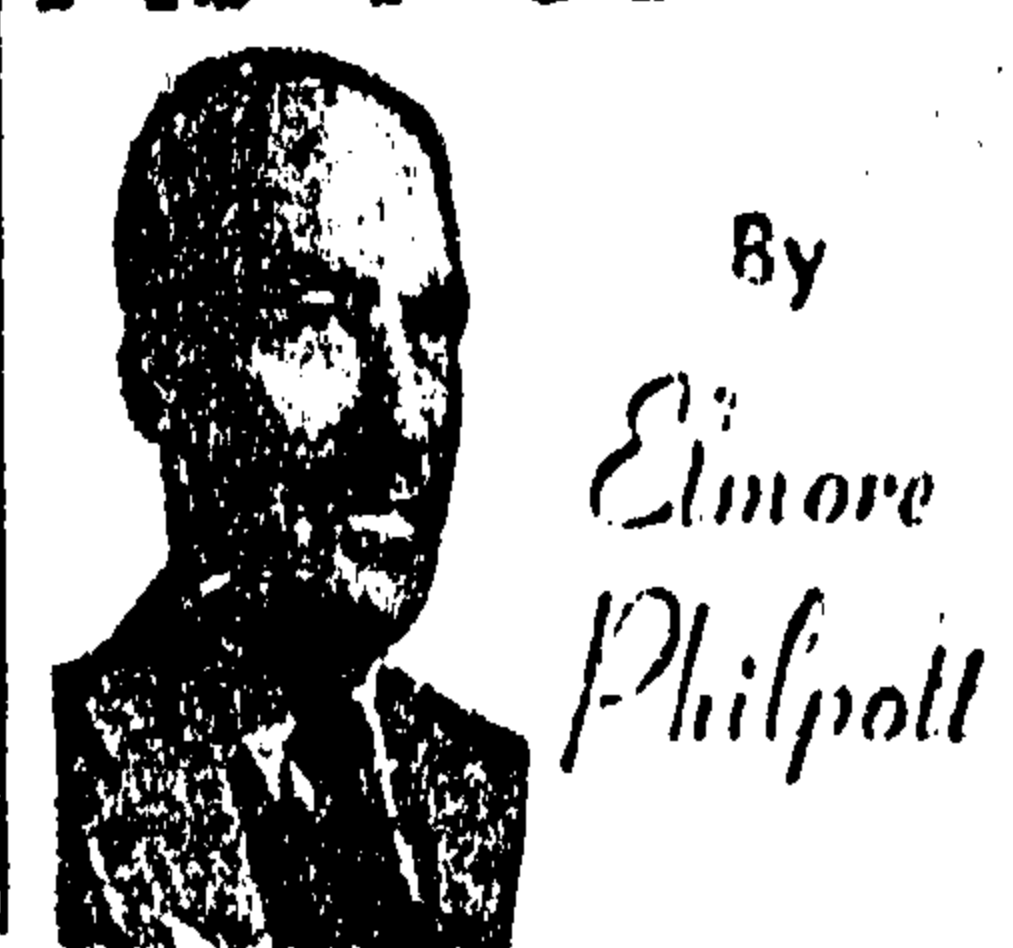
Only a cursory look at the facts and figures relating to this industry is needed to show that a boost in newsprint prices is not justified.

Economic difficulties of newspaper publishing, in which the cost of newsprint is a major item, are reflected in the disappearance of newspapers in recent years and in amalgamations of others. The rising costs of publishing have assumed serious proportions at a time when the newsprint industry has attained the strongest position it has ever enjoyed in its history. The strength of that industry, of course, is a welcome sign of growth and progress but if it pyramids profits on its existing cost structure it will work real hardship on Canadian and American newspapers. At least equally important to the welfare of Canada is the basic economic strength of the newspapers, which are a fundamental element of a free society.

The source of the newsprint industry's raw material is the forests of Canada, over which the industry exercises a trust, the Telegram notes. If it enters upon a form of exploitation in the pursuit of ever higher profits its action will cause the Canadian people to wonder whether the industry is properly fulfilling its trust.

—Trail Daily Times.

As I See It



Guilty—But Who?

IT TOOK a Vancouver jury 23 minutes to bring in a verdict of guilty in the case of the brawny miner who kicked another man to death in a street fight last August.

The case was record-breaking in more than one respect. It required less deliberation on the part of the jury than any previous murder case within memory.

But it was surely unique in another respect—that several persons who were only in degree less guilty of crime than the convicted murderer were not even on trial. If they were in court at all it was as spectators and not where some of them surely should have been—as the accused, accessories at least before the bar of moral judgment.

THE evidence was clear enough. After a heavy drinking party, a fight started in which one or more beer bottles were thrown, a man was knocked down and then literally kicked to death while he lay unconscious.

But what of the crowd which stood around?

There were some 20 or 30 persons who were actually eye witnesses of all or part of the tragedy. Some of these gave evidence in the actual trial and told how they were prevented from intervening by threats of violence from other onlookers, who were members of the gang to which the accused man belonged.

One witness testified that one female member of the convicted man's gang called out "kick him, man, kick him."

There should have been twenty restraining arms to stop the fight, or at least a dozen voices raised, calling on the berserk man to stop, not only for the sake of the man being kicked to death on the ground, but for the kicker's own sake. Instead, there was a protective ring of young gangsters who not only prevented others from stopping the assault, but who actually egged on the man in process of killing his unconscious victim.

SURELY in a case like this there should have been prosecutions against every identifiable member of that gang which directly or indirectly aided and abetted the actual killing.

It may be that the police and the crown prosecutors were convinced that they did not have enough evidence to get convictions of any of the gang members, as accessories to the murder. But even if that were so, there should have been prosecutions of all the gang members, and especially of the young woman accused of calling "kick him, man, kick him."

HAD all the gang members been forced to stand at the bar of justice it would at least have given the judge on the bench the chance to say something which all the people of Canada surely need to hear, again and again.

That is, that every civilized human being has the positive duty to help prevent crime, especially when human life is at stake.

The Bible tells us that, before conversion the Apostle Paul held the coats of the gangsters who stoned to death the first Christian martyrs. The man who became Saint Paul all his life knew full well that he, as a murderer's confederate, was just as guilty as those who threw the actual rocks.

The gangsters who did nothing to halt the Vancouver murder but who prevented others from doing so, not only helped send one man to death, and in fact, so condemned their own friend to die, too.



REHABILITATION through recreation is one of the methods advocated by The Canadian National Institute for the Blind. This couple enjoy a game of checkers by touch. Special devices enable the sightless to take part in recreational activities developed by CNIB. The Prince Rupert branch of the CNIB is presently conducting a drive and contributions can be sent to treasurer P. F. P. Bird at The Bank of Commerce.

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

DIARY THROUGH RUSSIA (Continued)

MOSCOW, Oct. 16 — We watched some housewives shopping in one of the great state department stores today. It was an amazing spectacle. If the same retailing methods were imposed in Canada our women-folk would stage a revolution that would dwarf the original Bolshevik uprising.

It was in the meat department. Meat is none too plentiful in Soviet land. Nevertheless it is retailed in generally the same manner as other commodities. Regardless of the object the customer wants to buy, it is approximately the same obstacle race to get the purchase completed. Here is how it is done in the butcher department:

A housewife queues up before a wicket where she is issued a blank ticket. Armed with it, she queues up again until she finally secures her turn at the meat counter. Her ticket entitles her to engage the attention of the salesman behind the counter and she inspects the day's offerings. After consideration she decides that her choice is a roast of beef. She wants a five-pound one.

Having made this decision, she leaves the counter and queues up again before another wicket. There her ticket is exchanged for a five-pound roast of beef and she pays the requisite amount. Then she queues up again for another turn at the meat counter. Arrived there again finally, the clerk who may or may not be the same one to whom she spoke previously takes her ticket and proceeds to search for a five-pound roast. Its weight must be exact. It cannot be four pounds and 15 ounces, because the housewife has paid for five pounds. Conversely, it cannot be five pounds one ounce, because she has only paid for five pounds. In the latter case the problem will be solved by shaving exactly one ounce—which immediately becomes scrap meat—off the five pounds one ounce roast.

If the day's queues haven't been too long, it probably hasn't taken the housewife more than an hour to buy her roast. If she strikes a peak rush, it may take her half as long again. In any event, it is a break for her husband's pocket book, for he hasn't any time left to look at a new dress, a hat, or a pair of shoes. Under the Russian system about one buying period per day is all that can be scheduled if a housewife is to prepare meals and look after her domestic duties.

Foreign correspondents who have been watching the system in operation over the years cannot understand its survival. They comment that Russian skill can produce anything, no matter how intricate or precise, but that their talent fails completely in the field of distribution. That may be the explanation. Or there may be some considerably more subtle reasoning involved. Consumer goods are still critically scarce in Russia in proportion to the population. The clumsy retailing system in force undoubtedly stretches them out; people just can't buy them so fast. And that could be the idea at the back of it all. Some day the

Russian housewife, too, may just have to step up to a counter and tell the sales girl to wrap up what she sees and wants. Some day she may even have a bargain basement to delight in. But that day won't come while the present-day consumer shortages still prevail.

Fluoridation Facts... And Fancies

Here are some of the objections raised by anti-fluoridationists, countered by authoritative replies, supplied by The Health League of Canada, Toronto.

Fluoridation will benefit only children, and not help adults.

All children grow into adults eventually, and will have more, and better teeth if they drink fluoridated water during childhood. One survey shows 60% less tooth decay amongst adults raised in a community with fluorine in the water. The adults of the community with no fluorine had also lost 3 to 4 times as many teeth.

Fluorine compounds will settle in the body, producing a variety of diseases in older people.

This is not true. Careful surveys have been made in areas where people have been drinking water containing 6 to 8 p.p.m. of fluorides or even more, for many years, and mortality statistics in these areas are no different from those in areas where no fluorine is present in the water.

Fluoridation will produce mottled teeth.

Discoloration does not begin to occur until the concentration of fluorine compound used in water reaches at least 2.5 parts per million and above. It was proven in the 1930's by Dean and Elvove that fluorine in concentration of 1 part per million would not produce mottling. The same results have been found on examining some 1,500 children who had been drinking fluoridated water in Brantford, Ontario.

The addition of fluorine compounds to the water does not produce the same effect as naturally fluoridated water. In test cities, the amount of dental decay in children each year is decreasing to that found in cities with naturally fluoridated waters. Children born since the water supply has been fluoridated have as little dental decay as children of the same age in areas with natural fluoridation.

Fluoridation means mass medication.

The purpose of medication is the cure or treatment of disease in some form. Fluorides are not added to water to treat or cure, but as a preventative agent to help nature build more resistant teeth.

Not enough research has been done.

A great deal of research has been done—in fact the use of fluorides was recommended as far back as 1874, because "it is fluorine which gives hardness and lasting quality to the enamel of the teeth, and so protects against caries."

Experiments in the test cities of Newburgh, New York; Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Brantford, Ontario are now in their tenth year.

Fluorine could better be taken in other forms.

There is every evidence that no scheme such as adding fluorides to foods, could be practical. The use of fluoride tablets is not recommended for two reasons. First: If used, the tablets would have to be given from the first few days after birth until at least the eighth year, when most of the permanent teeth are formed. Knowing the frailties of human nature, this just would not be done. Second: It is too dangerous to have large bottles of sodium fluoride tablets in the home.

East Germans Still Striving For Recognition

BERLIN (AP) — Communist East Germany insisted yesterday that the question of barge traffic to isolated West Berlin must be handled on a ministerial level by the West German government. The Communists thus acknowledged that they hope to force recognition of their regime through the new clamp-down on the water route. So far, West Germany has dealt with the Communists only on the level of "technical experts," something which does not imply recognition.

The Red demand is voiced in Neues Deutschland, organ of the East German Communist party.

The future of barge traffic—a vital link in the lifeline of this Communist-surrounded city—was raised during the weekend by the disclosure that the Russians have given the East Germans power to renew or deny applications for the operation of

Western-owned barges. The Russians might try to set up a blockade by cutting off the 52 permit applications, saying these must be submitted to East German officials for processing. MAY CUT OFF SUPPLIES. The Soviet action raised the possibility the Communists 110 miles from the city.

CANADA'S BUSINESS RECOVERY SPECTACULAR SAYS B of M

Gordon Ball Suggests Free World Has Reached Turning Point in Economic History

ARTHUR JENSEN, GENERAL MANAGER, REPORTS RECORD DEPOSITS, LOANS, INVESTMENTS REFLECTING VIGOR OF CANADIAN ECONOMY

MONTREAL, Dec. 5.—This country's recovery from the recession of 1954 has been "nothing short of spectacular," says President Gordon R. Ball told shareholders at the bank's annual meeting here today. By the second quarter of this year, president said, production of goods and services was nearly ten per cent higher in overall terms than a year ago.

Discussing developments abroad, Mr. Ball said, "I find myself wondering whether we are approaching, or have already reached, a turning point in history, even though we may not recognize it until we see it later in the perspective of a complete chronicle of events. Now, ten years after the end of the war, postwar problems, as such, seem to be behind us. We have no lack of problems, but they are no longer those of a world struggling to its feet; rather are they the problems of a buoyant and dynamic world economy."

At the same meeting, Arthur C. Jensen, vice-president and general manager, reported to shareholders that the past year had seen new records set in the bank's total assets and deposits, with loans passing the billion-dollar mark for the first time in the B of M's 138-year history.

Questions Raised By Problems of Competition Referring to his recent business trip through Western Europe and the British Isles, Mr. Ball said that he saw widespread evidence of vigorous enterprise and a new degree of prosperity. Their production as a whole had now climbed to new record levels some 50 per cent greater than prewar, he said, and steady progress was being made towards convertibility of currencies and an enlarged area of multilateral trade.

"Perhaps the most basic change of all," the president stated, "is the growing realization that there is no tolerable alternative to peace."

It was only to be expected, Mr. Ball continued, that this kind of world would bring with it a more complex competition, presenting a challenge to Canadian producers to which they alone must respond. But, he said, in cases where the foreign competitor had subsidies, restricted markets or exchange manipulations in his favor, Canadian enterprise was placed at a disadvantage. While it was true that there had been some modification of artificial barriers and channels of commerce, progress in this respect had not proceeded as rapidly as we would wish.

"The question is, therefore, being raised in many minds whether this country should be expected indefinitely to pursue its postwar policy of leading the way to greater freedom of international trade and exchange in a world in which many of the basic principles of multilateral and unhampered trade have been compromised."

Monetary Control and Stable Dollar

Turning to developments in the field of monetary control, Mr. Ball said the respite from overt inflation as one of the most significant aspects of recent years. This has been the result of a determination both at home and abroad to curb inflationary pressures by various means of economic control.

Here in Canada, the president continued, with retail sales, industrial production, residential construction, foreign trade, employment and income, all continuing to set new records—in short with business enjoying its best year in history—average prices of consumer goods and services are today no different and general wholesale commodity prices are actually eight per cent lower than they were four years ago.

"Yet welcome as this has been in building confidence in the purchasing power of money, stable prices are not something that can be taken for granted. Price stability is one of the foundation stones of sound national growth and its safeguarding must at all times be a primary goal of national economic policy."

A Bank's Responsibility in Advancing Credit

It was something of a paradox, Mr. Ball remarked, that it was at just such a time as this that commercial banking became particularly difficult. To the customer, he said, good banking was apt to be regarded as the kind that results in a cheerful "yes" to his credit application. Bankers liked to have it that way too because, after all, they were in the business of lending money.

"But a banker doing business in an expanding economy needs above all else imagination—the kind of imagination that can

Reviewing 1955

In reviewing 1955, Mr. Ball said that the past year had been "a year of remarkable expansion in all fields of activity."

Mr. Jensen paid tribute to the staff for their "dedication and hard work throughout the year."

Mr. Jensen said that the bank's "growth and progress in 1955 were a reflection of the confidence of the public in the B of M."

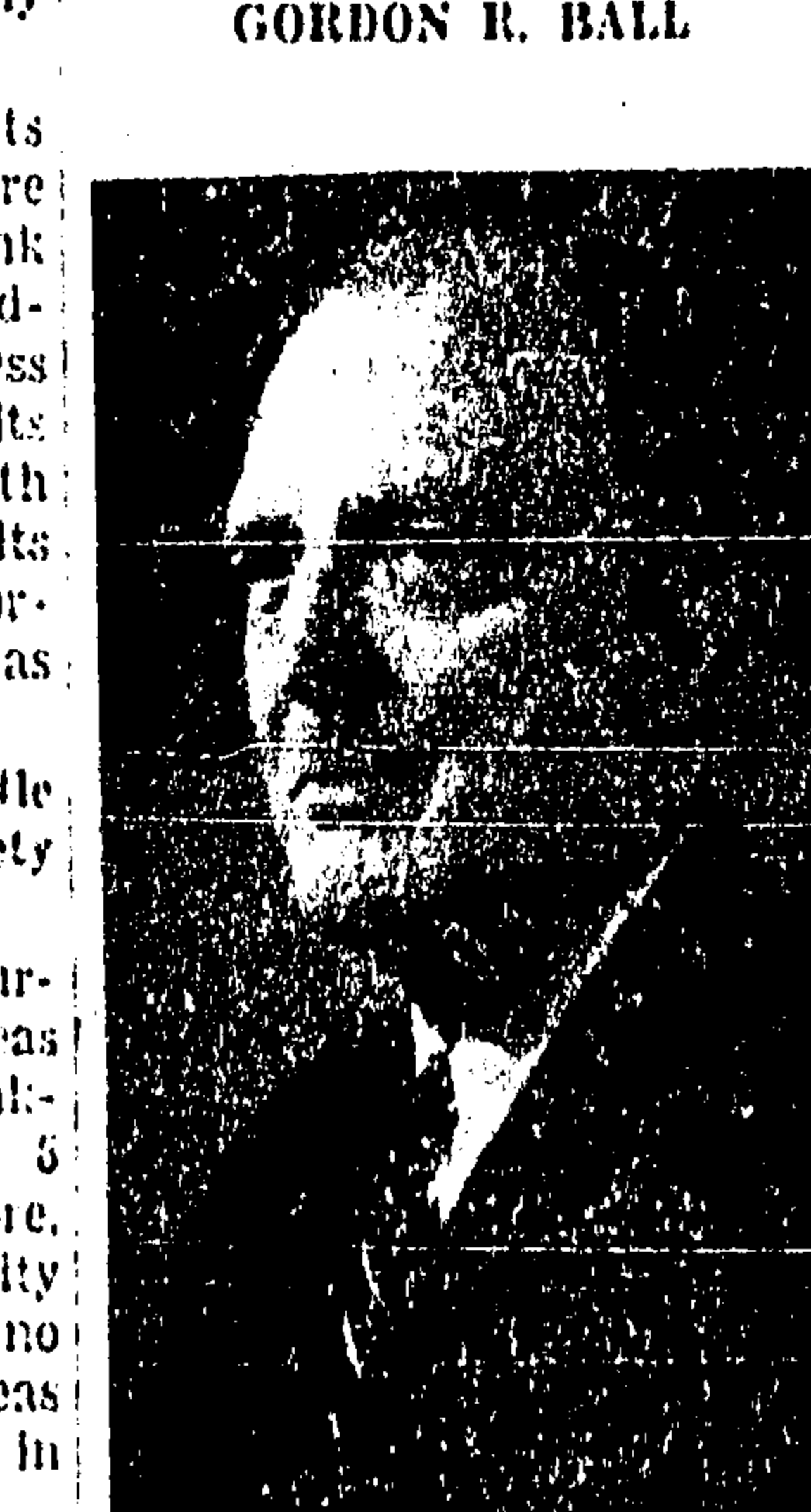
He concluded by saying that the bank's "future is bright and we are confident of continued growth and progress."

GREAT RIVER

The Rio de la Plata at Buenos Aires, 170 miles from the Atlantic ocean, is 28 miles wide.



GORDON R. BALL

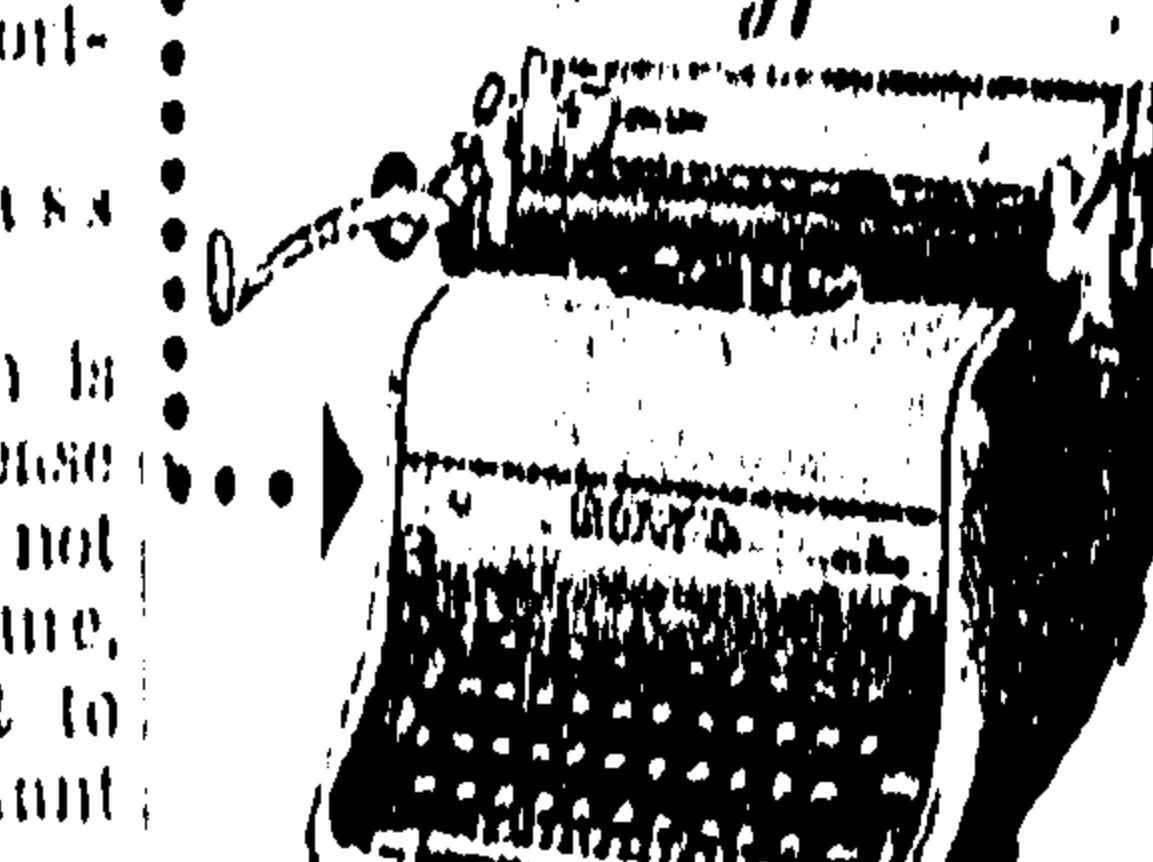


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TRAVELLING MEN
BLACKBURN, England & Arthur Haworth heard a strange engine noise in his car, opened the hood and found a lion. It belonged to a neighbor and somehow had survived a 35-mile trip.