

# THE COMMONWEALTH

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TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE

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## ONE MILLION DOLLAR CHURCH DESTROYED BY INCENDIARIES

(By Associated Press)  
Quebec, Canada, Dec. 22.—The fire which destroyed the historic one million dollar Notre Dame Church today is believed to have been caused by an incendiary. Chief of Police Lorraine said, in announcing receipt of a letter informing him that the edifice would be burned December 28th.

## THREE ROYAL WIDOWS TO SEND XMAS TOGETHER

London, Dec. 21.—Two dowager queens and one Dowager Empress of Europe, the widows of former Kings of England and Denmark, and an Emperor of Russia, are to spend the Christmas holidays together in England. Dowager Queen Louise of Denmark, widow of King Frederick VII who died in 1912, and Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, of Russia, widow of Emperor Alexander III, who died in 1894, will be the guests of Dowager Queen Alexandra at Sandringham. Queen Alexandra is the widow of King Edward VII, who died in 1910. Those who follow the annuals of royalty say this is the first time, probably in history, that three widowed queens have thus come together.

Maria Feodorovna is a younger sister of Alexandra, and Louise is a sister-in-law of both. Hence it will be a family reunion. Maria Feodorovna arrived in England recently and celebrated her birthday, November 26. She has been in the past two years in Denmark—she was originally the Danish princess Dagmar—but she will now remain in England for several weeks. Queen Louise, who is 71 years old, is expected at Sandringham a few days after Christmas.

There will be no public or social functions in honor of the royal guests, but during the Christmas season King George and the entire royal family will spend a few days with Queen Alexandra and their aunts.

The meeting of Queen Alexandra, who is 78 years old, and her sister, will be more or less touching as the Queen is known to be very distressed at the plight of her sister, who has been rapidly declining in health since the killing of her son, who was Emperor Nicholas, by the Bolsheviks at Ekaterinburg in the summer of 1918.

## SOUTHAMPTON TO HAVE HUGE FLOATING DOCK

London, Dec. 20.—The world's largest floating dock is now being constructed in Scotland for an English railway company, and will be moored in the harbor at Southampton in time for use next spring. The dock is made entirely of reinforced concrete, and will cost about \$5,000,000.

## VIENNA DOCTORS COLLECT FEES IN BREAD

Vienna, Dec. 20.—The physicians of Hoitzing, a Vienna suburb, have established their fees on the basis of bread cost. One loaf represents an office call, and one loaf and a half an outside visit. In the rural districts a similar system is growing, but based on a measure of flour, instead of the loaf of bread.

## \$100,000 FIRE IN VIRGINIA TOWN

(By Associated Press)  
Norfolk, Va., Dec. 22.—Buck Angels is dead in fire which destroyed six stores and apartment buildings at Craddock, with a loss estimated at a hundred thousand dollars.

## GERMANY DENIES APPOINTMENT OF ECONOMIC COMMISSION

(By Associated Press)  
Berlin, Dec. 22.—It is officially denied that Counsellor Cuno or any other government official had suggested the appointment of an American Commission to investigate Germany's economic condition.

## MUSSOLINI ABSTEMIOUS AND A HARD WORKER

(By Associated Press)  
Rome, Dec. 22.—Benito Mussolini, the man who at thirty-eight years of age has become virtually the legal dictator of Italy, has a great capacity for work. Since he assumed charge of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Interior, Mussolini has averaged over eighteen hours of hard work every day. At his desk promptly at the stroke of eight, he is still busy a midnight attending to the business of the two most important ministries in his government.

During the eighteen months in which he was engaged in the organization of the Fascist movement culminating in the peaceful entrance of a hundred thousand of his followers into Rome October 31st, Mussolini worked an average of twelve hours every day, including Sundays.

Mussolini eats little and drinks less. He sleeps about five or six hours out of the twenty-four. His beverage is a light Italian wine with about fifty percent of water added.

His favorite recreations are fencing and walking, and he is said to be a chess player of no mean ability.

Italy's man of the hour was an enthusiastic advocate of his country's entrance into the world war on the side of the Allies. He served as a corporal until wounded so severely that he had to be sent to the rear as unfit for further active duty. It is said that his body bears the scars of one hundred and twenty wounds, caused by shell splinters and shrapnel.

### SHORT DAY LEFT

If you wait until Saturday, you can't wiggle up to the counter.

Look through the advertisements in THE COMMONWEALTH and see who to trade with.

These merchants are progressive—you will do well to patronize them.

## STILL HUNTING BANK BANDITS

(By Associated Press)  
Denver, Col., Dec. 22. The authorities are pushing vigorously their hunt for the bandits who held up the Federal Reserve Bank truck guards and escaped with two hundred thousand dollars and whose trail they believe they have picked up yesterday at an abandoned ranch house twenty miles from Greeley. Four men, suspected of being those who robbed the bank truck and shot and killed Chas. Linton, left the farm before the officers arrived.

## MOSCOW THIEVES HID LOOT IN CEMETERY

(By Associated Press)  
Moscow, Dec. 19.—Ingenious thieves of this city have been using an old graveyard in which to hide food supplies pilfered from railroad cars. The loot was buried at night under what, the next day, looked like newly made graves. Ultimately the police recovered 15 tons of sugar, and half as much cocoa and flour, all of which had been abstracted from relief supplies.

## NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES POPULAR IN ENGLAND

London, Dec. 19.—National Savings Certificates sold to November 11, total 601,479,251 pounds sterling. When the certificates were changed from 15 shillings and 6 pence to 16 shillings there was a temporary lull, but since there has been a sharp increase in demand, and the certificates are now one of the most popular investments in the country. For each sixteen shillings invested, the buyer gets one pound sterling at the end of five years.

### "With But a Single Thought"

Advertisement for a product or service, featuring a woman in a long dress sitting at a table, looking thoughtful. The text above the illustration reads "With But a Single Thought".

## STORES AND BANKS TO CLOSE MON. AND TUES.

At a meeting of the Merchants' Association last night, it was decided to close the stores Monday and Tuesday in order that the clerks and salespeople may have a holiday. In this movement the banks are co-operating and both, the Scotland Neck Bank and the Planters and Commercial Bank, will close their doors Saturday night to open again Wednesday morning.

## NATIONAL ADVERTISING SAVES BRITISH OYSTERMONGERS

London, Dec. 20.—England this fall had an exceptionally large harvest of oysters, so much so that there was fear the public would not consume it all. So the oystermongers of Colchester started a national advertising campaign which in three weeks cleared their shelves and left the public still clamoring for more.

## BRITISH WOOL GROWERS SEEK TO IMPROVE STOCK

London, Dec. 22.—Several hundred head of rams are to be imported into this country from Peru in order to test the possibilities of producing merino wool, or merino cross wools, in the British Isles.

The plan is the result of efforts by many wool manufacturers in the North of England to breed sheep here which would produce a grade of wool as fine as that produced in South America. At the present time the first wool produced here is graded as coarse.

Should the initial efforts be successful, it is probable that all of the present large flocks will be gradually killed to make way for the finer breeds, as these command prices four times higher than the present British product.

## FAMILY FEUD RESULTS IN DEATH

(By Associated Press)  
St. Eutauville, O., Dec. 22.—Roy Lidson is dead and his brother William is wounded and James Pearson is being sought by West Virginia authorities as a result of a fight which came as a climax to a feud between the two families. The battle was staged in the hills near Wierton, West Virginia.

## PLANT OF ATLAS CANDY COMPANY DESTROYED BY FIRE

(By Associated Press)  
Lynchburg, Va., Dec. 22.—The plant of the Atlas Candy Company was destroyed by fire with an estimated loss of fifty thousand dollars. The origin of the fire is unknown.

## GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

Would anyone like to send a basket to a family of four? The father recently hurt and family in need.

Nov. 50. Stocking for 1-year old boy.

## LAST YEAR'S FAILURES IN ENGLAND SHOW INCREASE

London, Dec. 20.—The year 1921 was a record bankruptcy year in England and Wales, the number of failures being 2,824 in excess of the 1920 total. The Inspector General in Bankruptcy in his report, says "the magnitude of the failures is much greater than in any year since the Act of 1883 came into operation."

When compared with 1920 the figures show an increase in liabilities of 15,034,065 pounds sterling, and in assets of 5,849,260 pounds sterling.

There was a notable decrease in the number of companies registered in England and Scotland during 1921, the figures being 6,834 with a nominal capital of 107,214,736 pounds sterling, against the 1920 figures of 10,783 companies with a nominal capital of 587,484, 21 pounds sterling. Of the 6,834 companies registered 6,291 were private enterprises, 2918 went into liquidation, and 1,684 were removed from the register on the ground they were no longer carrying on business.

The rate of unemployment was high during October in nearly all the principal industries, says the Labor Gazette. Among members of trade unions it was 14.1 at the end of October, as compared to 14.6 at the end of September, and 15.6 at the end of October, 1921. The changes in rates of wages, reported as having taken effect in October, resulted in an aggregate reduction of over 250,000 pounds sterling in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 1,500,000 work people, and in an aggregate increase of over 22,000 pounds sterling in the weekly wages of over 400,000 people.

Since the beginning of 1922 the changes in rates of wages reported to the Ministry of Labor have resulted in a net reduction of nearly 4,200,000 pounds sterling in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 7,500,000 work people, and a net increase of nearly 11,500 pounds sterling in the weekly wages of nearly 75,000 people.

## MEMBERS OF MASKED PARTY SEARCH FOR BODIES IN LAKE

(By Associated Press)  
Merrouge, Dec. 22.—The entire National Guard company, which has been on duty here while the lake was being dragged for the bodies of two men who were snatched by masked men last August 24th, were rushed to Cooper Lake when guards discovered a number of men wading in the shallow water of the lake and fired upon them.

## ENTIRE LOUISIANA NATIONAL GUARD COMPANY RUSHED TO COOPER LAKE

Department of Justice officers investigating situation.

Department of Justice agents here investigating the case said that the men were probably some of those in the masked party that are thought to have thrown Major Watt Daniel and Thomas Fletcher into the lake and that they were attempting to remove the bodies before the authorities found them.

Monroe, La., Dec. 22.—Lieutenant Louis Hayden has been ordered by Capt. W. W. Cooper to mobilize a detachment of forty men and rush to Morehouse Parish to reinforce the guardsmen already on duty there.

Shreveport, La., Dec. 22.—The bodies of two men believed to be Daniels and Richards with limbs tied with wire, were found near Eastland ferry on Lake La Fourche badly decomposed. The bodies were brought to the surface by abig charge of dynamite exploded during the night by unidentified persons.

## VALUABLE BOOKS ON AERONAUTICS HELD IN ENGLAND

(By Associated Press)  
London, Dec. 19.—The Council of the Royal Aeronautical Society announced recently that through the generosity of the trustees of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust it has been able to arrange for the purchase of a large number of valuable historical books on aeronautics which would otherwise have been sold to an American company.

The books are of interest as they were written before the possibilities of aircraft were fully realized, and there are remarkably few copies known to be in existence.

These works, together with the library already possessed by the Society, makes its collection of early and modern aeronautical literature probably unsurpassed in this or any other country. The books in the Society's library are available to any student in the British Isles.

## WEATHER REPORT

For North Carolina: Fair to night and Saturday. Colder on the Northeast coast tonight. Diminishing northwest winds.

### COTTON MARKET.

### TODAY'S MARKET

January	25.96
March	26.28
May	26.39
July	26.17
October	24.39

### YESTERDAY'S MARKET

December	25.65
January	25.69
March	26.03
May	26.10
July	25.88
October	24.22