

YES! Ben Turpin is permanently cross-eyed, though his feet are not the monstrosities they appear when made up for the screen. Quebecers who discovered this when he and Mrs. Turpin stayed at the Chateau Frontenac recently were also surprised to find them a most retiring, modest, quietly dressed and devoted couple, quite unlike the movie people one imagines.

The manner in which Mr. Turpin has risen supremely over the handicap of those famous eyes is an example of the courageous turning of an impediment to good account. "I love serious acting," said Mr. Turpin when interviewed on the Canadian Pacific en route to Montreal, "and long to play tragic roles, but, of course, I haven't-the looks. So id of the next best thing—I make people laugh. Moreover, it's a pretty hard job being funny all the time. Often I feel more like crying. But I've got to make 'em laugh or my head will be chopped off."

Ben is an American of old stock but Mrs. Turpin is a French Canadian. Hence this was not by any means the first visit of the comedian and his wife to Quebec, but the trip on this recent occasion was somewhat in the nature of a pilgrimage from Los Angeles to the Shrine of Ste. Anne de Beaupre.

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Ste. Anne de Beaupre will again this year, be the Mecca of thousands of pilgrimages. The new Basilica, work on which is being hurried as much as possible will not be ready for occupation for some two or three years yet, but the little wooden church which, since fire destroyed the old Basilica, has housed the shrine, is serving a useful purpose and this summer will no doubt see many sticks and crutches added to the pile within its doors.

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