

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Reading, Wise And Otherwise

"What are you reading, my lord?"
"Words, words, words."
—Hamlet.

Books have been described as storehouses of
"riches which increase by being consumed, and
pleasures which never cloy." Such words might
fittingly be engraved as a motto over the doors
of every library. But as in the case of other
treasures, books are a benefit only to those who
have learned wisely to use them. Nowadays,
with free library service available to all who can
read, it is particularly important to grasp this
one-time familiar truth.

When books distract from personal duties or
a proper observation of life they do nothing, as
CHANNING has well said, but "generate a
learned folly."

Rightly, of course, the public library caters
to a variety of tastes. It would be snobbish to
object to reading for amusement and entertainment;—aims which are quite as legitimate,
within reason, as the urge to acquire knowledge
or culture. One may be laborious in reading
and study, but there is no guarantee that he will
be wise, or even bright. On the other hand,
there is no doubt that an unmixing diet of light
reading is the worst possible preparation for the
enjoyment of good literature.

It is depressing to see the avidity with which
trashy books, chiefly melodrama and "best sellers"
are devoured by many library patrons;
when there is so much finer material, on every
subject, within easy reach.

There is another class, whose penchant is for
light reading, but who are on the look-out for
every newly recommended book—be it of fiction,
poetry, philosophy, or what-not; who "keep
abreast of the times" by wading through, or
skimming over, an enormous mass of current
literature every month. These are the victims of
vainglory, reading "huge works to boast what
they have read," and to disport their second-
hand stock of ideas and information over the
tea-cups or the bridge table. Among them are
many who

"Affect all books of past and modern ages,
And read no further than the title-pages."

Such readers, if one may dare say so, are like
Aesop's daw in borrowed feathers.

"No book," says RUSKIN, "is worth anything
which is not worth much; nor is it serviceable
until it has been read, and reread, and loved, and
loved again; and marked, so that you can
refer to the passage you want in it, as a soldier
can seize the weapon he needs in an armory,
or a housewife bring the spice she needs
from her store."

Here we have the key to the true "realm of
gold" which is Literature. It is not the mass of
books read, but the thoroughness with which
they are digested, that develops taste and
appreciation. And the value of a public library in
every community is the extent to which it
develops taste and appreciation. The rest is frills
and prunella. There is no doubt that since the
institution of the Carnegie Library in this
Province there has been a steady development in
this proper direction. On the other hand, it
must be admitted that many are wasting their
time in idle and frivolous bouts of reading at the
public expense.

Those "Balanced" Budgets

Back in 1932 or 1933 the average newspaper
reader, says the Herald Tribune, had become
pretty sceptical about speeches and statements
to the effect that prosperity was "just around
the corner." He is just as sceptical now about
similar statements concerning a "balanced budget."
But there is one difference in his attitude.
With business improved, as it has improved
during the last two or three years, he is
inclined to become less impatient, rather than
more so, and to worry less and less whether
the Treasury ever does bring its expenditures
into balance with its receipts. At Washington,
moreover, the election has brought the same
waning of enthusiasm by former economy-
minded politicians. What should be emphasized
for the benefit of those who are satisfied under
present conditions with mild generalizations
about "a balanced budget by 1937" is that those
who make such generalizations are not talking
of the same thing that those who listen to them
have in mind. It is now abundantly evident that
if we have a balanced budget in the next year
or two it will be balanced by adjustment on
paper only.

The British Constitution

In the preface to his La Democratie en
Amerique, DE TOQUEVILLE calls into question
the very existence of a British Constitution on
the ground that no such document exists. The
idea, of course, says the Canadian Financial
Bureau, is fallacious. BAGEHOT in England and
DR. A. L. LOWELL, former president of Har-
vard University, in the United States, have con-
tributed perhaps the most thorough analyses of
the British Constitution, proving beyond all
shadow of doubt that such a constitution does
exist.
To us in Canada, with the very definitive British
North America Act of 1867 (supplemented
to an extent by the Westminster statute of
1931), and to our neighbours in the United
States with the equally definitive Philadelphia
document of 1787 and its subsequent amend-
ments, the matter of the British Constitution is
perhaps, at times, difficult to understand.
Much of the constitution—by far the greater
part—is actually written, though it is not
written in one place. That part of the con-
stitution is to be found in the many statutes
passed by Parliament throughout the long years

of its existence. Some of these statutes have
subsequently been revoked and replaced, others
have been revoked and never replaced; new
statutes are constantly being passed. From
among these many documents emerges the writ-
ten British Constitution. The rest is based
upon oral tradition, tradition so immured in
the minds of the British people that for sheer ef-
fectiveness it might well have been cast upon
all lithographer's stone. To understand it all
one must go back to the battle of Runnymede
and the Magna Carta which KING JOHN signed
in 1215. That document laid the foundation for
the establishment of the supremacy of the will
of the people. During the reign of KING
GEORGE III, the Cabinet, in its modern sense,
came into existence. The modern cabinet is
personified in the Crown, in whose name acts
of Parliament are passed, war and peace made,
and justice meted out. The personality of the
Crown, in turn, is the King or Queen regnant.
The King sits upon the throne "by the Grace
of God," as He expresses His will through the
voice of the British people by way of their Par-
liament and its Cabinet.

Editorial Notes

Gladstone was born on this date 1809.

The peace of the world hangs in the balance.

Furriers are searching in vain for the prophets
of a long and severe winter.

More unemployed now officially admitted
though heretofore the Government spokesmen
and Press have been trying to delude the public
by claiming considerable reduction.

A coroner's jury at Digby, N.S., Saturday
found Camille Comeau, 17-year-old Little
Brook youth, met death accidentally Christmas
eve when he was struck by an automobile whose
driver was blinded temporarily by the lights of
another car. Something must be done to enforce
dimming or nobody will be safe.

There was an increase of about \$12,000 in the
import of cheese in November, amounting to
\$99,409 compared with \$87,402 a year ago. The
import of butter was small, valued at \$309 com-
pared with \$598. The cheese came mainly from
France, Italy, Switzerland, United Kingdom,
New Zealand and the United States.

An arrangement has been come to between
Canada and Australia and the Mother Country
that troops shall not be sent to Europe unless
the Mother Country herself is attacked, on the
other hand all the food stuffs possible will be
shipped to Britain conveyed by men of war. The
explanation given is that Canada or Australia
denuded of its armed man-power might prove
irresistible attraction to Japan the expansionist.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie, King is not the only
Premier in Canada enjoying bachelorhood. Hon.
W. J. Patterson, Saskatchewan's bachelor pre-
mier, revealed on Christmas day, with consider-
able embarrassment, that leap year had brought
him six proposals of marriage, one from Ger-
many, and that he was longing for the present
week to pass so that he might escape further
proposals.

Cases are not uncommon of dealers being
convicted of overcharging in giving a custom-
er light weight. But in Montreal milkmen are
being prosecuted for selling cheap milk. The
other day no fewer than nine milkmen were
fined \$10 and costs each for undercutting the
price set by the Quebec Dairy Commission. Mr.
J. E. Lafontaine, representing the Dairy Com-
mission said that the commission would be sat-
isfied with minimum penalties of \$10 and costs.

Washington is beginning to experience the
buffetings of Empire sway. The Philippine de-
fense plan approved by the War Department
and supervised by the military mission headed
by General Douglas MacArthur is criticized in a
report by the Foreign Policy Association as
endangering the American withdrawal policy and
risking involvement with Japan. Viewing the
plan as calling for creation of a strong Amer-
ican military and naval base in the Philippines,
not merely for local defense, but as an outpost
of American power in the Far East, the re-
port describes it as amounting "to a covert con-
spiracy to keep the United States in the islands."
The report, written by Mr. David H. Popper,
of the association's research staff, also holds
that the defense program "would be a potent
weapon in the hands of President Quezon should
he consider it necessary to quell unrest by dic-
tatorial methods."

Now that the Southern Hemisphere crops are
made, and world supplies determined for the
balance of the crop year, the principal issue in
the current situation is how the division of sup-
plies is to be made among the deficiency coun-
tries. Needless to say, the issue is a unique one
in the light of recent experience, for the last
genuine sellers' market occurred in the autumn
of 1924, when prices rose sharply in response
to the close adjustment between world supplies
and requirements. In reckoning the world
statistical position, the Argentine crop, official-
ly estimated at 249.8 million bushels, provides
an exportable surplus of 155 million. The Aus-
tralian crop of 133.5 million bushels supplies
another 80 million from the Southern Hemisphere.
Assuming July 31 stocks in 1937 in these
two countries are no larger than at July 31, 1936,
235 million bushels can be counted upon for ex-
port from the Southern Hemisphere during the
current crop year. Canada's exportable surplus
this year is 215 million bushels; the Danube, 80
million, and other countries including India, 40
million. These bring the total world supplies
available for export to 570 million for the cur-
rent season. European import requirements are
467 million bushels. Non-European require-
ments of 120 million would bring the world
requirements to 587 million bushels. While all
these figures are approximations, it is the ap-
parent excess of requirements over supplies
which has made the market so sensitive to in-
dications that the various countries are seeking
to increase their wheat taking.

Notes By The Way

No doubt the time will come when
Canada will again seek new settle-
ments. In some circles the conviction
is that that time has arrived al-
ready, but this sentiment is by no
means unanimous throughout the
Dominion. One thing, however,
seems certain: that if and when
Canada sees fit to reopen her
doors to overseas immigration,
there will be a much more string-
ent policy of selection put into force
than has been carried out at any
time in the past.—Saint John Tele-
graph Journal.

A small news item says that Herr
Dr. Goebbels has banned a German
publication, called "Cross Section,"
because one of its articles contain-
ed "errors" that were "maliciously
intellectual, and in part, even trea-
sonable." "Maliciously intellectual"
certainly one of the sweetest
phrases that even the Third Reich
has ever invented. It ought to be
useful, too. Hereafter, when you
don't like the way an opponent is
arguing in controversy, because
there is nothing to say in answer
to his points, you may easily dis-
miss him. He's being just "malici-
ously intellectual."—Baltimore Sun.

Census figures show there is no
foundation for the common belief
that the Indians of Canada are a
vanishing race. Latest figures
show there are 122,911, of whom
112,500 live on reservations. The
census, which is taken at five-year
intervals, has shown a substantial
increase in each of such periods
during the past fifteen years.—
Victoria Colonist.

Speaking of dignity in debate, the
Kingston Whig-Standard wonders
what the Ottawa Journal thinks of
the Toronto Telegram referring to
the Premier of Ontario as "Hep."
But what do the Whig-Standard
think about the Premier referring
to the dignified Evening Telegram
as the "Tely"—Shaiford Beacon
Herald.

What took place at the heart of
the Empire pulsated to its utter-
most bounds, and the British peo-
ples everywhere emerged from the
perilous situation with a greater
confidence than ever before in the
efficacy of parliamentary govern-
ment. Thus the institution of the
monarchy survived the greatest
shock that it has received in a
hundred years. This is something
to think about in a day when so
many other nations have been led
away from democratic rule.—Brant-
ford Expositor.

The Boston Transcript points
out that the League of Nations is
not highly regarded in Fascist
countries, and that it has many
times in its record. At the same
time it refers to the statement of
Foreign Minister Anthony Eden to
show that Britain is again on re-
cord as determined to save the
league, and says: The effort may
be successful, for this organization,
designed to make the world safe
for democracy, has a certain vital-
ity which enables it to overcome
doubt and disappointment." Mr.
King's speech shows that Canada
is behind Britain in this effort to
rebuild the league as a barrier
against the terrors of another war.

This is one subject upon which
there is no politics in Canada. Rt.
Hon. R. B. Bennett and Mr. King
are united in the support of the
league.—London Free Press.

One of the notable things brought
out by Britain's constitutional
crisis now happily passing into
history was the supremacy of Brit-
ish provincial newspapers. There
are some good newspapers in
London, of course, but it was the
daily journals in Manchester, Liver-
pool, Leeds, Birmingham, Cardiff,
Edinburgh, Glasgow and other
provincial towns that first and
continuously there after expressed
unerringly the British mind.—
Ottawa Journal.

Among the great ones in the
human family an old Cornish
woman, 101 years of age, Mrs.
Susan Robins, must be counted.
The other day she gave a sketch of
her life to a reporter. "I worked
in the mines," she said, "when I
was six years old, leaving home
every morning at six o'clock and
walked three miles. The day lasted
until seven when I tramped back
again. About twenty of us work-
ed on the dressing floors, and if we
were late or dawdled a quarter was
taken off our pay of 1-2d per day.
At home I was often up early in
the morning knitting socks, earning
an ounce. I never had a doctor,
never took any medicine or had a
holiday." Her recipe for good
health is: Hard work; early to
bed and early to rise, and keep out
of danger.—St Thomas Times-
Journal.

The system of probation, wisely
used, is as valuable an instrument
for the prevention of crime as any
at the disposal of a court of justice.
The same system, improperly used,
is always useless, and often actively
harmful. It is, therefore, a primary
duty of every magistrate to
familiarize himself with the de-
tails, the advantages, the potential-
ities, and the dangers of probation.
—Nineteenth Century.

"The eye," Lord Tweedsmuir de-
clares, "is a safer conduit to the
brain than the ear." His Ex-
cellency is an advocate of the
written word. In the long run, he
says, it is in the written word which
matters most. If, he adds, we
were ever to depend upon the
spoken word our minds would be
radically altered and not, he thinks,
for the better.—Windsor Star.

The United States in the last six
years has spent more than any
other country for arms—\$3,973,000,000.
And in 1935 when Europe's
arms race was hitting a new stride,
American expenditures on arms
still were well in excess of those of
any other nation.—Christian
Science Monitor.

How are we as a nation, to

Notes By The Way

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Canada will again seek new settle-
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doors to overseas immigration,
there will be a much more string-
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than has been carried out at any
time in the past.—Saint John Tele-
graph Journal.

A candidate for insurance re-
turns home after the medical ex-
amination and informed his family
that his blood pressure was so high
that the doctor refused to accept
him for insurance, but told him to
return in a few days.
On the second examination it
was found that the blood pres-
sure was still high. A further delay was
suggested.
In the meantime, the examining
physician knowing that the candi-
date had a friend who was a medical
examiner for another insurance
company sought out this physician
and suggested that he call at the
candidate's house some Sunday
morning (just happened to be some Sunday
morning and dropped in for a minute)
with, of course, his bag in his
hand. The candidate would likely
suggest that he take his blood
pressure, or he might casually in-
troduce the subject himself.
As expected, the candidate sug-
gested that his friend the physician
take his blood pressure. The blood
pressure was normal, and when the
physician announced this fact the
candidate, greatly pleased, said,
"I got examined for insurance re-
cently and the doctor told me my
blood pressure was too high. I
went the second time and it was
still high. I thought he was wrong
because there is nothing wrong
with me or my blood pressure."
The physician reported his find-
ings to the company physician and,
sure enough, when again examined
by the company doctor the pressure
was found to be normal.
Now the reason for this high
blood pressure at the first examina-
tions was the excitement or anx-
iety about getting examined. Thus,
while exercise will raise the blood
pressure a number of points, as
will also food, alcoholic drink, and
certain drugs, the emotions of an
individual can raise the pressure
higher than any of these.
The arterial tension or height
of blood pressure is so easily moved
or affected by so many variables,
such as emotional stresses, the
surrounding temperature, digestion
and mental activity, that one must
be very cautious in estimating the
importance of moderate changes in
its rise or fall."

BLOOD PRESSURE AND THE
EMOTIONS

The death of Conrad's widow is
announced. Mrs. the novelist's
death in 1924. Mrs. Conrad had
written two books, "Joseph Conrad
and I Knew Him" and "Joseph Con-
rad and His Circle." In the first
one, she corrected all the misstate-
ments and false impressions given
by Ford Madox Ford in his book
on Conrad.

Jessie George, a young English-
woman, made her genius of a hus-
band an ideal helpmate. It was a
love-match after six weeks' ac-
quaintance. In 1896 he had pub-
lished "Almayer's Polly," an aban-
doned seafaring and writer, "An Out-
cast of the Islands," which was
to have been on the market the year
before but for an accident. Mrs.
Conrad gave an amusing account
of the proposal and courting. Con-
rad arrived one evening with the
manuscript and asked her to read
a few lines from it, "right away. He
sat a few feet from me, his compelling
eyes fastened upon my face. I was
then and there conscious of something
restless in him, of a sort of in-
ward fire that robbed me of nearly
all my powers of speech. I read
on, stumbling over the corrections
that interlined the closely typed
pages. Sometimes he interrupted,
urging me to disregard this or that
worded sentence. "That is not
going to stand—never mind it—
time he gave lines over. After a
while he said abruptly, "Speak
distinctly; if you are tired, say
don't eat your words. You English
are all alike, you make the same
round for every letter." Strange
wooing. He took her out to din-
ner and proposed on a basis of
weather, like a sailor: "My dear,
I will get better get married and out
of this. Look at the weather. We
will get married at once and go
over to France. How soon can you
be ready?"

"An Outcast of the Islands" ap-
peared several days before the
wedding. Three weeks after, the
bridegroom began "The Rescue" on
their honeymoon. Evidently wed-
ded bliss prevented the exercise of
genius, for the story was shortly
made up his mind what he wanted
his creations to do. But what he
wanted was that they should go
their own way without his dic-
tation, and this they refused to do.
"The Rescue" did not get itself
into publisher's print until 1919.
However, Conrad was not too deep-
ly in love to finish "The Nigger of
the Narcisus." This was Mrs. Con-
rad's favorite among all the novels.
She liked to quote from it.

When Conrad made that un-
promising proposal of marriage, he
told Mrs. Conrad that he had not
time to live—"but such as his life
was, he thought we might spend

listen to a lot of the recent public
pronouncements you would think
we were a race of cripples and
crooks. But here comes the official
Ministry of Health report on the
pandemic, and it shows immense ad-
vance in the war on disease and
death. Fewer mothers are dying
in childbirth now than any time
in this dozen years. In an age when
every day brings news of an old re-
cord broken on land, sea or air,
here is a really worthwhile record.

Conrad's Courtship

(Winnipeg Free Press)

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written two books, "Joseph Conrad
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every day brings news of an old re-
cord broken on land, sea or air,
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Origin of Humane Society

(Globe and Mail)

Among the events which passed
unnoticed during recent months
was the 200th anniversary of Dr.
William Hawes of England.

To most readers the name will
convey little; but it is that of one
who has been instrumental in sav-
ing possibly more lives than have
been destroyed by Mussolini, Lenin,
or any modern military ty, for it was
Dr. William Hawes who, unaided,
brought into being the Royal
Humane Society of Great Britain.

Born in 1736 the good doctor be-
came interested in work which was
being done in Holland to restore
life to the apparently drowned, a
work much needed in a country
which was crisscrossed with canals.

As a result of his study of the
Dutch plan, Dr. Hawes announced
that he would pay a stipulated sum
as reward to any person rescuing
and reviving a nearly drowned in-
dividual along a certain stretch
of the River Thames, and he had
crude life-saving apparatus placed
at convenient points.

In a little while, not only had the
rewards claimed made serious in-
roads into his private fortune, but
he found himself the victim of
calumnious attacks by various per-
sons who imputed evil motives to
his humanitarian work.

This seems difficult to under-
stand, until one remembers Dickens
divided out, in "Our Mutual
Friend," that even at the date of
which he was writing police author-
ities paid no reward for the saving
of a drowning person, but did re-
munerate the finder of a floating
and dead body. Riverside char-
acters such as Rogue Riderhood
and Gaffer Hexam were suspected
of adding to their incomes by push-
ing victims into the river and then
claiming about to "find" the bodies.

Also, of course, the clothing of the
find was always likely to yield a
few happy years together." And
they did, in spite of illness, hard
work and the irritation peculiar to
creative genius. Mrs. Conrad pre-
pared all the food, since he would
eat what she cooked else he had
refused nourishment. She, herself,
came to be a sufferer, but un-
derstanding, owing to a fall which
injured her knee. Yet she spent
herself in making the ailing novel-
ist's life as smooth as possible,
protecting him from all possible
annoyance. Happily she had a
sense of humor, which he had not.
It was a trying life for the wife,
but she won through with a smile
on her face, saying the pain was
a luxury for indulgence when Con-
rad was well: "We take turns at
it. Things would go awry if we
both succumbed at the same time."

What a mercy for her that she
found him amusing—certainly
when recollected. One day she
heard him call hoarsely, "She's
dead, Jes!" She gasped in sudden
fear, "Who?" "Why Lena, and I've
got the title, it's 'Victory.'" He
threw his cigarette down and
"Don't come near me, I'm going to
lie down." For twenty-eight years
she endured the joy and worry of
being the wife of a great and
popular novelist. She loved him
with the love of a sufferer long.
Conrad was a "best" "seller," but

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barber, M.D.

A candidate for insurance re-
turns home after the medical ex-
amination and informed his family
that his blood pressure was so high
that the doctor refused to accept
him for insurance, but told him to
return in a few days.
On the second examination it
was found that the blood pres-
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suggested.
In the meantime, the examining
physician knowing that the candi-
date had a friend who was a medical
examiner for another insurance
company sought out this physician
and suggested that he call at the
candidate's house some Sunday
morning (just happened to be some Sunday
morning and dropped in for a minute)
with, of course, his bag in his
hand. The candidate would likely
suggest that he take his blood
pressure, or he might casually in-
troduce the subject himself.
As expected, the candidate sug-
gested that his friend the physician
take his blood pressure. The blood
pressure was normal, and when the
physician announced this fact the
candidate, greatly pleased, said,
"I got examined for insurance re-
cently and the doctor told me my
blood pressure was too high. I
went the second time and it was
still high. I thought he was wrong
because there is nothing wrong
with me or my blood pressure."

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Winter Fair Winners

Sir,—The Hon. Mr. Dennis, Min-
ister of Agriculture was quoted by
the press that in his opinion P.E.I.
exhibits of live stock at the Am-
herst Winter Fair this year were
the best for many years. Hamp-
shire and Kingston are claiming
their share of the honors in the
Horse Division, and the following
copy taken from the Maritime
Farmer of the prize-winners at the
Amherst Winter Fair justifies their
contention:

Standard Bred:
Stallion 1 year and under 2: 1st
Gordon Newson, Kingston.
Mare or filly 3 years and over:
1st Gordon Newson.
Reserve: Gordon Newson.
Clydesdale:
Stallion 2 years old: 2nd Gordon
Newson.
Foal of 1936: 3rd Gordon New-
son.

Progeny of dam: 3rd Gordon New-
son.
Stallion 1 year: 1st Hibbert
Tremere, Hampshire.
Stallion 3 years and over: 5th
Geo. C. Kitson, Hampshire.
Foal of 1936: 1st Geo. C. Kitson.
Roadsters mare or gelding under
2 hands high: 4th Geo. C. Kit-
son.
Clydesdale stallion 3 years or
over: 3rd Cecil J. Stewart, Hamp-
shire.
Filly 1 year old: 1st Cecil J.
Stewart.

Get of sire: 2nd and 3rd Cecil
J. Stewart.
Progeny of dam: 2nd, Cecil J.
Stewart.

Standard bred two animals pre-
viously shown: 2nd Gordon New-
son, Kingston.
Roadsters mare or gelding 16.2
hands: 4th Gordon Newson.
Roadsters mare or gelding under
2 hands high: 1st and 5th Jas.
G. MacLeod, Hampshire.
Roadsters mares: 2nd Cecil J.
Stewart, Hampshire.

Last but not least Charles Willis
of Kingston, whose winnings are
so many in the Swine Class that
space will not allow the writer to
print them.

Naturally those exhibitors may
feel proud of their winnings at the
recent Amherst Fair, and many
were the complimentary remarks
heard at the ringside when the
above Clydesdales and Roadsters
were exhibited.

I am, Sir, etc.,
OLD TIMER

Conrad's Courtship

(Winnipeg Free Press)

The death of Conrad's widow is
announced. Mrs. the novelist's
death in 1924. Mrs. Conrad had
written two books, "Joseph Conrad
and I Knew Him" and "Joseph Con-
rad and His Circle." In the first
one, she corrected all the misstate-
ments and false impressions given
by Ford Madox Ford in his book
on Conrad.

Jessie George, a young English-
woman, made her genius of a hus-
band an ideal helpmate. It was a
love-match after six weeks' ac-
quaintance. In 1896 he had pub-
lished "Almayer's Polly," an aban-
doned seafaring and writer, "An Out-
cast of the Islands," which was
to have been on the market the year
before but for an accident. Mrs.
Conrad gave an amusing account
of the proposal and courting. Con-
rad arrived one evening with the
manuscript and asked her to read
a few lines from it, "right away. He
sat a few feet from me, his compelling
eyes fastened upon my face. I was
then and there conscious of something
restless in him, of a sort of in-
ward fire that robbed me of nearly
all my powers of speech. I read
on, stumbling over the corrections
that interlined the closely typed
pages. Sometimes he interrupted,
urging me to disregard this or that
worded sentence. "That is not
going to stand—never mind it—
time he gave lines over. After a
while he said abruptly, "Speak
distinctly; if you are tired, say
don't eat your words. You English
are all alike, you make the same
round for every letter." Strange
wooing. He took her out to din-
ner and proposed on a basis of
weather, like a sailor: "My dear,
I will get better get married and out
of this. Look at the weather. We
will get married at once and go
over to France. How soon can you
be ready?"

"An Outcast of the Islands" ap-
peared several days before the
wedding. Three weeks after, the
bridegroom began "The Rescue" on
their honeymoon. Evidently wed-
ded bliss prevented the exercise of
genius, for the story was shortly
made up his mind what he wanted
his creations to do. But what he
wanted was that they should go
their own way without his dic-
tation, and this they refused to do.
"The Rescue" did not get itself
into publisher's print until 1919.
However, Conrad was not too deep-
ly in love to finish "The Nigger of
the Narcisus." This was Mrs. Con-
rad's favorite among all the novels.
She liked to quote from it.

When Conrad made that un-
promising proposal of marriage, he
told Mrs. Conrad that he had not
time to live—"but such as his life
was, he thought we might spend

listen to a lot of the recent public
pronouncements you would think
we were a race of cripples and
crooks. But here comes the official
Ministry of Health report on the
pandemic, and it shows immense ad-
vance in the war on disease and
death. Fewer mothers are dying
in childbirth now than any time
in this dozen years. In an age when
every day brings news of an old re-
cord broken on land, sea or air,
here is a really worthwhile record.

Origin of Humane Society

(Globe and Mail)

Among the events which passed
unnoticed during recent months
was the 200th anniversary of Dr.
William Hawes of England.

To most readers the name will
convey little; but it is that of one
who has been instrumental