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## BURNS MEAT PACKING PLANT AT CALGARY IS FIRE SWEEP LOSS TWO MILLION DOLLARS

### Conflagration, Most Disastrous in History of Canadian West, Gained Headway in Early Hours of Sunday—Low Water Pressure and Ammonia Fumes Baffled Firemen.

CALGARY, Alta., Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—The most disastrous fire in the history of Western Canada occurred today when the large packing plant of P. Burns & Co. was totally destroyed. The loss, including carcasses in cold storage, will probably be in excess of \$2,000,000. On account of the low water pressure the fire department was unable to do effective work and at a late hour tonight the fire was still raging.

The loss is serious in that the local plant was the largest institution of its kind in the west, from which all the western cities, including Vancouver and Victoria and the coast cities, draw largely for their meat supply and butchering in the open may have to be resorted to in order to prevent a meat famine. The storage plant contained from 15,000 to 20,000 carcasses.

Driven Back By Fumes.  
The fire was discovered about 12:30 o'clock Sunday morning. The whole of the basement was in flames, and the packing plant department, augmented by all of the city fire departments, were unable to make any headway in a measure to low water pressure and also to the ammonia fumes in the basement, which were so strong that the men could not endure them. Repeatedly the firemen entered the basement, only to be driven back by the overpowering ammonia fumes. In a short time the fire had gotten into the grass soaked floors of the upper storerooms and when this occurred the water had no effect whatever.

Several firemen had narrow escapes from exploding ammonia tanks, but no one was seriously injured. The fire raged furiously all day and tonight little remains of the magnificent plant but charred ruins.

Interesting History.  
The Burns plant was a local institution with a history. It had its roots when P. Burns, then a very young man, came to Calgary, about 20 years ago. It is related that his sole capital was one lone beef steer. The growth of his plant has kept pace with the development of this section, and has made its owner one of the richest men in the west. His wealth being reported to be in the neighborhood of \$15,000,000.

The property destroyed was fully insured, the insurance of the stock in storage being in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000.

Pat Burns, head of the meat packing industry, was at the King Edward Hotel Saturday, but left for the west before the news of the fire was received.

Moncton Times Burned Out.  
MONCTON, N.S., Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—The building of the Moncton Times was gutted by fire this afternoon and much of the machinery and stock destroyed. Fear employees in the building were cut off by the flames and had to be rescued by the firemen.

It will be several days before any of the machinery in the plant can be used and arrangements have been made for moving the Times in the office of The Transcript. The loss will be about \$75,000.

## TERRIFIC GALES SWEEP BRITAIN

### Many Small Craft Reported Wrecked and Big Liners Have Difficulty in Making Port.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—The United Kingdom was swept Saturday and Sunday by heavy gales and snowstorms. There have been many wrecks of small craft, and coast shipping has been considerably damaged. Vessels arriving in port today felt the full fury of the storm and some of them are badly scarred.

In the North of England the storm was of terrific severity, lasting thirty-three hours, and there was a continuous snowfall in the Newcastle district. Telephone and telegraph wires are down in all directions.

The steamer Mauretania was held alongside the landing stage at Liverpool until 9:30 o'clock tonight, when she sailed direct for New York.

To Rescue of Vessel.  
The steamer Celtic, from New York, Jan. 4, which arrived at Queenstown this afternoon, reports having experienced terrific weather. The gale was so violent on Friday and Saturday that the passengers were forbidden on the promenade decks. The Celtic at 4 a.m. Friday spoke to the British steamer New Orleans. She had lost funnel and all lifeboats, and the steering gear was disabled. The Celtic reported that the Wayfarer was putting back to Liverpool. A wireless message stated that the steering gear had been repaired, and that the Corsican and Morganic were standing by.

German Steamer Crippled.  
The British steamer Wilmberg, Philadelphia, Dec. 27, for Hamburg, reports having spoken on Jan. 4 with the German steamer Abyssinia, which sailed from Hamburg Dec. 22 for Philadelphia. The Abyssinia claimed that she had met with an accident, the nature of which, however, is not disclosed.

The German steamer Claus Horn, from Jacksonville, Norfolk, and other ports for Bremen reports having lost all her deck cargo and two blades of her propeller, but is proceeding to Bremen.

The Danish steamer Gledness, Scotland, with the loss of seven lives.

EDMONTON ALSO VISITED.  
EDMONTON, Alta., Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—With the thermometer fast below zero the broke out Saturday afternoon in Reed's Bazaar, a two storey wooden structure at the corner of Jasper and Second streets in the centre of the business section of the city. Owing to a breakdown in the power plant the city was without water for nearly an hour, and it looked for a time as if all the buildings in the vicinity were doomed. Firemen were helpless to stop the flames, and could only tear down adjoining buildings to prevent further progress. After nearly an hour's anxious waiting water was turned on and further progress of the flames was stopped.

## STAR MANAGERS NOT GUILTY SAYS JURY

### Judge Middleton Was Surprised at Verdict and Scored the Jurors Very Severely For Acquitting the Defendants and Censuring Them at the Same Time.

Much to the surprise of Mr. Justice Middleton the jury in the Star Theatre case returned a verdict of "not guilty" against the defendants, Messrs. F. W. Star and Daniel Piroch at 10:30 Saturday night. The judge severely scored the jury for what he called a miscarriage of the administration of justice. He declared that another jury of their type would not be found for a long time. Justice, in his opinion, had been brought into ill-repute by their finding, which follows:

"It is with exceeding great difficulty that we bring in a verdict of not guilty, but the jurors wish the citizens to know that they feel that the proprietors and those in charge of show houses cannot be too strongly censured for allowing such plays as this, suggesting anything that is immoral, indecent or obscene."

Hon. Mr. Justice Middleton: "I assume from the fact that you have taken so much trouble with this verdict that it is honestly and conscientiously arrived at. I may frankly say that I entirely disagree with it. I cannot see how any reasonable man could have any doubt that that play was anything else than immoral, indecent and obscene, and I cannot see how you found that even on the defendants' evidence you could arrive at any other verdict. The rider that you have added to your verdict indicates that you have some doubt, and while now it is my duty to discharge those accused I hope they will recognize the fact that it may be difficult to find another jury that will take a similar view when a play of that kind is again produced. I hope that those in charge of the morality department of this city will not regard this verdict as in any way condoning the laxity that has prevailed. I do not think that we can be proud of the sentence that permits the production of a play so vile and unclean as this play. The department of justice has been brought into disrepute by this trial. The man who drew the attention of the public to this and who described what took place in the theatre in a way that seems to be substantially undisputed, has been convicted of publishing obscene literature, while those who produced the play have been, by the opinion of this jury, acquitted. It is nevertheless my duty to direct that they should be discharged."

After being out four hours Foreman Peacock reported that the jury disagreed. His lordship then spoke of the great expense which a new trial would mean, not only to the country, but to the defendants as well. As far as he could discern, there was not much to disagree on in the case, the law being simple and clear. Of course, they

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## Back to Bytown

OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Not more than ordinary interest is being displayed in the reopening of parliament on Tuesday. Liberal members who returned to the capital today were naturally reticent, and refuse to say what they think the course the party will take on the naval question is going to be.

Reports that the opposition will try to force the government to the country are not generally credited. A caucus of the party will be held, it is understood, on Wednesday, when the reports of the members of the various constituencies will be considered, and the attitude of the party decided upon.

## TRIED ALL WAYS OF ENDING LIFE

### "Everybody's Doing It," Said C. J. Winder When Asked Why He Attempted Suicide by Beating Himself With a Chair, Cutting His Throat and Battering His Skull.

It is by no means the fault of Christopher J. Winder that he is now a prisoner in No. 3 police station, instead of being a coppe at the city morgue. There are just 32 stitches in Winder's head, because this young man experimented on his own person in an attempt to discover the crudest way in which to kill himself.

The lodgers at 118 Grange avenue were awakened about 7:30 yesterday morning by shouts and laughter from a rear room on the second floor. Furniture could be heard crashing on the floor; glass could also be heard against the walls, and above all rose wild shrieks.

Inside the bedroom was Christopher J. Winder. He was engaged in an attempt to batter his head to pieces with a chair. First he would throw the chair up in the air as far as the ceiling. The trick was to let it strike on his head as it fell.

Altogether he dropped to the floor several times with the force of the blow, the crazed man did not desist. When he had exhausted himself by hurling the chair around, Winder rested a few seconds.

Choosing a solid part of the wall, he rushed at it time after time, head down and striking full force against the plaster. A few more times he was floored, but bear his head against the wall with the fury of a wild animal.

This method failing to bring about the desired effect, Winder grasped a china jug. This he smashed over his head. With one piece of china he smashed his throat, cheek, face and arms. With another he succeeded in lacerating the back of his head.

By the time the household had sent for assistance Constable Childs (11) arrived. From a safe distance he watched Winder. With some assistance

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## STARVATION PAY IN TORONTO FACTORIES

### Rev. Byron H. Stauffer Says Wages Paid Are Far Too Low and Predicts the Enactment of a Dominion Minimum Wage Law—First of Series of Sermons.

Canada's prosperity was defined as prodigious by Rev. Byron H. Stauffer, at Bond Street Congregational Church last night. The building was thronged, a number standing through the service.

Big dividends and starvation wages formed the topic. The text was, Masters give to your servants that which is just and equal. This exhortation by Paul, he said, was much softer than the language used by Jeremiah and in Proverbs regarding them who oppress the poor.

Dangers of Prosperity.  
With a nation as with a man, the dangers of prosperity were greater than those of want, just as the diseases of a fat man were often worse than those of a man of spare habit.

The spread with which most enterprises were financed on this continent, were almost incredible. There was one case on record in Chicago, where a big investor rushed into his bank's office and said, "A quarter, thirty-four and a half." "No, five," the banker said. "All right." And in these few words the borrower secured a loan of a quarter of a million dollars, for thirty days, at five per cent.

To start with all would agree that the man who had the ability to organize and manage a business and invest his capital in it should receive the largest salary paid by the business in addition to six to seven per cent interest on his capital. Six or seven per cent was all that in the long run safe enterprises paid. In Toronto there were businesses which were paying large dividends and back of the dividends were starvation wages.

Morally Bound.  
Every employer was morally bound to see that his employees received living wages, and in Toronto the cost of living was \$2 a week a moderate minimum wage for working girls.

In New York 150,000 garment workers were on strike, a total equal to a quarter of the population of Toronto. The sweat shop pay there was as low as two cents an hour. Conditions were better in Canada than in the United States, but in ten years Canadian conditions would at the present rate parallel them.

Society women who in New York pay \$8000 a year for the care of their bodies, or in Toronto wear ball dresses costing hundreds of dollars, are in a measure responsible. Their extravagance causes the capitalists to grind down their employees to pay for the social luxuries. The outcome would inevitably be the enactment of a minimum wage law here. Many employers were conscientious and paid their employees equitably, and much could be done to ameliorate conditions by stockholders using their influence to insure the payment of decent wages.

SUCCESSOR TO CHIEF RABBI.  
LONDON, Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—The rabbinic committee met today at Leopold G. Rothschild's residence in London to choose a successor to the late Dr. Hermann Adler as chief rabbi of the British Empire. No statement was issued at the conclusion of the meeting, but it was understood that the candidacy of Dr. Bernard Drachman of New York, has been definitely dropped.

## BALKAN WAR TO BE RESUMED TURKS ARE LEAVING LONDON ADRIANOPLE STICKING POINT

### Note Which Powers Will Present to Porte Today Urging Cession of Fortress Not Expected to Carry Weight—Conflict Will Be of Brief Duration.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—The British secretary of state for foreign affairs, Sir Edward Grey, and the ambassadors of the powers, have made representations to Rehad Pasha regarding the projected departure of the Turkish delegates, which is equivalent to a definite rupture of the peace negotiations, for which Turkey is considered responsible.

In reply, Rehad Pasha said that he was not responsible for the suspension of the work of the conference, which was decreed by the sultan, not only without asking his opinion, but without even allowing him to express it when he begged to do so. He had waited a whole week, hoping that reflection would bring the allies to a more reasonable and moderate view, but as no move had been made on their part in this direction and no desire had been manifested to hear what further ratification of the frontier Turkey was prepared to indicate—naturally without ceding Adrianople—the Turkish plenipotentiaries could not remain in London indefinitely.

Patience Nearly Exhausted.  
In deference to England, which had treated them so hospitably and out of regard for the other powers, whose ambassadors registered the rupture of the negotiations, Rehad Pasha consented to telegraph to Constantinople asking for definite instructions. They do not believe that the note which the powers will present at Constantinople on Monday will have the desired effect.

The allies are becoming dissatisfied.

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## BEATTIE NESBITT NOW VERY LOW

### Doctor Is in a Very Serious Condition, Suffering From a Complication of Diseases.

The condition of Dr. Beattie Nesbitt was reported last night as being very low. There is little hope for his recovery. A complication of three serious diseases has been working on Dr. Nesbitt for many years. They were not attended to at the proper time and finally weakened the system to such an extent that medical skill could not conquer them. Dr. Graham Chambers stated that Dr. Nesbitt would never be able to attend trial.

Since his first appearance in court, Dr. Nesbitt has steadily lost ground so far as his health is concerned. He has made a brave attempt to rally and fully believes that he will pull through. His doctors think, however, differently.

## FIRE AT BASKATOON.

BASKATOON, Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—Fire this morning completely gutted the building of the Western Foundry and Machine Co. here. Many valuable patterns were destroyed, and the total loss on plant and buildings will total about \$25,000, which is partially covered by insurance. The fireman had a difficult job fighting the flames, as it was one of the coldest days of the year.

An explosion from an overheated boiler is said to have caused the fire. The company will rebuild at an early date.

## LINER URANIUM IS ON ROCKS AT HALIFAX HARBOR ENTRANCE PASSENGERS SAFELY REMOVED

### The Captain and Crew Remain on Big Mackenzie & Mann Steamer Which Crashed Upon a Ledge During Foggy Weather—Government Steamer Lady Laurier and Other Craft Took Off Passengers Numbering Nearly Nine Hundred.

HALIFAX, N.S., Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—From the stranded steamer Uranium, 350 passengers and crew were taken off at Chebucto Head, at the entrance to Halifax Harbor, and reached here in safety. No lives were lost, but Capt. Eustace and his crew are still aboard the ship, which hangs by her bows on a reef, the captain hoping to get off at low water. The crew of a ship from such a predicament is generally a high water, but the captain evidently thinks that the stern part of the ship in deep water will drift the forward part off at low.

The Uranium struck at 11 o'clock this morning in thick weather. She crashed on the ledge a quarter of a mile north of Chebucto Head, and was holed. How the captain got out of his course in this way is a mystery. He was manoeuvring for a pilot at the time. Word was at once sent to Halifax for assistance, but there was some delay, and it was 2 o'clock before the government steamer Lady Laurier, the Bridgewater and other craft went down to the wreck.

STRUCK BOW ON.  
The stranded ship struck bow on when the tide was high, and in the middle of the afternoon her bow was six feet out of water, with seven fathoms amidships and seventeen fathoms at the stern. It is nine miles below Halifax where the ship went ashore, and the only communication was from the telephone in the lightkeeper's house at Chebucto Head.

The work of transferring the Uranium's passengers to the Lady Laurier began at once. Three boats from the life-saving stations in the vicinity were on hand, each with a capacity of 50 persons. There were also the lifeboats on the Uranium. The number of passengers on board was 880, of whom 640 were for New York and 240 for Halifax, of these 100 being cabin and the remainder steerage.

MIGHT HAVE BROKEN UP.  
The Lady Laurier took the women and children first and the men were transferred to the Bridgewater. The wind was heavy from the southwest and the Uranium was therefore protected by Chebucto Head. Had the wind been in the opposite direction the ship would have been fully exposed to the sweep of the Atlantic and must have broken up almost at once. She will be in peril should the wind change.

The wrecking steamers are still standing by. The nationality of the people on board was Russian, German and Austrian. The Uranium has 500 tons of cargo for New York and 200 tons for Halifax. She is the property of Mackenzie and Mann.

PRAYERS FOR RECOVERY.  
OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—(Can. Press.)—Prayers for the speedy recovery from her illness of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught, were said in the Roman Catholic Churches of all the city this morning. A circular letter from Archbishop Gauthier setting forth the duty of the faithful to pray for those in high station and making particular reference to her highness, whom illness had brought to the level of humanity, was read, and prayers were then said.

She is Coming Back.  
May Irwin, said to be the funniest woman on the stage, will be in Toronto this week playing an engagement at the Princess in the screaming farce comedy, "Widow by Proxy," in which she has achieved her greatest success.

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## CARRYING EVERYBODY'S PARCELS BUT HIS OWN



Clifton Yankeo

## CANADIAN SHIPPING PROTECTED BY REJECTION OF CHICAGO'S BIG PROJECT FOR DRAINAGE

### United States Secretary of War Holds That Proposed Diversion of Lake Michigan Water Would Seriously Interfere With Navigation of Great Lakes and Rivers.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Henry L. Stimson, United States secretary of war, has denied the application of the sanitary district of Chicago to increase the amount of water drawn from Lake Michigan from 4167 cubic feet per second, the amount now authorized, to 10,000 cubic feet. He thus states his conclusions:

"First. That the diversion of 10,000 cubic feet per second from Lake Michigan as applied for in this petition, would substantially interfere with the navigable capacity of the navigable waters in the Great Lakes and their connecting rivers.

"Second. That that being so, it would not be appropriate for me, without express congressional sanction, to permit such a diversion, however clearly demanded by the local interests of the sanitation of Chicago.

"Third. That on the facts here presented no such case of local permanent necessity is made evident.

"Fourth. That the provisions of the Canadian treaty for a settlement of joint commission or questions or matters of difference between the United States and Canada offer a further reason why no administrative officer should authorize a further diversion of water, manifestly so injurious to Canada, against Canadian protest."

How Canada is Affected.  
Dealing at length with the reasons that have influenced his decision the secretary says:

"The United States has improved about 166 harbors and rivers on the Great Lakes affected by this diversion and has spent on such improvements over ninety millions of dollars. The Canadian Government has improved over 50 harbors on Georgian Bay and Lakes Huron, St. Clair, Erie and Ontario. By treaty, American vessels

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