

CAPITOL NOW SHOWING Douglas Fairbanks in "THE KING OF BAGDAD"

The Daily British Whig

CAPITOL MON., TUES., WED. Lon Chaney, John Gilbert, Norma Shearer "HE WHO GETS SLAPPED"

YEAR 93; No. 44. KINGSTON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1925. LAST EDITION

Fifty-one Indiana Miners Killed In Explosion

COMMONS HEARS OF NEEDS OF CANADA'S FRUIT GROWERS

The Liberal Member For Hants, N.S., Claims That the Restrictions Should be Removed--The English Market Should be the Chief One For Canadian Apples.

Ottawa, Feb. 21.—Bill to amend the post office act received first reading when the House of Commons opened yesterday. The object of the bill, explained T. L. Church, is to require sworn statements containing the names and addresses of editors, owners and stockholders of magazines, etc., to be made semi-annually.

The discussion of the Peterson agreement was moved over to Tuesday by Hon. George P. Graham, in absence of Hon. Thomas Low, minister of trade and commerce.

Much discussion ensued over a vote for \$200,000 for the civil government of the fruit branch, department of agriculture. L. S. Martell, (Liberal, Hants) advised the minister of agriculture to get away from restrictions on the apple-grower.

"The sooner the minister gives adequate protection to the fruit grower the better," Mr. Martell said.

Mr. Martell said he did not mean tariff protection. He meant protection to the man who put up a pack of good apples.

Donald Sutherland (Conservative, South Oxford), protested against being lectured by the minister of agriculture when asking for information. Mr. Sutherland suggested that a statement should be provided showing the purpose for which each item was to be devoted.

Hon. Mr. Motherwell explained that practically all of the two hundred thousand votes for the fruit branch was sent for inspectors because the work was mostly of an educational nature.

Expand the Market. "It is all very well," said Mr. Martell, "for our people to advocate shipping

ping to central Canada. It is very well to ask us to sell it in the west. We cannot do it under the present railway rates, but right at home where we grow the best apples in the empire, we cannot, because of the department of agriculture, get our apples in the English market, which should be the chief market. What we want is not help from the railways but properly heated accommodation so we can ship to all parts of the world. I am not speaking for the world. I am not speaking for Nova Scotia, but Nova Scotians are not going to be satisfied, they will not be put off with long speeches and fancy promises. We want proper facilities in Halifax, proper piers and proper warehouses."

Mr. Motherwell Replies. Hon. Mr. Motherwell said it had been assured last year that the railways had supplied heated cars, and action had also been taken to obtain proper pier facilities. After an explanation by Grote Striding, (Conservative, Telle, B.C.), of a voluntary request from the Okanagan, British Columbia, fruit growers, for inspection, the item under discussion carried.

There was an unusual episode in the house when the fruit estimates were being discussed for several hours. C. C. Coote, (Progressive, MacLeod, Alberta), tabled a few apples and showed one to members, saying: "These are Okanagan apples, the one in my hand is the finest of the lot, and it would make two bites for a child. British Columbia members protested. They said it was unfair for Coote to table 'a few select specimens' and call them a sample. British Columbia growers were eager to supply the best possible apples."

Stockholm, Feb. 21.—Nearly the whole of Sweden has been swept by an epidemic of mule-disease and in an effort to stamp it out thousands of animals have been killed. The first cases of the disease were noticed in Scania in the south, and immediately every precaution was taken to prevent its spread.

Farms affected were isolated, military forces were mobilized and formed a ring around the farms. All birds in the vicinity were shot and the grim method of slaughtering all the livestock—cattle, swine, poultry, etc.—was exercised. This proved of no avail and the disease then spread to the north of the country, where the best bred herds suffered greatly. During November and December the government has paid out over two million crowns as compensation.

That there has been an increase in crime in Windsor during 1924 and a larger number of arrests than in the previous year, was stated in the report of the police chief.

Increases in civic salaries totalling \$3,700 and slightly increased grants were recommended by Stratford city council, sitting as committee of the whole.

Progress Made With Various Bills In the Ontario Legislature Friday

Questions Answered by the Government—The Chairman of Ontario Hydro-Electric Commission Receives \$18,000 a Year.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Rapid progress was made in the legislature yesterday afternoon with considerable government legislation as well as private bills. The government got second readings for bills to eradicate the European corn borer; for the suppression of fowl brood among bees; to allow the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway to raise money for capital expenditures on its own bonds; to amalgamate two loan commissions of Ontario; to allow the Victoria park commission, Niagara Falls, to issue its own bonds.

There was some criticism of these measures. W. E. N. Sinclair, Liberal leader, said that the corn borer bill of the government was throwing the responsibility to municipalities instead of taking the responsibility itself. The bill provides that municipalities may appoint an inspector who will order certain things done on farms where the pest is present.

Hon. John S. Martin, minister of agriculture, said that the proposals had been deemed sufficient by all who knew the situation.

The premier in discussing that and N. O. bill said that a railway with assets of \$3,000,000 must borrow on its own credit. He thought it a better business arrangement. The bill passed with little discussion.

Among the private bills introduced were measures to incorporate North Bay as a city; to incorporate Comber as a village, incorporate Ripley as a village; to separate Ojibway from the county of Essex; to increase the exemption for each child in the municipal income assessment

RADIO WAVE LENGTHS ARE BEING REVISED.

Ottawa, Feb. 21.—A revision of all the wave lengths for radio broadcasting throughout Canada was announced to-day by the radio branch of the Marine Department. Dual broadcasting is likely to be prohibited after March 31st, the end of the fiscal year.

"The purpose of the change," explained Commander Edwards, head of the branch, "is to make the Canadian stations fit in with those of the States and give everybody a chance. The rearrangement is made in conjunction with American authorities."

DENIES BIGAMY INTENT.

Duke of Leinster Contradicts U. S. Rumor of Wedding.

London, Feb. 21.—"I certainly do not intend to commit bigamy," said the Duke of Leinster to-day when shown a dispatch from New York containing a rumor he was about to go to America to marry a girl whose name would startle society on both sides of the Atlantic.

"I am married," he said, "I am not suing for divorce, and no divorce proceedings have been taken against me."

Great Tragedy In a Coal Mine

Gas Explosion Believed to Have Killed Fifty-One Men Instantly

Sullivan, Ind., Feb. 21.—In an explosion of gas that wrought the greatest mine disaster in the history of the Indiana coal fields, fifty-one men are believed to have been killed almost instantly at 10.45 o'clock yesterday morning in the City Coal Company mine, on the outskirts of this city.

There were 121 miners in the mine at the time of the explosion which occurred in the third and fourth entries north, where most of the men were at work, who were killed.

C. O. Thomas, check-weighman at the mine, officials of the mine and rescue workers all were of the opinion that there is no possible chance of the men being alive. The miners who were injured were brought to the surface at once.

The work of bringing out the dead proceeded slowly, the bodies being brought out singly. Rescue workers were handicapped by the fumes of gas which flooded the mine immediately after the explosion.

News Off the Wires In Condensed Form

Believes Calmette vaccine will be effective in dealing with bovine tuberculosis.

With blood-poisoning in the leg. H. S. Oaler, K.C., Toronto, is in hospital in Cairo.

About fifty Ukrainians have arrived in Oxford from the west with a view to purchasing farms in that county. The infant mortality rate at St. Catharines is reported as being 56.1—one of the lowest in the province.

Prince Henry, King George's third son, will soon be appointed to the staff of his regiment, the 10th Hussars.

Scottish Rite Masons of Chatham will organize a degree team for Windsor valley and probably a Scottish title club.

London public utilities commission prepared its estimate asking \$25,000 for playgrounds and \$50,000 for parks.

The \$50,000,000 required for the Ontario electric development scheme on the Ottawa River has been arranged for in New York.

KING GEORGE VERY SLOWLY RECOVERING

London, Feb. 21.—A bulletin issued from Buckingham Palace this morning on the condition of King George, who is suffering from bronchitis, says: "His Majesty's temperature has not yet settled. Progress continues, though slowly."

UNION ACT IS THE ANSWER TO QUESTION IN QUEBEC

Dominion Parliament Confirmed the Presbyterian General Assembly's Powers--The Ontario Legislature and the Two-Thirds Clause--Endless Litigation Feared if Clause Passed.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—One of the counsel of the Unionist committee questioned to-day on the attitude of the Quebec legislators over the church union bill, said that the question they asked had already been answered at Ottawa.

"When Premier King suggested last session, when the Duff amendment to the bill was before the house," said he, "that the matter be referred to the supreme court as to the constitutionality of the acts of the assembly, he said if the act of the assembly were declared unconstitutional and the assembly found to suffer under the disability of being unable to change its doctrine and unite with another church he would be in favor of removing that disability by subsequent legislation."

"The effect of the premier's declaration was that if the parliament was going to remove such disability later it might as well do it then," said he.

"The Duff amendment was defeated by 110 votes to 58 votes, so that parliament has decided already the question that the Quebec legislature would ask.

"The Presbyterian church is a dominion wide institution and only the dominion could incorporate it, and it did so by passing the Union bill," continued the Unionist counsel, "and that bill united the three churches. The Quebec legislature is only asked to make dominion legislation effective in Quebec. They cannot alter what has been done."

Asked as to the possibility of the Ontario legislature passing a bill with a two-thirds clause as asked for by the anti-Unionists, he said to do so would be to upset the Presbyterian system which by its constitution does not recognize dissent and so does not provide for it. The provision in the bill providing that a majority vote might control the property was a matter of privilege viewed from the Presbyterian church system.

Under the Barrier Act of the Presbyterian church, the two-third votes of the presbyteries of the church would be a factor that would have to be taken into account. "If the Ontario legislature passes such a measure it would lead to chaos and endless litigation."

Work of Discovery and Experiment Presses Steadily Forward at Queen's

Too much done Kingston regard Queen's only as a place where generations of pleasant young people win degrees and championships and helpmate. There is an important side to university life which is scarcely heard of. On the staffs of every faculty are men whose minds are not content with routine teaching, men who must be always questioning and verifying the unknown. They make prolonged searches often extending over months and sometimes years. And then it often happens that they do not find what they have been seeking, and only their search remains as a foundation upon which someone else may perhaps build. So little boastful are they that not only does the outside world not suspect what is being attempted but even within the university little is known of the varied studies which are being conducted there by keen and inquiring minds.

In every office and laboratory which he entered the representative of the Whig found things of the greatest interest in progress or about to be attempted. Everywhere there was lively curiosity as to the nature and meaning of things. Because this curiosity exists outside the university walls and because there are often complaints that the city knows little of what goes on within the university, the Whig plans to devote a number of articles to the work of discovery and experiment which presses steadily forward at Queen's.

About 1908 a new disease was introduced into Canada both from Europe direct and from Europe by way of the United States. Its ravages have increased rapidly in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. It takes fearful toll of the young and pulls down the mature and aged as well. It is not a human disease, however, it is called the white pine blight and is a form of fungus which may ultimately destroy all our five-leaved pines. The two-leaved pines, even where they stand next to the white pines do not catch the disease at all—just as there are people who do not take scarlet fever no matter how strongly they are exposed.

It was a strange story that Dr. W. T. MacClement told of how the disease is spread. The fungus spores lodge in the soft bark of the young white pine or in the bark of the twigs and presently a series of eruptions like boils break open the bark until they form a ring around the stem. The little tree or twig is thus girdled and the part above the wound dies. Through the ragged bark protrude tongues of white fungus which give off infection in the form of tiny seeds called spores. But here is the curiosity. One pine tree cannot infect another or other parts of itself. These disease spores which the tree gives off are perfectly harmless to all pine trees. But in the woods grow certain bushes called in Latin Ribes, of which the current and gooseberry are the ones we know best. The spores given off

into the air from the blisters on the white pine attack the under side of the leaves of these bushes causing the leaf to wrinkle. In course of time these infected leaves give off two sorts of spores known as summer and autumn spores. The summer spores can further infect the leaves of the bushes but are without effect on the wood of the pine tree. But the autumn spores from the very same leaf wherever they light on the tender bark of the five-leaved pine start up a new blister.

So the pine gives the disease to the leaves of the bush and the bush gives it back to the pine. The two-leaved pine, as said before, is immune. The disease is peculiarly fatal to young trees, and if all the young trees are killed off it is only a matter of a few years until there are no white pine left. Unfortunately we are not certain that there is any sure means of controlling white pine blight.

In a large cabinet in one of the laboratories are displayed one hundred varieties of plant diseases and on nearby shelves are hundreds of pamphlets and books dealing with the subject. It is certain that plant and insect diseases cost North America at the very least \$1,000,000,000 each year. For the next fifty years the limit of population in America will be fixed not by the available arable soil but by the extent to which we learn to control plant diseases and insects. If these pests could be conquered the land would yield so much more with the same effort as we now give, that the country would support a vastly increased population. It is one little corner of this great problem that Dr. MacClement is attacking.

Rome, Feb. 21.—Belgrade reports serious unrest in Belgrade, where fights are going on between the government and communists who are supposed to have had recent help in money and arms from Moscow. Sentries at the royal palace at Sofia have been entombed. Last month thirty-six political murders were committed, besides 152 ordinary murders and 162 attempted murders. Two hundred and seventy-two were wounded in political fights.

The situation is further complicated by the preparation of a military plot against the government which is very unpopular throughout the country. The premier suspects the young King of trying to form a military government with the help of Generals Lankov and Lacarev.

Secretary Weiss has power to hear argument on Chicago's plea for water diversion.

Dr. MacClement's Work.

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VARSAITY HAS SLIGHT LEAD

Over McGill in Intercollegiate Assault-At-Arms Finals.

QUEEN'S REPRESENTED In the Finals by Two Boxers And Four Wrestlers--Friday Night's Results.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—As a result of the semi-final bouts in the annual Intercollegiate assault-at-arms which was held at Hart House Friday evening before a large crowd of enthusiastic students and amateur boxing and wrestling followers, the championship lies between Toronto, present holders, and McGill, with the local university having the edge by two more finalists than McGill. The bouts last night produced lots of excitement and six or eight boxing contests went the prescribed three three-minute rounds. Two knockouts were secured by McGill at the expense of Queen's students. There was lots of action and the majority of engagements produced plenty of heavy hitting.

A welterweight bout between Martin of Toronto and Skelton of Queen's was the outstanding one on the card, and while Skelton tried hard all the way and handed out considerable punishment the local entry was awarded the judges' decision. Farlinger of Queen's, who opposed Don Carrick in the lightweight affair took plenty of punishment but was game to the end. Brown of Queen's, has had little experience but he gave Gordon of McGill a great slugging argument in the heavyweight class and his gamehood brought down the house.

In the boxing finale tonight Toronto and McGill have seven entries each and Queen's two, while Toronto has seven remaining in the wrestling, McGill five and Queen's four. The bouts to-night will commence at 7.30 sharp. The fencing championship will also be decided this evening.

Boxing. 118 pounds—Brain (McGill) won from Marshall (Queen's), knockout in second round.

128 pounds—Cape (McGill) defeated Graham (Toronto) decision.

135 pounds—Robertson (Toronto) won from Hale (Queen's) decision.

147 pounds—Martin (Toronto) won from Skelton (Queen's) decision.

160 pounds—Marshall (McGill) won from Howard (Queen's) knockout in third.

175 pounds—Carrick (Toronto) won from Farlinger (Queen's) decision.

Heavyweight—Gordon (McGill) won from Brown (Queen's) decision.

Wrestling. 118 pounds—Webster (Toronto) won from Tovell (Queen's) decision.

128 pounds—Cooper (Toronto) won from Hall (Queen's) decision.

135 pounds—Clement (McGill) won from Cornell (Queen's) decision.

147 pounds—Donovan (Queen's) won from McNaughton (McGill) decision.

The Finals. The draw for the finals to-night is:

112 pounds—Rutnam (Toronto) vs. Bartels (Queen's).

128 pounds—Cape (McGill) vs. Hanna (Queen's).

140 pounds—Marshall (McGill) vs. Fiddler (Toronto).

175 pounds—Carrick (Toronto) vs. Hughes (McGill).

Heavyweight—Gordon (McGill) vs. Mabon (Toronto).

112 pounds—Dugan (Toronto) vs. Stoddard (Queen's).

147 pounds—Donovan (Queen's) vs. Kohl (Toronto).

160 pounds—Jekell (Toronto) vs. Wall (Queen's).

175 pounds—Demitro (McGill) vs. Housberger (Queen's).

Heavyweight—Long (Toronto) vs. Freedman (McGill).

The officials for boxing were Elwood Hughes, referee; Major J. McGowan and Capt. Lou Scholes, judges; wrestling, Sydney Smith, referee; J. S. Vanderploeg and Capt. Lou Scholes, judges.

HON. WILLIAM PUGSLEY IS CRITICALLY ILL

Has Contracted Pneumonia—Crisis Will Not Be Reached for Few Days.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Hon. William Pugsley, chairman of the dominion commission investigating war claims against Germany, continues seriously ill in his room in the King Edward Hotel, to which he has been confined since his arrival from Ottawa last Monday. Pneumonia has developed from a severe cold, and, as he is of advanced years, considerable anxiety has been aroused. It is not expected that the crisis will be reached for a few days.

Prediction Made by Mining Authority at Ottawa.

Ottawa, Feb. 21.—Prediction of \$1.25 wheat in 1924 if this year's crop is up to expectations, was made in an address by J. A. Osborne, milling authority. The cause of the present high wheat prices was laid at the door of world shortage by the speaker. The surplus from this year's crop over to next year would be very small. Mr. Osborne said that there was no real shortage of oats in the world at present.

Girl Indicted For Murder.

New York, Feb. 21.—The grand jury returned an indictment yesterday charging Miss Dorothy Perkins, 17-year-old telephone operator, of 36 Jane street, with murder in the first degree, in connection with the shooting of Thomas Templeton, one of her suitors, in her home last Saturday night.

To Oppose Mr. Graham.

Kingsville, Feb. 21.—The Conservatives of South Essex, at one of the largest conventions ever held in Western Ontario, yesterday afternoon nominated Eccles J. Gott, Amherstburg, as their standard bearer to contest the constituency against Hon. George P. Graham at the federal election.

BRITAIN WILL BAN CANADIAN POTATOES

Imports to Be Stopped Because of Risk of Introducing Colorado Beetle.

London, Feb. 21.—The importation of Canadian potatoes into England, which during the past few months has attained unusual proportions, will be stopped by order of the Board of Agriculture.

It is alleged that the importation of potatoes from the dominion involves the risk of introducing the Colorado beetle into Great Britain. Last December the entry of United States potatoes was barred for this reason. Although the order takes place immediately, commitments already on route will be admitted.

A similar order was issued last December regarding U.S. potatoes.

WEINER LUNCH AND BEER PARTY.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—"As soon as the 4.5 beer amendment is adopted I am going to give a beer and weiner lunch in Parkdale," J. A. McCausland, stated yesterday. "Why not?" he asked. "The ladies give afternoon tea."

North Ontario for Union.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Northern Ontario is almost unanimous for church union. Returns from the five presbyteries, namely, Superior, North Bay, Temiskaming, Sudbury and Algoma, comprising 324 congregations, show that only five have voted to remain out of the United Church.

Toronto tax rate is fixed at 30.2 mills.