

ALLEN  
TO-DAY  
BETTY BLYTHE  
in  
"HIS WIFE'S  
HUSBAND"

# The Daily British Whig

ALLEN  
MON. TUES. WED.  
WESLEY (Freckles)  
BARRY  
in  
"RAGS TO RICHES"

YEAR 89; No. 208.

KINGSTON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1922.

LAST EDITION.

## QUEBEC'S OLD BASILICA IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

### Believed That This Ancient Edifice Was Set Ablaze By a Fire Fiend.

### Church Erected in 1647--It Was Bombed in 1759 By General Wolfe When the British Attacked the Old French City.

Quebec, Dec. 22.—The church of Notre Dame de La Recouvrance, the oldest basilica in the city, and many art treasures, were destroyed by a fire that left the edifice a mass of ruins early today. The loss is estimated one million dollars.

For a time many of the city's finest buildings were endangered. These included the Chateau Frontenac, the Canadian Pacific Railway hotel and newspaper offices.

The flames threatened the historic palace of the cardinal behind which is situated the Quebec seminary, which also is being showered with sparks. So serious was the situation that the students of the seminary were marched out in the dark of the early morning and distributed about the city. Sparks endangered the north side of Buede street on which are situated the office of the Quebec Chronicle and the Quebec Telegram. Sparks also fell on buildings on Anne street, most prominent of which are the Morgan Block and the Union Bank. In front of the buildings is the square on one side of which is Chateau Frontenac and on the other the Anglican cathedral. The fine basilica, the pride of Quebec and the church of the only cardinal in Canada, was a centre of pilgrimage.

pressure. Those who were noticed to be sending water only a few feet and very soon after the outbreak it was obvious to onlookers that the church was doomed. The flames jumped across the narrow street which separates the church from the business section of old Quebec. Firemen checked the progress of the fire in this direction.

At 2.30 a.m. the great tower and the chimneys fell into the narrow streets across which the flames were shooting. The power was off and the firemen were fighting with low pressure. Fortunately Father Lafamme, the pastor, was able to save the Sacred Host and other vessels but nothing else could be carried out. The fire broke out in the Basilica itself shortly after midnight.

### Great Excitement.

The Catholic population is excited and alarmed and rumors continue to spread that the Ku Klux Klan is responsible. It is impossible to ignore the significant fact that Catholic institutions have suffered more than any other section of the community. This winter great fires have destroyed St. Boniface College, university of Montreal, and the Church at Oka while it is less than year since the destruction of the miracle-working shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre.

Among the treasures destroyed were the religious garments of the clergy, said to be the most beautiful on the American continent, a painting of Christ by Van Dyke and a painting of St. Paul by Carlo Maratta. The religious vestments were donated to the church by the old French kings. The church, rich in historical and romantic religious lore, was the seat of the only cardinal in Canada. It was erected in 1647. It was bombed in 1759 by the British under Wolfe and about 90 persons were buried in the crypt.

### Believed Incendiary.

The fire was believed to have been incendiary. The chief of provincial detectives received a threatening letter several days ago saying that the church, the most beautiful in all Canada, would be burned December 24th. The blaze was the climax to a number of others in Canada recently which destroyed churches.

The same fire bug, the police said, is believed to have been responsible for the destruction of many religious edifices in the last few years.

The firemen were greatly hampered in their efforts by poor water

## PARLIAMENT MAY RE-OPEN ON JAN. 25

### The Members' General Desire To Assemble Earlier Seems Impossible.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The date of the opening of parliament will be discussed and possibly settled at this afternoon's sitting of the cabinet council. Before the close of the last session a committee of members representing the three parties interviewed all and sundry as to their idea when the next session should be called.

The plan of a fall session was rejected almost unanimously and one starting in the first half of January was recommended. It had been intended to comply with this request, but the delay in the home-coming of Messrs. Fielding and Lapointe has set back the plans. The idea nevertheless is that the session should open before the end of next month. If the custom of starting on a Thursday is adhered to it will likely be on the 25th.

To that end there are signs of preparation. Departmental estimates are being got ready and data assembled for the revision of the Bank Act, while a redistribution bill has been drafted. It is all prearranged. The filling in of schedules, defining the boundaries of constituencies, will be assigned to a special committee, which will sit behind closed doors. In the natural order of things, following the new unit of representation, the cities will all get an increase in the number of members and there will be some reduction corresponding in the rural parts.

The enactment of redistribution will pave the way for a general election whenever circumstances are considered to warrant it. The government is practically pledged not to dissolve parliament for any reason until this new electoral scheme is implemented, but once it is they will be free to do so.

## Province Gets \$3,477,430 From Motor Car Licenses

Toronto, Dec. 22.—The province's revenue for the past fiscal year from automobile fees, has totalled the sum of \$3,477,430, according to a statement from the Ontario Highways Department. This figure is over half a million dollars in excess of the revenue of \$2,945,350 which was received during 1921. The number of vehicles in operation increased during the year from 201,500 to 229,500.

### Officially Denied.

Berlin, Dec. 22.—It was officially denied yesterday that Chancellor Cuno or any other government official had suggested the appointment of a United States commission to investigate Germany's economic conditions.

## ORILLIA POWER RATES CUT \$1 PER HORSEPOWER

### Report Shows Receipts Exceed Expenditures by \$22,028.57.

Orillia, Dec. 22.—The Orillia Water, Light and Power Commission has announced a further cut in electric light and power rates, effective December 22nd.

All power rates have been cut \$1 per horsepower per annum. Domestic light rates have been reduced for meter service from 5 cents, 2 1-2 cents and 1 cent to 4 cents, 2 cents and 1 cent per kilowatt hour; flat rates from 12 to 11 cents per lamp per month; commercial light flat rate from 15 cents to 14 cents per lamp, and also a reduction in motor rates; factory lights from \$1.11 per annum to \$1.

There are no floor-space or stand-by charges on Orillia lights and in this respect they differ from other Hydro power rates. All rates are subject to 10 per cent. discount for prompt payment each month.

## A GREAT FIRE AT BROOKLYN

### An Apartment House Burned —Two Firemen Missing, Chief Badly Injured.

New York, Dec. 22.—Two firemen were reported missing and an apartment house occupied by the Wildsburg section of Brooklyn early today.

Some of the firemen were injured by a falling trolley wire which caused explosions. Others were hurt by the collapse of the front wall and roof of the 1 A business building occupied by a baby carriage concern where the fire was believed to have started.

Light wires were put out of commission, throwing the scene into darkness, save for the flames, and causing a panic. Five adjoining dwelling houses caught fire and several apartments were endangered before the blaze was brought under control at six o'clock this morning.

Deputy Chief John F. O'Hara was among those injured by the falling wall. O'Hara's condition is reported as critical. Debris of the building is being searched for the missing firemen. A check up of hospitals is also being made to learn if they were injured and taken away in taxicabs.

Number of good quality horses in the dominion at present indicate a scarcity in the near future.

## A DEFINITE PLAN SOON

### In Connection With the Problem of German Reparations.

## THE U.S. AS MEDIATOR

### Britain and Germany Are Agreeable—France is Discussing the Proposal.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The move to extend United States aid in solving the reparations problem has reached a stage where a definite plan of action may be decided on in the near future.

As it now is under consideration, the proposal contemplates appointment of a United States commission to study economic and industrial conditions in Germany, and to fix the total of reparations which the German Government may reasonably be expected to pay.

It is the understanding in authoritative circles here that both Great Britain and Germany are willing to accept the award of such a commission.

On the part of France, discussions are understood to be in progress at Paris between Premier Poincare and certain German captains of industry looking to the feasibility of the United States commission plan, but a decision is regarded as likely before the Council of Allied premiers re-assembles to discuss reparations on January 2nd.

United States State Department officials declared that the discussions could not properly be considered "negotiations," and that published reports that Great Britain had sent a formal note accepting the commission plan were in error.

## PHANTOM SHIP ON LAKE

### Survivors of Tug Reliance Claim Essex Craft Crossed Bow.

Sault Ste. Marie, Dec. 22.—Superstitious survivors of the wrecked tug Reliance, arrived here with a tale of a phantom ship which they assert crossed their bow shortly before the Reliance smashed on a reef off North Lizard Island last Wednesday.

The phantom ship, they said, was sighted off Gargantua, shortly after dark. Within two hours, the Reliance had struck Lizard reef, and three of her crew, including John McPherson, first to sight the phantom ship were drowned.

The phantom ship is known to north Lizard islanders, several of whom claim to have seen it, as "the ghost of the Lambton," a government boat which sank with all hands on its maiden trip last spring, as it was taking a group of lighthouse men to their posts.

## U. S. President Wishes Children Merry Christmas

New York, Dec. 22.—President Harding sent Christmas greetings to the children of the United States in the form of a telegram to the Santa Claus association, a national organization which receives letters written by children to Santa Claus and sees that they are suitably replied to.

"Merry Christmas to the children of the United States," the president's message read.

The words were sent by radio to each of the 48 branches of the Santa Claus association in the country.

## Canadiana Merry at Westminster

London, Dec. 22.—Twelve bridesmaids and pages attended Miss Helen Eaton, daughter of the late Lieut.-Colonel Vernon Eaton, of the Canadian Horse Artillery, when she was married in St. Margaret's church, Westminster, to Sir John Lindsay Dashwood, premier Baronet of Great Britain. Major-General Septimus Denison, formerly of Toronto, gave the bride away. Col. Eaton was a resident of Truro, N.S., and later the family lived in Kingston and Ottawa.

## What London, Ont., Burns

London, Ont., Dec. 22.—Londoners have apparently made up their minds that they will have to burn soft coal, and the dealers are now busy handing out the bituminous article in small lots. Cordwood is in keen demand, but few dealers having it, and one big local concern reported that its employees have been unable to purchase even fallen timber from farmers in the neighborhood.

## \$70,000 Shortage in Bank

Chicago, Dec. 22.—National Bank examiners, it was announced this afternoon, have discovered a shortage of \$70,000 in the First National Bank of Chicago, the second largest banking institution in the city. Seth Anderson, manager of the bank's out-clearing department, was arrested on a warrant obtained by R. E. Newhall, cashier of the bank. Mr. Newhall said the bank was fully protected by insurance.

## THE TIERNANS TO TRY TO DROP THE PAST

### Family in New York With Parents Striving to Make "New Start."

New York, Dec. 22.—Professor and Mrs. John T. Tiernan, of South Bend, Ind., and the boy upon whose head fell the brunt of their paternity court battle against Harry Poullin, wealthy South Bend merchant, were found yesterday living in a hotel in Greenwich village.

With them were their two daughters. All were registered as "William A. Ross and family, Detroit." They have been in the city ten days. Professor Tiernan, with relatives in New York, came here for the announced purpose of making a "new start." Mrs. Tiernan and the children have remained in seclusion, even taking their meals in their rooms.

Professor Tiernan had been granted a divorce, but this was annulled after he had married again soon after the decree was granted.

Prof. Tiernan returned to the hotel soon afterward, but he was as silent as his wife.

## LORD CURZON MENTIONS CANADA-U.S. TREATY

### In Discussing Question of Sovereign Rights With Turkish Representative.

Lausanne, Dec. 22.—The note of the United States that it does not regard an international commission as necessary undoubtedly bore fruit, as Lord Curzon gave careful consideration to Ismet Pasha's plea that Turkey would consider international interference with Turkey's affairs as "worse than death."

An agreement will likely be reached exempting the demilitarized zone along the straits from control by the proposed international commission which will have jurisdiction only over navigation of the straits, leaving the portage to the Turks.

Ismet Pasha also pleaded for further guarantees for the safety of Constantinople than those which would be afforded by the League of Nations and proposed additional guarantees similar to those given to the Aland Islands. He insisted that Turkey must have further assurance from the important powers individually and collectively that her territory will not be violated. He accepted in principle the fundamental provisions for control of the straits outlined by the Allies but pleaded that Turkey must have her sovereign rights thoroughly safeguarded.

## Christians Are Leaving Asia Minor For Greece

Constantinople, Dec. 22.—Twelve thousand Christians from Asia Minor left Constantinople yesterday in five Greek steamers bound for Greek islands and the Greek mainland. They were brought here by British and Italian vessels from the Black Sea ports of Samsun, Trabzon, Ineboli and Ordu and were transhipped to waiting Greek vessels in the Bosphorus.

All Make Concessions.

Lord Curzon, after hearing Ismet's statement of the Turkish position, said that Ismet's acceptance of the general principles of free passage as outlined by the allies now made it possible to discuss details of the practical application of those principles. He expressed sympathy with Ismet's anxiety lest Turkey's sovereignty should be affected by the proposed treaty, but pointed out that in a measure every power surrendered some of its sovereign rights when it negotiated treaties.

He mentioned the great lakes treaty between Canada and the United States as one which in a sense limits against the sovereignty of either, and contended that the proposed regulation of the straits was the same.

As it is clear that the United States will accept no seat on a straits control commission, regardless of how much the powers of this proposed international body are limited, the members of the American delegation were asked tonight whether the United States would in any way, be bound to respect the regulations imposed by this body if the United States would negotiate a treaty, immediately, with Turkey. To this Ambassador Child made no answer.

## Foreign Ships

Ismet Pasha also objected to various nations retaining station ships at Constantinople and this matter was referred for discussion to the experts who explained later that station ships are really used as taxicabs for the high commissioners or ambassadors.

## Rear Admiral Bristol Said He Did Not Think It Likely That The Turks Would Insist on the Removal of the Scorpion, Which Has Been in the Bosphorus for Years.

No date has been set for continuation of the consideration of the straits question which generally is regarded as virtually settled.

Gobbler Brings \$7.75.

Cobourg, Dec. 22.—It is not alone on the Christmas market that the lordly turkey commands a high price. At a recent sale of farm stock some live turkeys made a record sale. A gobbler sold for \$7.75, and three young birds at \$5.75 each.

## A NEW NAME FOR BRITAIN

### To Be Known As "British Commonwealth of Nations."

## TO DROP NAME OF EMPIRE

### The Irish Free State Is Not To Be a Dominion Like Canada.

New York, Dec. 22.—That the British empire has ceased to be and that "The British Commonwealth of Nations" has taken its place will be officially announced in London within the next ten days, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune. News to that effect, he says, was learned in Washington last night.

"This plan," continued the correspondent, "which has been under consideration between Downing street and the Dominions for more than a year has been brought to a head, according to information reaching here, by the Irish Free State, which will be part of the British Commonwealth of Nations but not a dominion as Canada and Australia have been dominions.

"Intimations of the new status of the British Empire were given a year ago during the armament limitation conference, but had been almost forgotten. It is announced now that the plan has been completed, and all negotiations with the dominions have been satisfactorily consummated."

## KEEP UNDESIRABLES FROM COMING INTO CANADA

### And Also Stem the Exodus From Dominion to the United States.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—An open door policy of immigration is not favored by Dr. T. A. Brisson who addressed the chamber of commerce here yesterday. He declared that the government should first try to stem the exodus of emigrants from the dominion to the United States. He warned against undesirable being invited to Canada. Without strict surveillance, he declared, radical, prospective papers, the rift-ratt of European cities and criminals would find their way to Canada to fill the jails and asylums and become a burden upon the populace.

## VIRTUAL DEATH WARRANT FOR IMPRISONED REBELS

### Decision of Irish Insurgents to Continue Guerrilla Warfare Condemns Them.

Dublin, Dec. 22.—The decision of insurgents to continue guerrilla warfare in County Kerry automatically becomes a virtual death warrant for four imprisoned rebels here. The four condemned men were sentenced immediately after the execution of seven others by the Free State this week, but the sentence was respite on condition that the insurgents cease their campaign of incendiarism, bombing, assassinations and other outrages.

## Toronto Elections

Toronto, Dec. 22.—C. A. Maguire, mayor, and Robert J. Fleming were nominated for the mayoralty here yesterday.

W. W. Hiltz, Thomas Foster, Joseph Gibbons and A. R. Nesbitt, Joseph Singer, Alfred Burgess, Sam McBrine and J. B. L. Starr were nominated for the board of control. The first four form the present board.

## TAVERNS MAY SELL BEER

Quebec, Dec. 22.—By an amendment to the Quebec liquor law, presented to the House yesterday afternoon, rural districts will be given the right to have taverns for sale of beer by the glass. At present sale by bottle at grocery only is permitted. It is not expected that the sale of wine by the glass will be permitted in rural taverns.

## SAD CHRISTMAS FOR A FIREMAN

### Found Bride-To-Be Burned to Death—Tragedy Follows His Family.

London, Ont., Dec. 22.—Christmas, associated so familiarly with merry smiles and rollicking laughter, will for one unfortunate citizen of London, only serve to inspire visions of a radiant bride whose wedding, planned for Christmas day, was prevented by the ruthless scourge of Northern Ontario fire. Victor Colin, newly appointed fireman of Ferris's factory, was to be the bridegroom; Winifred Boyd, sweetheart of his childhood, was to be the bride. Returning from a fishing trip in the north country, Colin found the home of his fiancée in ruins with the bodies of Miss Boyd and her mother buried in the debris. His own little home, purchased for his prospective bride, was burned to the ground. Destitute, and with all dear to him victims of a cruel fate Colin walked to London and yesterday procured a job which by an ironical coincidence, was that of fireman in a local factory.

If misfortune ever pursued one family with relentless tenacity it was the Colin family. Strangely enough, it was always in shape of fire. Victor Colin's grandfather was killed by a fire in Martinique caused by a volcanic eruption. His parents were crushed and burned to death in the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. His sweetheart met a horrible death from the same agent near Hallowbury, and now the only survivor is employed heaping coals into a furnace to feed the brute that destroyed his loved ones.

Two hundred Danish farmers are to come to Canada to settle.

## WORKING ON ROBBERY.

Special Constable On Duty At G. W. V. A. Rooms.

There is still a good deal of speculation regarding the robbery at the Great War Veterans' Association. On Friday morning, it was stated that the loss could not be accurately estimated, but it is believed that it will not exceed \$30. Detective James Cotter is working on the case, but it would appear that his main chance of solving the whereabouts of the burglar lies in the 21st battalion crests among the booty obtained.

A constable was on duty in the association rooms during the night, in case that the robber might return, but the latter is apparently satisfied that there is no money to be had and probably intends to steer clear of the neighborhood in the future.

## Montreal Is Considering Underground Railway Lines

Montreal, Dec. 22.—A question that first received attention in 1914 is again being mooted at the City Hall regarding the proposed construction of underground train lines as a means of relieving the congested traffic now hampering Montreal's principal thoroughfares. Civic engineers, after making a close study of the scheme stated that the subway in question would cost the city nearly a million dollars a mile. At the present time tracks can be laid on the surface for \$75,000. The city council is seriously considering the advisability of putting this gigantic plan into effect.

## DIED AGED 105.

Brockville, Dec. 22.—Patrick Smith, the oldest resident of the township of Front of Eden, died there at the great age of 105.

## SIGN DECLARATION OF ALLEGIANCE

Dublin, Dec. 22.—A large number of Irish republicans, prisoners in Mountjoy prison, will, it is understood, be released at Christmas, having signed a declaration of allegiance to the Free State. For the remainder no holiday parole will be granted.

## THE VIRGIN'S BABE.

This week once more the world thrills with its annual joy. The skies may be murky, the frost king stern, but in a million homes the fires of love are glowing, the lights of peace and charity shine bright, and a warmth of gladness shines in young and old. And all because one night long centuries ago, while the festive crowds were gathering in the Inn a Little Baby Boy was born in a lowly manger in the City of David which is called Bethlehem. The mystery and glory of life have ever centred in the child, and as they circle round the little life that lies so puny in the cradle, strong men grow tender, rough youth seems strangely softened, the children gaze with gladness while maidens and mothers bend with awe and sacrificial joy. Yes, the great American was right when he said that a baby was better for the heart than a whole academy of philosophers, and so we are not surprised to read that a young missionary Madonna wrote home of her first-born babe, "I had no idea being a mother was so wonderful." But most wonderful is the thought of Bethlehem's Babe.

"Why do we keep Christmas?" said the teacher to a lot of scholars in a school in England, and a dear little mite piped out with a sweet little voice:

"Please, sir, it's God's birthday."

"God's birthday!" Ah, that explains it all. For the Baby born that day was the Hope expected a thousand years. He was the Sign the Lord Himself had promised centuries before: "Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and they shall call His Name Immanuel," that is, being translated, "God with us." And since that glorious morn the day that changed the world, bisecting it, so that all before is B.C. (the year of Our Lord) a million million in every age have said or sung with gladness: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." (Isa. lx. 6). "Oh, come let us adore Him; with joyful and triumphant gladness, let us greet the Virgin-born."

Oh mothers, think and thank the Giver of all joy, that the tender mirth and sacred love of every mother has found its culmination in the Sweet and Holy Virgin Mother. Of fathers, forget not that all the merry happiness of a myriad British homes has its rise and reason in the helpless Baby Boy that God gave for us men and our salvation. Oh children, shout for gladness as you open the stockings, and dance round the Christmas tree, but remember as you do, the poor and the sick, the friendless and the orphan. Be like the little girl that said: "Mother, may I send that money uncle gave me to the poor little cripples we were told about the other day. Now Daddy's well again, and hard times are over, I feel like wanting to make somebody else happy, too." And O you busy ones and strong, in this good Christian land of ours, this Canada of ours, disdain to spend this season as men without God, and without Christ. Let it not be spent as the revelry of a heathen's festival, or in the giving of luxuries to those who have too many now, while the poor and hungry stand wondering, forgotten and perhaps desperate. O be still amidst the strife and selfishness of this bad world, to hear the voice of the angelic gospel: "Behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day, a Saviour," and go and touch with kindly hands the brother for whom Christ died as he stands in need. A pound of good news is worth a ton of good advice; and an ounce of real help a pound of soft talk. Thus, and thus only will you and they and all of us realize the everlasting Christmas joy of Him who gave all, and became all, and taught us that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Hail, happy Christmas! Usher it in once more with glorious songs! Garland it with peace and joy! Crown it with charity! God's last and best and greatest gift! And, above all, bring to Him the gold and frankincense and myrrh of a consecrated and adoring heart.

—REV. DYSON HAGUE.

## Many, Many Thanks.

The Kingston General Hospital thanks those who have already sent in their Christmas gifts. But a great many more are needed. The best work, the free treatment to the poor sick of our city must extend more and more as the funds come in.

Toronto, Dec. 20, 1922.