

PICTURE-NEWS AND TIME MAP SHOWING EVENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD

BIG VESSELS FOR MONTREAL
Eleven dredgers, soon to be increased to nineteen, are making a deep channel capable of taking vessels of more than 20,000 tons in the St Lawrence between Quebec and Montreal.

A HARD WINTER?
The unusual sight of wild boars in village streets has been witnessed at Kochem, in the Moselle Valley, an occurrence which is said to predict a severe winter.

THE REINDEER'S FOOD
Reindeer, which are used in Siberia for drawing sledges, will often dig away the snow with their hoofs to a depth of two feet and more in search of moss.

APREHISTORIC VILLAGE
Professor Gordon Childe, of Edinburgh University, has completed a reconstruction of the prehistoric settlement of Skara Brae in the Orkneys. Many interesting finds have been made.

DANGEROUS CROSSINGS
Railway level crossings over roads are very common in the United States, and each year they are responsible for about 6000 accidents.

RICE REPLACES RUBBER
On the west coast of Sumatra many native growers, unable to produce rubber profitably owing to its low price, are cutting down rubber trees and going in for rice cultivation.

THE DOCTOR
The unhealthy jungles of West Africa are rendered more habitable by the harmattan, a wind called locally the Doctor, which comes from the Sahara and brings cool, dry weather.

CHRISTIAN MONKS FOR TIBET
Some monks from the famous St Bernard Hospice are going to Salween, a holy village in Tibet, where they will establish a hospice and refuge huts for the benefit of travellers.

CHILE'S NEW ROADS
More than 600 miles of new first-class roads are to be constructed in south-central Chile, an agricultural and pastoral area none too well provided with highways.

MAPPING NORTHERN RHODESIA
An aerial survey of 63,000 square miles in Northern Rhodesia will enable maps to be ready next June, as against 1940 if a ground survey had been taken.

INSECTS WAR ON INSECTS
A few years ago the coconut palms of Fiji were threatened by moths. Insect enemies introduced from Malaya have destroyed the pests and so saved the trees. See news columns.

Where They Are Harvesting
Wheat. Argentina, South Africa, Burma, Australia, New Zealand.
Sugar. Texas, Mexico, South America, Mauritius, India, Japan.
Cocoa. West Indies, Venezuela, West Africa.
Rice. India, South China.
Dates. Algeria, Tunis, and oases in Sahara.

Line of the Arctic Night. No Sun north of this line
Within this belt the Sun is overhead at noon this week

COCONUTS OF FIJI How an Insect Saved Them From Destruction A VICTORY OF SCIENCE

Science has just saved the coconut industry of the Fiji Islands.

The coconuts were threatened with entire destruction by swarms of moths known as *Levuana iridescens*, whose caterpillars were devouring the foliage, preventing nuts from forming, and endangering the lives of the trees. The position seemed hopeless until our Imperial Bureau of Entomology was appealed to.

Three first-class men sent out from London to Fiji found themselves completely baffled at first, but happily the resources of the Bureau suggested a remedy in the form of a parasitic insect found in the Malay States. One of the three went there, collected a great number of insects which prey on a related form of moth, and set sail with them on a voyage of four thousand miles.

Only about three hundred of the insects survived, and these, living as parasites on moths, were found to be themselves the victims of other parasites. Therefore the insects had to be bred in captivity until their enemies were disposed of.

When they were released and set to work they destroyed the moths and saved the coconuts. See World Map

In the Auction Rooms

The following prices have lately been paid in the auction rooms for objects of interest.

- Set of The Cries of London . . . £2400
- 600 Letters by George Eliot . . . £450
- Kelmscott Press Chaucer . . . £225
- An enamelled glass beaker . . . £175
- An old Grandfather clock . . . £110
- A Toby jug . . . £105
- Pair of George II taper-sticks . . . £86
- A plain silver dredger . . . £34

A quill pen with which the Treaty of Union between England and Scotland in 1707 was signed, was sold for £31.

THANK YOU, B.B.C. What It Is Going To Do

The B.B.C. has saved the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts. Now it is coming to the rescue of Opera in England.

With its aid, and the promise of a grant from the Government, a company has been formed to give over 200 performances a year. There will be the usual Grand Opera season at Covent Garden in the spring, and autumn and winter seasons of six weeks at popular prices. There will also be seasons at six towns in the country.

A sum of £30,000 has been guaranteed, and it is expected that over 60 performances a year will be broadcast. As every listener knows, opera broadcast from a theatre is superior to that from a studio, and this new scheme will enable the works of the greatest masters of music to be heard in the most favourable circumstances.

If the B.B.C. brings about in opera the excellent results it has secured in orchestral playing we may before long lead the world in music.

FRITTERING AWAY THE YEARS

I have seen men at the University fritter away the best years of their lives because they had allowed themselves to be obsessed with the desire for a Blue; and out in the world I have seen men swept off their feet by the glamour of the crowd, scamping their work, some not even working at all, full of the false idea that they could make up for lost time when their Rugged days were over. There is nothing so fickle in the world as the adoration of the crowd, whose memory is so short.

Mr I. M. B. Stuart, a Harrow Master

THE POPE'S TELEPHONE

Somebody has presented the Pope with a magnificent portable telephone. It is of pure gold, ornamented with the heads of the four Evangelists in silver.

BRITISH COLONISTS COMING HOME

Back to the Motherland

Trade depression in Australia and New Zealand has had a marked effect on migration. In the first six months of this year many British colonists returned to the Motherland.

As to Australia the number of immigrants who came from the Commonwealth to England was 3026 more than those who went from England. In the case of New Zealand there were 478 more people from the Dominion to the Motherland than from the Motherland to the Dominion.

In the case of Canada there is still a movement outwards, the net emigration to the Dominion in the first six months of this year being 16,707. In the case of South Africa there was a slight excess coming to Britain.

BARBAROUS WAYS OF CATCHING BIRDS

All Are Illegal and Punishable

The excellent Scottish Society for the Protection of Wild Birds wishes the C.N. to state that the following methods of catching wild birds are illegal and are subject to penalties:

- The use of birdlime or such substances;
- The use of the pole trap;
- Catching birds by a hook;
- The use of a tethered live bird as a decoy.

If any of these cruel and illegal practices is observed the right course to follow is to report it to the police.

A POOR LOOK-OUT

It is a poor look-out for the peace of the world if our ambition as a great commercial nation is to make a ringed fence around what we call the Empire and shut out the rest of the world. That way, of a certainty, lies war. We cannot afford to do without the rest of the world.

Sir Donald Maclean, M.P.

THE MOTHERLAND AND HER CHILDREN

What the Imperial Conference Decided To Do

INDEPENDENCE OF THE DOMINIONS

Most of the delegates to the Imperial Conference are on their way home. The Government has issued a summary of their work which covers a wide field.

We have agreed to pass an Act of Parliament stating that no future Act should apply to a Dominion, as part of its laws, without that Dominion's consent; that no law passed by a Dominion should be void because it was repugnant to the law of England; and that a Dominion could amend or repeal any law in its own country although the law remained in force in the Motherland.

The Conference recommended that when an Imperial dispute occurs a tribunal of five members should be set up to settle it.

In the development of the naval base at Singapore the present policy is to remain and the question of its completion is to be postponed for five years.

Dominion ministers are to tender advice direct to the King as English ministers do, this practice to include the appointment of the Governor-General.

As to the economic questions discussed at the Conference, although the British Government could not consent to a tariff or embargo on foreign food and raw materials, the establishment of what is called a wheat quota is to be studied further by the economic section of the Conference, which is to meet in Ottawa during the next twelve months.

For the rest, the Empire Marketing Board is to be developed, industrial standardisation is to be established, Empire broadcasting is to be encouraged, and Empire air routes are to be used for Empire mails wherever possible.