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He is a Spendthrift of Chance who does not investigate—whether it be the wisdom of service or the profit of advertising.



GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS OF RUSSIA

One of the greatest generals of the late war, who is now at work organizing a great army for the restoration of the monarchy in Russia. The funds are to be raised by monthly subscriptions of small sums from the Russian refugees in many parts of the world. The refugees are numbered in millions.

AUTOMATIC DEVICES WILL PREVENT TRAIN COLLISIONS

Project of N. Y. Central System Will Eventually Cost \$50,000,000 And Will Take Several Years To Complete.

(United Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Bids for the installation of automatic control devices on five of its divisions that will make impossible collisions such as the recent crash of Twenty-first Century sections at For-sythe, will be opened by the New York Central management. The opening of the bids represents the beginning of work that will cost \$50,000,000 and take several years to complete.

When it is concluded, it is expected that the Central will be nearly fool proof in the matter of observing signals as it is humanly possible to make a railroad.

The initial work by the Central will cover 518 miles of road and 1,368 miles of track. Part of this is on the New York Central System proper, part on the Boston and Albany, leased to and operated by the Central and parts on the Pittsburg and Lake Erie, the "Big Four" and the Michigan Central Lines which are part of the system.

Under the system to be installed the automatic devices supplement the work of the engineer, who will be in control of his train at all times, the automatic controls becoming operative only after he has failed to exercise proper control by recognizing signals set against him, operated by electricity, lighting a lamp that a signal has been passed, and after a limited distance has been covered, sets the brakes unless the engineer has previously done so.

Experiments looking towards the development of a system that would automatically prevent collisions through the ignoring of signals have been under way on the Central for nearly twenty years, the first work being done in 1904.

The first installation on the Central system required the equipment of 242 passenger locomotives and 542 freight locomotives. The problem, which it is believed has been worked out, and which the tests on selected divisions is expected to prove up, has been more involved than the mere stopping of trains. The search, as explained by Central officials, has been to obtain a device that will allow a train to be kept moving in safety, and which will stand up under varying weather conditions.

According to Central officials, under actual service conditions should be under way by late summer of early Autumn.



THE FORTUNES OF THE HENDERSON FAMILY

Arthur Henderson, the famous British Labor leader, photographed since the British election, with his two sons, Mr. Henderson was defeated in his race for parliamentary honors, but both his sons were elected. Mr. Henderson, Enfield, Middlesex, is seen at the left, and at the right of the picture, Arthur Henderson, Jr.

NEW BUILDING BY-LAW UNDER DISCUSSION

Proposed Fire Area Considered Too Extensive by City Council

At a special meeting of the City Council last night on motion of Council member McLeod, second reading was given to the new building by-law. Council member T. W. L. Prowse took the chair. The various sections of the by-law passed with the exception of clause 4 defining the extent of the proposed fire area. This as outlined was considered to be too extensive. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to report progress and hold over to report progress further consideration. The fire area is intended to cover the business section of the city but necessarily included some private residences and the problem before the Council is to cover the former without encroaching upon residential sections.

The new by-law provides for the appointment of a Building Inspector and defines his duties and authority. It requires that permits must be secured for the erection or repair of buildings exceeding in amount \$100. The erection of new wooden buildings within the fire area is excluded, also their repair other than in a fire proof manner as detailed in the by-law. The required construction of roofs, walls, chimneys, etc., in all new buildings is fully set forth, fire stops being required between walls of new buildings, together with other precautionary steps which the experience of recent fires has suggested.

The following copy of a resolution passed by the Ministerial Association on Dec. 14th was received from that body and reads:—"RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that this Ministerial association respectfully request the Mayor and City Council to take such action as will compel the various Dance Halls in the city to close their doors not later than 11 p.m. on Saturdays and not to violate existing laws of running into the Lord's Day."

The Councilors expressed themselves as being in sympathy with the above resolution which was held over for further action pending the present busy season.

Mr. Fred Large, acting assistant tax collector, in his position as city weigher, starting Jan. 7th.



EX-PREMIER VENIZELOS.

Who has been watching keenly the progress of events in Greece, to which he may return as first president of the republic, though he has advised against the deposing of the monarchy. He will not return to Greece unless he knows that his power will have some permanence.

HOSPITAL FIRE IN CHICAGO; 15 BURN TO DEATH

600 Patients Were in Building When the Fire Started

(Canadian Press.)
CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Fifteen patients of the Chicago State Hospital for the insane at Dunning are known to have been burned to death in a fire which destroyed a frame structure used as a dormitory for tubercular patients tonight.

One of the bodies taken from the ruins of the building was that of a woman. It was at first thought that all of the patients had been removed. About 600 patients were in the building when the fire started.

About fifty of the patients left the hospital grounds during the confusion. Many of those returned and others were picked up by passing motorists and returned to the asylum which consisted of seven buildings housing 3,500 patients.

The woman who perished is believed to have been an attendant who went into the building to rescue men patients as there were no women patients in the building. The fire is supposed to have been caused by an overheated boiler in Ward Number 3 of the frame annex where the flames first burst through into the rooms where the men patients were at the supper table.

Many of those killed are believed to have been suffocated or were partly overcome while the guards were hurrying out those whose safety. The building contained only mildly insane and included many who were about to be discharged. When the fire was first noticed by an attendant a gong was sounded and the institution's own fire apparatus responded.

The patients were hurriedly formed into lines and marched from the building.

DETECTIVES AT WORK ON SAINT JOHN MYSTERY

(Canadian Press.)
ST. JOHN, Dec. 27.—A midnight visit by the police to the scene of the gruesome murder of Mrs. Clara Whiteside at East St. John, accompanied by a boy about sixteen years of age, residing at Little River adjoining East St. John, completed a day for the local detectives during which many persons were closely questioned and explained as to their knowledge of this horrible crime. The body of Mrs. Whiteside was discovered yesterday when relatives broke in the door of the house where she lived alone.

The youth, who was taken to the Whiteside home standing on the brow of a hill near the East St. John school house, has not been placed under arrest yet. A reporter who drove out in a taxi-cab after the police at midnight found the home lighted up and the detectives headed by Detective Sgt. John T. Prowse, diligently searching for something, with the youth apparently as anxious to find that "something" as the officers. Questioned regarding the visit at that late hour, Detective Prowse said he was holding the youth for further investigation. "This is only one of the many investigations today," added the detective. It was said that the youth was mentally deficient and had been making some rather disconnected statements to the police. Detective Sgt. Prowse denied that the boy had divulged anything tangible regarding the shocking tragedy.

A coroner's inquest will be held on Wednesday next.

BRITISH RAILWAYS PLAN BIG IMPROVEMENT

(British United Press.)
LONDON, Dec. 27.—The great Western Railway which dominates one of the great groups of railways by which Britain is crossed and traversed under the co-ordination scheme of which Eric Geddes is the main promoter is planning immense developments which will cost nearly fifty million dollars, and which are expected to go a good way towards relieving unemployment in a large section.

The plan includes the rebuilding of stations, laying many miles of double track, boring of a number of tunnels with the object of shortening certain routes between important centres, increased activity in locomotive building shops and in the supply of additional rolling stock.

The move of the Great Western follows an announcement by another great railway, the Lankshire and Yorkshire system, that it will spend fourteen million dollars on Scottish branches.

The possibility of a railway strike which loomed up Christmas Eve was unpleasant when without warning the men took a ballot on whether or not they would accept the verdict of the National Railways Wages Board or strike. Now practically disappeared as the men have agreed to accept the award provisionally. No doubt the generous offer of the railway companies and their big programs of improvements has been a factor in heading off the strike.

MAY ABANDON KILLING TO COMBAT CATTLE DISEASE

British Press Condemns Policy as Wholly Ineffective and Demands That More Modern Methods be Employed to Combat Disease.

(British United Press.)
LONDON, Dec. 27.—The government is seriously considering the abandonment of the policy of slaughtering animals suffering from foot and mouth disease. This plan of dealing with the scourge has been in operation for many years past but lately there has been a strong agitation in the daily press condemning this method of dealing with the problem as wasteful and ineffective as well as involving an enormous cost which must be born by the British taxpayer.

It is generally held that in these enlightened ages some method of checking the disease by isolation and treatment could be given a trial. More than 100,000 cattle have been slaughtered since the outbreak assumed serious dimensions last August and it has been decided to hold a conference shortly when all methods of treatment will be considered and if possible legislation be placed on the statute books by means of which one or more of the curative methods can be given a fair trial. No doubt the spread of disease has seriously affected the import of Canadian cattle which have not been sent over in such large numbers as optimistic supporters of the movement to raise the embargo believed or professed to believe would be achieved. Many new outbreaks continue to be reported and the disease is gaining headway in spite of the drastic methods of slaughter which have been freely employed.

TO PROBE TALE OF BELGIANS

(Canadian Press.)
BRUSSELS, Dec. 27.—The government has requested the Belgian embassy in Berlin to make a thorough investigation of a story told by two Belgian soldiers who arrived here yesterday saying they had been interned in Germany since 1917. One of them declared he had been working on a farm under double guard and said he knew of sixteen more Belgian soldiers captured during the war who were still held prisoners in Germany. Should the story prove to be true the government intends to protest to the Reich. In the event the tale turns out to be a fabrication as has been the case with numerous returning "prisoners of war" these new arrivals have been warned that they will become real prisoners in Belgian jails for "outrage to the magistrature."

EXCELLENT COMEDY DRAMA AT THE PRINCE EDWARD

The success of the Young Adams Company was augmented last night when the unique comedy drama, "The Balloon Girl" was presented before an appreciative audience. The comedy dealt with circus life and the characterization was realistic and striking. Miss Adams again scored a hit as Sylvia and Miss Young to good advantage. Mr. Young, who took the part of the village officer, Constable Clinton, had abundant scope for his humorous talent. Mr. Edwin A. Ball appeared successfully as Rev. Edward Grey. Miss Nina Bruns as Mrs. Chapman played her part admirably. Mr. Edward Stauffer appeared to advantage as Slim, a circus grafter. Mr. John McMillan as Phil Grey, a bank clerk; and Mr. Tom Redway as Toby Greene.

The specialties were excellent and varied and were received with warm applause. The orchestra gave good support.

Yesterday afternoon an excellent matinee performance was given for the benefit of the P. E. I. Hospital. The Commercial Travellers and friends attended in a body, occupying seats in the central section. A box was occupied by the Hospital trustees, who during the first act presented Miss Adams with an elegant bouquet.

It was announced that the play for tonight will be "Spooks", one of the latest New York sensations.

DOM. HOUSE TO BE CONVENED IN FEBRUARY

(Canadian Press.)
OTTAWA, Dec. 27.—The date of the opening of parliament was determined at a meeting of the Cabinet this afternoon.

As the law requires that thirty days notice must be given it is certain that parliament will not meet until February. In fact February 14, is being mentioned as the likely date.

The Government faces the opening of parliament minus the services of Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance and the Premier's First Lieutenant. Hon. James A. Robb, acting minister has been over the administration of the Finance Department and will likely deliver the budget speech in place of Mr. Fielding.

TO OUST MONTREAL POWER COMPANY DIRECTORS

(Canadian Press.)
MONTREAL, Dec. 27.—A group of shareholders of the Montreal Tramways and Power Company today asked Judge DeCarie for permission to institute Quo Warranto proceedings against the Board of Directors of their company with a view to dislodging them from office. Permission was granted.

5,000 MISSING GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SINGLE YEAR

(United Press.)
LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 27.—Women and young girls disappeared in large numbers in Los Angeles during the year just ended, according to the statement of Mrs. Georgia Robinson, of the juvenile board and for many years a policewoman in the city. Over 5,000 girls and women, from all classes of homes, rich and poor, are still on the books as missing during 1923. Probably a number of them have returned and have not had the police notified, but Mrs. Robinson believes the majority are still missing.

The daily disappearance of women and girls is one of the greatest problems confronting the police departments, secret service work, juvenile bureaus and all those who are near and dear to them, according to Mrs. Robinson.

She attributes their disappearance to dissatisfaction. "Dissatisfaction in its phases leads," she says, "to women and girls leaving home an overwhelming desire to have what a parent or husband cannot afford to provide; a yearning to get out into the world alone, to see life from its many other angles, which cannot be experienced in their own little sphere. It is a menacing dissatisfaction so often leads people out into the world in an endeavor to find happiness or to get away from some unexciting, unhappy conditions at home.

"The general spirit of the present age—freedom of life—causes boys and girls alike to feel that they are not afraid out in the world alone, and an innate something urges them to individual expression.

"There is something in the air which tells them if we do not like our conditions, we can change them, and it is this frequently takes them into greater trouble. But the majority of girls who disappear are the pitiful ones who are known as delinquents. Most of them do not know better and this is the nation's greatest problem among youths.

"There is only one solution to the problem," Mrs. Robinson concludes. "More understanding parents, greater opportunity and freedom in the home surroundings and deeper love in the home circle."

Navigation School Announcement

The Navigation School at the Navy League Building, Charlottetown, opens for the season on the 3rd of January. The opening has been a little delayed owing to Commander Lewin's return to England on leave of absence. The Navy League, however, have been most fortunate in securing the services of Captain M. C. Allenby, R. N. who has just arrived out from England with his family, to locate in this Province. Captain Allenby has had very considerable experience in Navigation Instruction. Captain J. Donnetto a graduate of the School has also very kindly offered his service at close. York at 7 p.m. is quite expected that there will be a record attendance this season. This valuable institution which is so highly prized by those who desire to follow the sea, has every expectation of maintaining the excellent reputation already attained.

Condensed Specials

RATE—2c per word, not each insertion in this column.

- TO LET—FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED ROOMS.** Apply 139 Hillsboro St.—11.
- WANTED—POSITION AS HOUSE-KEEPER,** good cook, and capable. Write "V", Box 116, city. 12-28-31.
- FOXES FOR SALE—SEVERAL** good females. J. P. Lantz. 637-12-25-51.
- FOR WINTER MONTHS—COMMANDER** Lawlin's furnished houses. Low rental. Robert Cotton, Brighton.—12-27-21.
- WANTED—MAID FOR HOUSE-**work to go to St. John. Write "J" Box 116, city. 12-28-11.
- LOST—BETWEEN W. W. WEL-**lners and railway station, two horseshoe pins. Finder please leave at W. W. Wellner. 675-12-28-21.
- BUILDING TO LET—IN CENTRAL** part of city, suitable for mechanical or stewards purposes. Apply Fred H. Trainor. 673-12-28-31.
- YOUR BUILDING LOT—CHOOSE** it now. Pay thirty dollars deposit. No interest on balance till May. Then small monthly payments if desired. Robert Cotton, Willow Corner.—12-27-21.
- LOST—A PAIR WILD GESE** with leathers on legs, right wing cut, anyone securing them will receive reward from J. D. Judson, Alexandra, Lot 49. 650-12-27-31.

Violent Hailstorm In South Africa

(Canadian Press.)
PRETORIA, South Africa, Dec. 27.—A hailstorm unprecedented in violence caused damage to property to the extent of 100,000 pounds in city and vicinity Christmas Day. No lives were lost and few were injured as the population found shelter before the storm broke. According to reports some stones weighed one pound and the noise of hail falling resembled an aerial bombardment.

Prince Renounces Right to Throne of Denmark

(Canadian Press.)
COPENHAGEN, Dec. 27.—It is officially announced that Prince Erik of Denmark on the occasion of his betrothal to Miss Lois Frances Booth, of Ottawa, renounced his right to succession to the throne and his title of Prince, King Christian has, however, conferred on him the title of Count of Rothenberg.

OTTAWA, Dec. 27 Prince Erik of Denmark tonight denied that his engagement to Miss Lois Frances Booth, of this city, had caused him to renounce his title of Prince. While he admitted that he would have to renounce any right to the Danish throne, he denied that King Christian had taken his title of Prince away.

7 SAVED FROM DEATH BY FIRE

(Canadian Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Daring firemen early today rescued seven women roomers from the burning top floor of a five-story apartment house here.

Fireman Thomas Hughes took three women, one weighing two hundred pounds down an improvised rope of bed comforters. Four others in the rear room were carried over the adjoining roof.

4 Injured in Western Train Wreck

(Canadian Press.)
EASKATOON, Sask., Dec. 27.—Four persons were injured and six cars derailed when the Canadian National Railway Continental Limited number 2 east bound left the rails near Lizardo this morning. The fact that the cars were constructed of steel prevented fatalities.

The Weather, Etc.

I MAY BE SLOW BUT I'LL TELL TH' WORLD MY NOSE IS BREAKING ALL RUNNING-RECORDS!

TORONTO, Dec. 25.—Maritime winds with snow or rain in western districts extending east during night or Saturday.

Temperature yesterday, maximum 30; minimum 25. High tide this afternoon at 2:24 and tomorrow morning at 1:55. Sun sets this afternoon at 4:23 and rises tomorrow morning at 7:41.

Last quarter moon Sunday, Dec. 30th, 5:07 p.m.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

K. K. K. Councilman Promises to Reform Klan

(Canadian Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—E. Y. Clarke formerly high in the councils of the Ku Klux Klan promised President Coolidge today his co-operation with the executive in ending the activities of "an element" which is converting the Klan into an organization vastly different from that planned by the founders.

Clarke announced his intention of issuing a proclamation to Klansmen "calling the better element either to take hold and rationally existing evils or disband the organization."

Announcements, Coming Events, Meetings, Etc

- THE ENTERTAINMENT AND PLEASURE SOCIETY**, which was to have taken place last evening in the Emerald Hall, will take place this evening.
- Notice:** Coming Norma Talmadge in "Her Reputation" biggest play you saw this year. Monday, Saturday; Souris, Tuesday; Morell, Wednesday; St. Peters, Thursday. Yeo's theatres for great productions. 674-12-28-11.
- Officers for 1924:**
St. John's Lodge: G. Elliot Full—W. M., Wm. Schofield—S. W., A. W. Peterson—J. W., D. A. MacKinnon, P. M.—Treas., Ernest Kemp, P. M.—Secy., Rev. Wm. O. Mulligan, Chaplain A. R. Jones—S. D., Dr. A. W. M. Allan—J. D., A. J. Howie—Marshal, H. M. Stewart—S. S., J. Johnston—J. S., H. Large—L. G., S. B. French—Tyler, L. McDonald—Trustee.
Victoria Lodge: T. W. Lowe—W. M., L. E. Wellner—S. W., H. E. Wood—J. W., R. H. Rogers, P. M.—Treas., H. F. McLeod—Secy.