

# MANY LIVES LOST THROUGH FLOODS IN CENTRE AND WESTERN EUROPE

A despatch from Paris says:—The year 1925 may still be remembered in history as "the great flood year" in Central and Western Europe, if the warm winds which have swept the highlands and caused rapid melting of the snows do not give place to colder airs soon. Already there have been many lives lost in Roumania and Hungary, while vast sections of France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Austria and Czecho-Slovakia are inundated. The weather predictions point to continued warmth and heavy rains.

The most alarming conditions are reported from Central Europe. Torda (Thorenburg), Roumania, has been swept by a torrent of overflowing waters that smashed houses by the score. Direct reports from Torda report the loss of hundreds of lives along the Roumanian frontier, with the waters sweeping bodies and debris through the streets; of that city.

In the Bekes district of Hungary more than 100,000 acres are covered with water and the situation is growing worse. Between Vesztoe and Okany the huge masonry dams are threatening to give way and the whole population has turned out in an effort to avert disaster.

The River Sajo has overflowed its banks and is menacing the entire Borod district. At Cluj, Transyl-

IS ASTRID TO BE BRIDE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES?



## RUMOR SELECTS BRIDE FOR PRINCE OF WALES

### Princess Astrid of Sweden to Visit Their Majesties at Buckingham Palace.

A despatch from London says:—Princess Astrid of Sweden is about to pay a visit to the King and Queen at Buckingham Palace, and the newspapers are all agog.

She is a niece of the King of Sweden, and, according to an unnamed Swedish diplomat, she is one of the prettiest girls in Europe. She is just twenty, a keen sportswoman, and a delightful dancer. Moreover, it is pointed out that this will not be the first occasion on which she has met the Prince of Wales, as she stayed in London about a year ago. Whether the Princess has any romantic dreams no official information is available, but if so, she is pitted against an elusive Prince Charming.

London remembers that a year or so ago the late Queen Alexandra had the delightful Swedish Princess as her guest at Marlborough House for months, but the Prince hardly went near her.

Princess Astrid is a daughter of Prince Charles and Princess Ingeborg, being a grandniece on her mother's side of the late Dowager Queen Alexandra.

With the announcement of Princess Astrid's impending visit to Buckingham Palace, it became known to-day that the Princess and her sister, Princess Martha, were dinner guests of the King and Queen last November, the Prince of Wales and Prince Henry also being present.

Princess Astrid and Princess Martha were also guests of the Duchess of Norfolk during their November visit. When they were entertained by the Duchess, Prince Henry was present, but not the Prince of Wales. This led to rumors in society that Prince Henry also was interested in one of the sisters.

# FLOODS MORE DISASTROUS TO LIEGE THAN THE GERMAN GUNS IN 1914

Brussels, Jan. 3.—Queen Wilhelmina, of Holland and Albert, King of the Belgians, are exercising the relief work in the floods which are devastating their kingdoms.

Wilhelmina at Nimeguen, in Gelderland, and Albert at Liege, are trying to stem the tide of desolation which threatens to overwhelm their people.

Liege has suffered more from the present flood than from the German siege guns which leveled her forts in 1914. The entire country surrounding Nimeguen is under water, and the losses mount into millions of florins.

Ten thousand houses are completely isolated, and the residents have been blocked in for three days. One hundred thousand rations are being issued per day, with King Albert and his Ministers personally supervising this work.

The train service in Central Belgium is paralyzed. Great numbers of cattle have perished and the flax harvest has been partly swept away by the flooding of the Lys.

The River Meuse is falling, having dropped six feet at Namur and Liege, but the floods are extending in Malines and Mons districts.

The damage to date for the whole country is estimated at more than 150,000,000 francs, of which 50,000,000 is for Liege alone. The city of Liege is still without public commo-

ditities. Altogether over 250,000 workmen will be thrown out of employment for a long period by the inundation of numerous factories and the flooding of coal mines.

The situation has become worse in the north, notably in Waesland. Many farmers had to flee precipitately, abandoning their stock, most of which perished. Near Maines a dam burst, letting loose masses of water on the adjacent villages.

London, Jan. 3.—One would need to go back to almost forgotten years to find the whole of Western Europe involved in such disastrous floods as have worked inestimable havoc in no less than five different countries. Holland, France, Belgium, Germany, and England. Graver floods have often been experienced in England, but they were never so widespread in so many countries.

The Rhine inundations in Germany are said to be the worst for over a century, the Rhine rising to a higher level than at any time since the year 1784. Holland and Belgium seem to be in an almost equally pitiable condition.

In Holland and Belgium the disaster amounts to almost a national calamity. The pressure of the rising water has burst dikes, involving great expense when the floods have subsided, and untold misery to the inhabitants.

## MOTORIST BACKS CAR OVER NIAGARA CLIFF

### Firemen Effect Daring Rescue Up Icy Slope—Slight Chance for Victim's Life.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Jan. 3.—Francis Smith, 30 years old of Cleveland, Ohio, backed his big touring car across River Road and over the cliff this morning, and is in a serious condition in the local hospital, with only a fighting chance for life. His chest is badly crushed. He is suffering from shock and possible internal injuries.

Mr. Smith was backing his car out of the Robinson Garage, and is believed to have put his foot on the accelerator instead of the brake, and dashed across the road and through the railing and over the cliff, landing a hundred and fifty feet below.

The alarm was raised, and police and firemen, with a motor ladder truck, were quickly on the scene. The ladders were lashed to the rails of the International Railway, and Officer Spring and Fireman Jameson climbed down the icy slope carrying an undertaker's basket. They broke open the touring car, tenderly placed the unconscious form of Smith in the basket, and, attaching a guy-rope to it, had it pulled to the top, where Dr. Munnell attended him and rushed him to the hospital. He regained consciousness to-night.

## Cardinal Mercier's Condition Shows Steady Improvement

Brussels, Jan. 3.—Cardinal Mercier's condition continued to show improvement throughout Saturday night and to-day. The cardinal was operated on nearly a week ago for an intestinal lesion. He withstood the operation well, but later showed signs of heart weakness. After the lapse of several days, however, his condition was pronounced favorable and since then the attending physicians have reported their patient as improving steadily.

## First Ice Bridge at Falls Visited by Large Crowds

Niagara Falls, Ont., Jan. 3.—The first ice bridge of the season formed yesterday afternoon and large crowds to-day visited it. In some places the bridge was nine feet thick. The old outlet of the Niagara Falls Power Company was working to-day and large mounds were formed.

As has been the custom for several years, no one is permitted to go on the ice.

## FATAL ACCIDENT AT LEVEL CROSSING

### One Dead, Another May Die, and Third Man Seriously Injured at Port Colborne.

Port Colborne, Ont., Jan. 3.—One man is dead, a second is believed to be dying and another is seriously injured as the result of a grade-crossing crash here at noon yesterday. The dead man is Paul Jaworsky, 81 Mitchell St., Port Colborne. The injured are Harry Chandrow, 202 Davis Street, and Nick Billowa, 146 Davis Street, both of Port Colborne.

The accident occurred at the Steele Street crossing of the Canadian National Railways. The three men were riding in a Ford truck when they were struck at the crossing by passenger train No. 218, bound from London to Buffalo.

The crash smashed the truck to matchwood, but the three men and part of the truck were carried a full block on the pilot of the locomotive, the dead man losing his grip and being ground to death beneath the wheels as the train was being brought to a stop. Engineer Paterson, in charge of the train, declared that he never knew he hit the car until a witness of the accident ran toward the track and started waving his arms frantically.

The injured men were removed to the Welland Hospital, while an inquest was opened into the death of Jaworsky yesterday afternoon, being adjourned for one month to allow the injured men to get out of the hospital.

## Sir Hugh John Macdonald Recovering from Illness

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 3.—Reassuring reports on the condition of Winnipeg's veteran police magistrate, Sir Hugh John Macdonald, were given out at his home to-night.

Sir Hugh has been suffering from a severe cold and reports late last week were that he was threatened with pneumonia. It was stated to-day that he was better and that his night that his condition had turned complete recovery was believed to be but a matter of days.

## Guildhall Banquet in Honor of Prince's Return

The Lord Mayor of London has renewed his invitation to the Prince of Wales to be his guest at a Guildhall banquet in honor of the Prince's return from South America. The banquet to which the Prince was originally invited was cancelled because of the death of Queen Alexandra.

## MECHANIC IN GARAGE HEIR TO EARLDOM

### Ancient Estate Claimed by Assiniboia Workman Who Saw Service in War.

Moose Jaw, Sask., Jan. 3.—C. B. Gower, a mechanic in an automobile garage in Assiniboia, Sask., declares that he is the heir to the estates and title of Earl of Granville and Baron Leveson of Stone.

Gower's first knowledge of the fact that he was being searched for in Western Canada and in practically every country in the world was contained in a Canadian Press despatch of Dec. 5 last.

"I saw the news item and cabled at once," said Mr. Gower, "and I am waiting for word. I don't think there will be much for me. You see, my sister, who lives in Sheffield, England, was willed the cash by my uncle, and I the estate. I was born and raised in Sheffield, saw nearly two years' service in the European war, part of which was in the Aviation Corps."

He has been a resident of Assiniboia for three years.

Mr. Gower was married on Dec. 16 at Assiniboia to Miss Hilda Hall of Regina.

## Visitor Drops Dead and Shock Kills Invalid

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—Called to the bedside of a dying friend, Dugald Paterson, aged 76, a farmer of the Sidney district in Manitoba, collapsed as he entered the sick-room and died. The shock was too much for the invalid, John McGregor, aged 70, and he died a few hours later. The pals of more than half a century will be buried in the same grave.



Cardinal Mercier. Aged primate of Belgium, who underwent an operation for stomach trouble on Dec. 29.

## Canadian Apples Presented to Royal Family

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince of Wales have each accepted a box of Canadian apples, according to a communication received by the Dept. of Agriculture from the High Commissioner's Office in London.

These apples were Ontario Northern Spies, grown in Western Ontario, and formed part of a shipment specially chosen by the Dept. of Agriculture for shipment to the High Commissioner for presentation purposes.

## THE MARKETS

### TORONTO.

Man. wheat—No. 1 North, \$1.79; No. 2 North, \$1.76; No. 3 North, \$1.72.

Man. oats—No. 2, CW, nominal; No. 3, 53c; No. 1 feed, 61c; No. 2 feed, 49c.

Am. corn, track, Toronto—No. 2 yellow, 96c.

Milfeed—Del. Montreal freights, bags included; Bran, per ton, \$30.25 to \$31.25; shorts, per ton, \$32.25 to \$33.25; middlings, \$39.25 to \$40.25; good feed flour, per bag, \$2.30.

Ont. flour—42 to 45c, f.o.b. shipping points.

Ont. good-milling wheat—\$1.42 to \$1.45, f.o.b. shipping points according to freights.

Barley—Malting—65 to 67c.

Buckwheat—No. 3, 70c.

Rye—No. 2, 80c.

Man. flour—First pat., \$9.30, Toronto; do, second pat., \$8.80.

Ont. flour—Toronto, 90 per cent. pat., per barrel, in carlots, Toronto, \$6.60; seaboard, in bulk, \$6.60.

Straw—Carlots, per ton, \$9 to \$9.50.

Screenings—Standard, reclaimed, f.o.b. bay ports, per ton, \$20.

Cheese—New, large, 22 to 22½c; twins, 22½ to 23c; triplets, 24c; Stiltons, 25c; Old, large, 28c; twins, 29c; triplets, 30c.

Butter—Finest creamery prints, 47c; No. 1 creamery, 46c; No. 2, 44 to 45c; Dairy prints, 41 to 42c.

Eggs—Fresh extras, in cartons, 60c; fresh extras, loose, 58c; fresh firsts, 55c; storage extras, 45c; storage firsts, 42c; storage seconds, 34 to 35c.

Dressed poultry—Chickens, spring, lb., 30c; hens, over 4 to 5 lbs., 24 to 28c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 22c; roosters, 18c; ducklings, 5 lbs. and up, 30 to 32c; turkeys, 42 to 45c.

Beans, Can. handpicked, lb., 6c; primes, 5 to 5½c.

Maple produce—Syrup, per imp. gal., \$2.40; per 5-gal. tin, \$2.30 per gal.; maple sugar, lb., 25 to 26c.

Honey—50-lb. tins, 11½ to 12c per lb.; 10-lb. tins, 11½ to 12c; 5-lb. tins, 12 to 12½c; 2½-lb. tins, 14 to 14½c.

Smoked meats—Hams, med., 26 to 28c; cooked hams, 40 to 42c; smoked rolls, 22c; cottage, 23 to 25c; breakfast bacon, 32 to 36c; special brand breakfast bacon, 38 to 39c; backs, boneless, 30 to 37c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 to 70 lbs., \$22; 70 to 90 lbs., \$20.50; 20 lbs. and up, \$19.50; lightweight rolls, in barrels, \$43.50; heavyweight rolls, \$39.50 per barrel.

Lard—Pure tierces, 18 to 18½c; tubs, 18½ to 19c; pails, 19 to 19½c; prints, 20 to 20½c; shortening tierces, 13½c; tubs, 14c; pails, 14½c; blocks, 15 to 15½c.

Heavy steers, choice, \$8 to \$8.75; do, good, \$7.75 to \$8; butcher steers, choice, \$7 to \$8; do, good, \$6 to \$6.65; do, med., \$4.75 to \$5.50; do, com., \$4 to \$5; butcher heifers, choice, \$6.75 to \$7.50; do, good, \$5.75 to \$6.25; do, med., \$5 to \$5.50; do, com., \$4.50 to \$4.75; butcher cows, choice, \$5 to \$5.25; do, fair to good, \$4 to \$4.50; butcher bulls, good, \$4.50 to \$5.75; hognogs, \$3.25 to \$3.50.

## MONTREAL.

Oats, No. 2 CW, 63c; No. 3 CW, 58½c; extra No. 1 feed, 56c. Flour, Man. spring wheat pats, firsts, \$9.30; seconds, \$8.80; strong bakers, \$8.40 to \$8.60. Winter pats, choice, \$7.70. Rolled oats, bag, 90 lbs., \$3.40 to \$3.50. Bran, \$30.25 to \$31.25; shorts, \$32.25 to \$33.25; middlings, \$39.25 to \$40.25. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$14.50 to \$15.

Cheese, finest wests, 21½ to 22c. Butter, No. 1 pasteurized, 41½ to 42c; No. 1 creamery, 40½ to 41c; Eggs, storage extras, 46c; storage firsts, 40 to 41c; storage seconds, 34 to 35c; fresh extras, 68c; fresh firsts, 63 to 64c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, Quebec, \$2.60 to \$2.75.

## METEORITE DROPPED IN OTTAWA DISTRICT

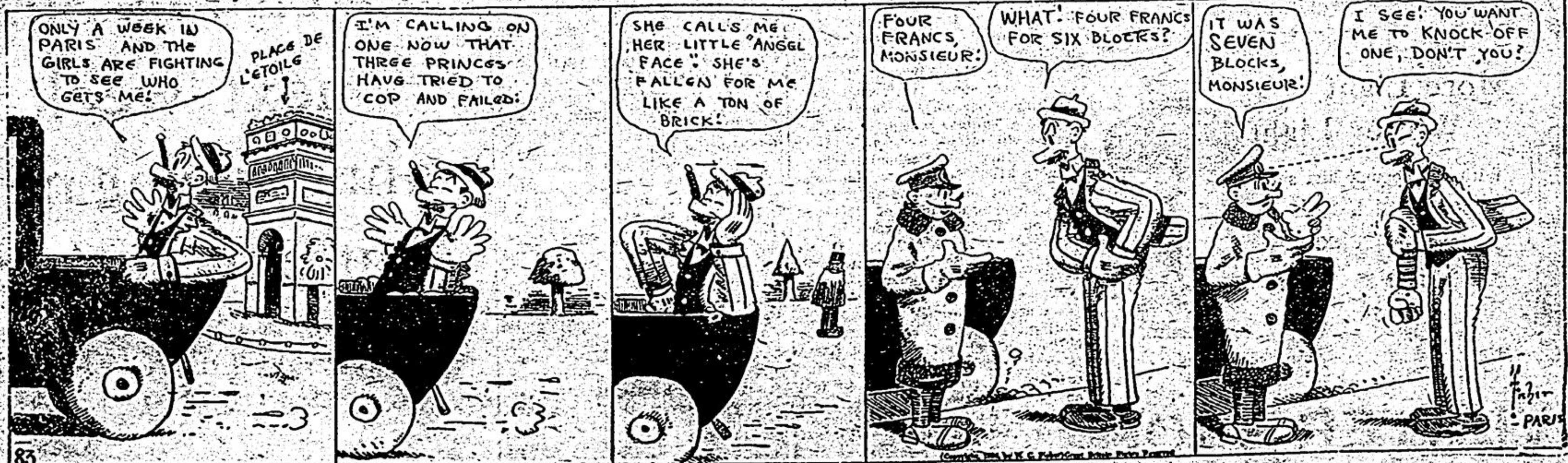
### Unusual Phenomenon Witnessed by Rector of Chelsea and Other Residents.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—In the opinion of Ralph Delury, Dominion Government astronomer, an unusual phenomenon witnessed in the northern skies on a recent evening by Rev. E. G. May, rector of the Anglican Church at Chelsea, Que., and other residents of that district, may mean that a huge meteorite has dropped to earth somewhere in this district.

The interest of the astronomical authorities has been aroused by the report, which has been furnished by Rev. Mr. May, and an effort will be made to ascertain if possible where the visitor from the skies landed, and to locate it if possible.

Rev. Mr. May stated that he was seated in his study, the window of which faces the Kingsmere Hills, about 5 o'clock, when he saw a star or comet fully the size of the eastern star, which flashed across the sky in a brilliant illumination and disappeared over the rim of the hills, which were fully lit up by the reflection. After it had passed beyond the horizon formed by the hills, a narrow band of brilliant light remained visible for fully five minutes, to gradually disappear as though dispersed by wind.

## MUTT AND JEFF—By Bud Fisher.



Looks Like Frenchy is Gonna Get a Sock in the Beak