

# YOUNG GIRL TELLS OF BEING HELD AS PRISONER

Tells Strange Story After Being Released From Halifax House.

## OLD MAN IS ARRESTED

Canadian Press Despatch. Halifax, N.S., Jan. 2.—A virtual prisoner for five years in the hands of a 60-year-old man, is the story of 22-year-old Bertha Polter of Bear River, N.S. The girl, who today walked in the sunshine for the first time in half a decade, alleges that William Lent, 62, had kept her incarcerated in a potential dungeon for the whole of that period. The girl, who was an orphan, had gone to live with Lent in 1915, when she was 14 years of age, according to the police, and in 1918 she passed out of sight. Lent was then living alone; his wife had been separated from him, and is now in Massachusetts. The release of the young woman came through the medium of an unknown letter-writer in the United States, who wrote to a citizen of Bear River asserting that he had seen the girl, scantily clad, in the home of William Lent in 1917. The letter was passed to Attorney-General O'Hearn, who ordered an investigation.

Today police officials proceeded to Bear River, and there released the young woman. She was neatly dressed and apparently in good health. She declared, however, that for five years she had not been outside the house, and the greater part of her existence had been spent in the adjoining room, in which the windows were completely sealed. The Lent home is in the middle of thickly populated districts, and directly opposite the main hotel of the town. Lent was arrested and a charge of seduction placed against him.

# BONDS TO BE SOLD BY SASKATCHEWAN

Will Put Through Sale in East For Refunding Purposes.

Canadian Press Despatch. Edmonton, Jan. 2.—The provincial treasurer will put through another bond sale this month for refunding purposes. Hon. R. G. Reid, the treasurer, stated today that the sale has been placed in the hands of the eastern syndicate that handled the last issue, and will probably not be offered at public tender. The reason for this action, which is the same as followed in the big fall sale, is that the money market is still in an unsettled and uncertain condition.

# JUDGE IS CHOSEN TO TRY DELORME

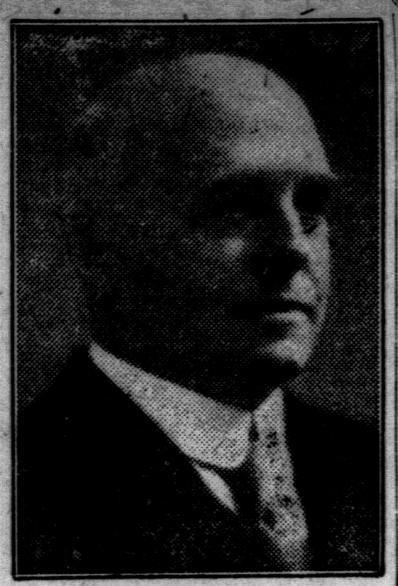
Attorney-General Picks Mr. Justice Martineau To Preside At Trial.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Jan. 2.—Mr. Justice Martineau has been assigned by the attorney-general's department to preside over the trial of Father Adelard Delorme on a charge of having murdered his half-brother, Raoul Delorme, the Ottawa college student. The case will be taken before the court of king's bench next month. R. L. Calder, K.C., will prosecute and the defence will be in the hands of Alban Germaine, K.C.



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FOR SCALDS, CUTS AND BRUISES, FOR COLDS, COUGHS AND BRONCHIAL AFFLICTIONS, FOR STIFF MUSCLES, SPRAINS AND STRAINS AND NUMEROUS OTHER AFFLICTIONS COMMON TO MAN AND BEAST, THERE IS NOTHING SUPERIOR TO THAT OLD TRIED AND RELIABLE REMEDY,  
**DR. THOMAS' ECLECTIC OIL**



WILLIAM DOBIE, founder of the E. W. Gillett Company, is dead in Toronto from a fractured skull.

# EXPLOSION OF GAS SAVES NINE LIVES

Escaping Fumes Perils Welland Family—Two Are Badly Burned.

## BLOWS OUT THE WALLS

Associated Press Despatch. Welland, Jan. 2.—An explosion of natural gas this morning blew out the north wall of a two-story frame house in Crowland, in which were sleeping Joseph Fortini, his wife and five children, and G. Cristofori and his son. The first two named received burns and other injuries necessitating their removal to the Welland County Hospital, where the man's condition is reported as critical. The other occupants escaped unscathed. The Crowland fire department extinguished the small blaze, which followed the blast, peculiar feature of the explosion was that windows in an adjoining house ten feet to the north, in which direction the force of the blast was expended, suffered no damage, while every window in a house 20 feet to the south was shattered. Chief Jones ascribes the explosion to escaping gas becoming ignited by a coal fire in the kitchen of the dwelling, and states that had the gas not "let go," all the nine occupants would probably have been smothered, as all were asleep when the explosion occurred.

# AMALGAMATION OF BANKS MADE

Commerce Absorbs Hamilton Branches Throughout Dominion.

Canadian Press Despatch. Toronto, Jan. 2.—When the governor-general of Canada signed the royal assent for the merging of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Hamilton Monday, the merger was formally completed. The Bank of Hamilton has passed out, but the new shares of the Bank of Commerce cannot be issued yet because of technical difficulties. Hamilton shares were sold today by Toronto brokers, and it was found that the purchasers could not have the transfers made. Such transfers, therefore, will be left pending until the details in connection with the new stock are worked out. Until March 1 it will be necessary to make a distinction between the old and new shares, since the Bank of Hamilton declared a dividend on its outstanding stock for December. The new shares will not be listed on the exchange and will carry only two months' dividend for the current quarter, as compared with the full three months' dividend on the rest of the Commerce shares.

# TWO CHILDREN ARE BURNED TO DEATH

Explosion of Lamp As Family Is Asleep Wipes Out Orillia Home.

Canadian Press Despatch. Orillia, Jan. 2.—The fire which destroyed the home of Mrs. Enoch Nanigishnik at the Rama Reserve this morning, took the lives of two of her children, and two others are in the Soldiers' Memorial Hospital here in a serious condition. The dead children are, Emily, aged 4, and Lottie, aged 13, and a daughter, Mary Ann, aged 18, are in the hospital. The fire was caused by the explosion of a lamp which had been left burning while the family was sleeping. Fred Benson, who lives about 50 yards away, rushed to the house, where he found the children with their clothes on fire. All were terribly burned except Mrs. Nanigishnik, who escaped with little injury.

## GIVE OFFICIAL FIGURES.

Canadian Press Despatch. Richibucto, N. B., Jan. 2.—At the declaration proceedings here this afternoon the complete figures for the recent Dominion by-election in Kent were: A. J. Doucette, Conservative, 3,643; Alfred E. Bourgeois, Liberal, 3,435; majority for Doucette 208.

**ENGAGEMENTS**  
A charge of 75 cents for one insertion, or \$1 for two insertions is made for notices under this heading. Orders for insertion of engagement notices must bear the name and address of sender and will not be taken over the telephone.

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At London's Central Shopping Place  
Semi Annual Stock Reducing Sale Event of the greatest interest to the keen shopper—A time when broken lines, odd sizes, remnants, etc., are cleared out at a fraction of their former price—Our bargains are real bargains.  
Save This List of Special Items—They will not be readvertised

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**BLANKETS**  
Three-Quarter Bed Size. Flannelette Blankets, in white or gray, with pink or blue borders, at, pair .....\$2.50 Extra large size, at, pair.....\$2.75 Absolutely First Quality.

**44 SPECIALS**

**PURE WOOL BLANKETS**  
One lot of Pure Wool Blankets in dark gray only—a strong, durable, well made blanket that will give endless wear.  
Size 64x34, at, pair .....\$6.75 Size 68x38, at, pair .....\$7.50

**Pure Linen Huck Towels**  
A direct importation from Ireland—a neatly hemstitched, pure linen huck towel, size 15x33.  
**3 for \$1**

**EXTRA!! 50 Dozen High Grade PURE SILK HOSE**  
Guaranteed Absolutely First Quality Pure Silk—all wanted shades—all sizes, never sold below \$2.00 pair. RED TAG SPECIAL PRICE, Pair,  
**\$1.69**

**Black Duchess SATIN**  
Three pieces only—about 150 yards—beautiful Black Duchess Satin, with that much-sought-after lustrous finish, ribbon edged, regular \$2.50 yard, for, yard,  
**\$1.89**

**WOOL SERGE**  
A few pieces of imported All-wool Serge, 54 inches wide, guaranteed fast dye, a good wearing serge, in navy, brown and black, yard,  
**98c**

**VELVETEEN**  
A clearance of 22-inch imported Velveteens, a great range of colors. While they last, only, yard,  
**89c**

**PURE WOOL BLANKETS**  
100 per cent Pure Wool Blankets of exceptional softness and warmth with snow white bleached, with pink or blue borders.  
Size 64x34, at, pair .....\$8.00 Size 72x84, at, pair .....\$9.75

**Pure Linen Towelling**  
One lot of Pure Linen Roller Towelling, in a good, and reliable weight, at, yard,  
**19c**

**Black Duchess SATIN**  
Three pieces only—about 150 yards—beautiful Black Duchess Satin, with that much-sought-after lustrous finish, ribbon edged, regular \$2.50 yard, for, yard,  
**\$1.89**

**WOOL SERGE**  
A few pieces of imported All-wool Serge, 54 inches wide, guaranteed fast dye, a good wearing serge, in navy, brown and black, yard,  
**98c**

**CHILDREN'S RIBBED HOSE**  
Kiddies' one and one-rib Stockings, in black only, sizes 5 to 8 1/2,  
**25c, or 5 Prs. \$1.00**

**PURE WOOL BLANKETS**  
An extra heavy blanket, in a large size; fully bleached and plain, without any border, at, pair,  
**\$10.50**

**Tea Towels**  
Checked Tea Towels; hemmed ready for use; 75 per cent linen,  
**5 for \$1**

**Ladies' and Misses' WINTER COATS**  
A Splendid Assortment of Ladies' and Misses' Heavy Man-Tailored Winter Coats, including the season's latest styles of smart blanket cloth models, in the newest heather mixtures. Many plaid back models with raglan or set-in sleeves, sizes 16 to 44—Truly wonderful value at,  
**\$15.00**

**WOOL SERGE**  
A few pieces of imported All-wool Serge, 54 inches wide, guaranteed fast dye, a good wearing serge, in navy, brown and black, yard,  
**98c**

**LADIES' CASHMERE HOSE**  
50 dozen Ladies' Hose, medium weight. A most suitable hose for house wear, at, pair,  
**19c**

**100 PER CENT PURE WOOL BLANKETS**  
An extra heavy blanket, in a large size; fully bleached and plain, without any border, at, pair,  
**\$10.50**

**Galatea Special**  
One lot of light and dark blue striped imported Galatea Shirting, in wide widths; excellent for house dresses, boys' blouses, play suits, rompers, aprons, etc.; reg. 45c and 50c yard. RED TAG PRICE, yard,  
**35c**

**Ladies' and Misses' Beautiful Fur Trimmed Velour Coats**  
Two racks of High-Grade Velour Coats, fur trimmed, storm sleeves, all the latest models shown this season—in Nigger, Toupe and Reindeer, sizes 16, 18 and 20, no better value for  
**\$17.95**

**CORSETS**  
For the Stout Figure. Made of extra heavy coutil, double steel filling, well reinforced, low or medium bust, at  
**\$2.98**

**BRASSIERES**  
Very neat Pink Brocade Brassieres, with elastic at waist, at, each,  
**50c**

**CHAMOISETTE GLOVES At Half Price**  
The well-known "Kayser" make of Chamousette Gloves, in shades of brown, mastic, black and white, regular \$1.25 pair, for, pair,  
**65c**

**Flannelette**  
Lot No. 1—A 27-inch Flannelette, in a great range of colored patterns; also white. "The Children's Flannelette," 5 yards for  
**\$1.00**

**A Gray Flannel Special**  
Our line of dark gray Union Flannel—a regular shirting flannel for winter wear, at, yard,  
**25c**

**CORSETS**  
For the Average Figure. A well-made good fitting Corset, low or medium bust, in pink or white, at  
**\$1.69**

**CORSET WAIST**  
Hygienic Corset Waists for misses, very soft and pliable, with shoulder-strap buttoned, at  
**\$1.50**

**CORSET COVER**  
Ladies' white embroidered cambric Corset Covers, at  
**39c**

**VESTS**  
Ladies' fleecy finished Vests, with or without sleeves, drawers to match, at, each,  
**75c**

**Flannelette**  
Lot No. 2—35-inch Flannelette, in a large range of pink and white, blue and white striped patterns; also white. The most used of any Flannelette for general family use. Yard  
**25c**

**COMFORTERS**  
We carry a very complete range of the famous "Forreco" Brand Comforters. Guaranteed to be filled with only the purest of sanitary filling.  
Cotton filled, from .....\$3.25 to \$8.50 Down Filled .....\$11.75 to \$25.00

**HAIR NET SPECIAL**  
The "Daintie" Cape-shape Net, hand-made from finest human hair; adapted to any size or style of coiffure; every net guaranteed perfect; regular  
**15c, or 5 for 25c**

**Ladies' & Misses' Fine Sweater COATS**  
An unusually nice selection in sand, gray, brown, white and navy—a very smart style, with silk and wool fronts; sizes 36 to 40; regular \$5.95. RED TAG PRICE  
**\$3.95**

**VESTS**  
Ladies' white sleeveless Cotton Vests, at  
**25c**

**COMBINATIONS**  
Ladies' fine knit Combinations, long and short sleeves, at, suit,  
**\$2.25**

**Pyjama Cloth**  
An extra good weight, 35 inches wide, a host of pretty colors in the popular striped designs; also all white, at, yard,  
**35c**

**Pure Linen Table Damask**  
A few pieces of semi-bleached Pure Linen Tabling, dice pattern, 68 inches wide, at, yard,  
**\$1.39**

**Ladies' and Misses' Dresses**  
42 in this Lot—Cantons, Velvets, Tricolettes, Tricotines, Satins, Botany Serges, etc. All this season's most correct styles. Featuring Panelled, straight lined or Coat effects, every desirable shade, sizes 16 to 46, formerly priced up to \$35.00. RED TAG PRICE,  
**\$18.00**

**CORSETS**  
For the Average Figure. A well-made good fitting Corset, low or medium bust, in pink or white, at  
**\$1.69**

**MIDDIES**  
Girls' Middies, of red and navy flannel, guaranteed soft shrunken, neatly trimmed with military braid.  
**\$2.98**

**BLOOMERS**  
Ladies' heavy weight Bloomers, cream only, mill seconds, very special, at  
**69c**

**"Horrockses" Flannelette**  
Everybody is familiar with this well-known English make of superior Flannelette. We carry a very complete stock in fancy stripe designs; also, white, at, yard,  
**45c and 55c**

**Another Dress Special**  
All sizes, 16 to 44, in Pure Wool Tricotine—dresses very smartly trimmed and well made. All one price,  
**\$10.00**  
(While They Last.)

**School Dresses**  
Two racks of smart Serge and Flannel Dresses, a very suitable garment for school wear, in brown, navy and black, sizes up to 36, at  
**\$7.95**

**Children's Coats**  
20 different styles, all wanted materials and shades; coats widely known for style, warmth and long wear; sizes 2 to 14 years,  
**\$3.95 to \$13.50**

**JACQUETTE BROCADE**  
See the very latest in smart brocade materials for Jacquette Blouses, at, yard,  
**\$1.25**

**UNDERSHIRTS**  
A few dozen Heavy Fleece-lined Undershirts, all sizes, at  
**98c**

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