

MARCONI MOVES TO CUT EAVESDROPPING IN RADIO TELEPHONY

The Weather Cold With Snow

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MONTREAL FIRE INQUEST ON THURSDAY

DEATH TOLL FROM THEATRE BLAZE PANIC OFFICIALLY SET AT 77

35 Youngsters in City Hospitals Reported Recovering From Wounds in Mad Stampede Sunday Afternoon

THEATRE MANAGERS OPEN FUND

Building Inspector Tells of Action Taken Year Ago Against Proprietor to Open Blocked Exit—City Stunned by Occurrence

MONTREAL, Jan. 10.—The toll in lives from the panic in the Laurier Palace moving picture theatre yesterday, when a crowd of children rushed for the doors following an outbreak of fire, was placed officially at 77 this morning. Thirty-five youngsters in the city hospitals were reported to be recovering, and not to be in any further danger.

The inquest into the deaths of 76 victims of the Laurier Palace fire yesterday afternoon, was adjourned until next Thursday, shortly after the hearing opened here today. The proceedings were postponed by order of Coroner McMahon, after the hearing of one father as to the identification of his child, and the hearing of Dr. R. Fontaine, morgue attendant, who told of having examined the bodies of 72 of the victims, all children.

FIRE INQUIRY TOMORROW

The coroner stated that he wished to have the outcome of the fire commission's inquiry, which will open tomorrow, before the hearing of the inquiry, which would be asked to render a verdict. Thomas Girard was the first to appear before Coroner McMahon to claim a death certificate for his son, Raoul. He stated under oath that his boy, aged 14, had no permission to go to the show sometimes but did so against his father's will, and in opposition to his orders. They went with a 13 year old brother, who was saved.

NOT ENOUGH EXITS

"Had the children your permission to go to the show?" asked the coroner. "They had permission to go to another show, not that theatre," the witness replied. "Why not that theatre, did you think it was dangerous?" He said: "Yes, there were not enough exits."

FEW HAD RIGHT

In his preliminary address to the jury, Coroner McMahon expressed the opinion that probably not more than three or four of the victims had any right to be admitted to the picture house at all. A provincial law prohibits the admittance of all children under the age of 16 to enter a theatre if not accompanied by an adult.

HAD SEVERAL REPORTS

Questioned as to the last time the Laurier Palace Theatre, St. Catherine street, east, had been inspected, Mr. McIsaac said he had several reports regarding the inspections of the Laurier Palace Theatre, and some of these inspections had been made last December. He had two men on theatre to report cases and take actions.

THEATRES RAISE FUND

At a hastily summoned meeting of the members of the Montreal Theatre Managers' Association, held Sunday, a resolution of sympathy with the sufferers and families of the victims in the afternoon's disaster was passed. The members also pledged themselves to raise a fund of \$10,000 towards paying the funeral expenses of the vic-

Texas Pastor Faces Trial Today For Killing Lumberman

Fire Tragedy Stirs Canada

Ranks as Greatest Death-Dealing Disaster Since Halifax Explosion

TORONTO, Jan. 10.—Canada awoke today to read with consternation of the heart-rending disaster that has overtaken Montreal. Nothing of the same nature in the history of Canada can be recalled that in any way duplicates the distressing nature of yesterday's catastrophe, although there have been tragedies of a like nature in other countries. The most recent of these was the panic in a wooden hall in the village of Drumcollogher, Limerick county, Ireland, on September 5 last, when 48 men, women and children lost their lives.

SIMILAR TO MONTREAL

The Drumcollogher tragedy was similar to Montreal's in that in both cases a moving picture was being shown, when fire broke out and the panic ensuing resulted in a blocking of the exit. At Drumcollogher the narrow stairway leading from the only exit was broken when the crowd stormed down it, and many people were killed when they threw themselves from windows. Others were burned to death and some smothered.

Apart from the Halifax disaster of December 6, 1917, when it was estimated 2,500 were killed or died of wounds, Montreal's tragedy will probably rank as the greatest death-dealing disaster of recent years in Canada.

OTHER DISASTERS

Records of such occurrences are not readily available, but Montreal's tragedy brings to mind the following disasters in Canada in recent years. The Spanish River railway wreck of 1910, in which 42 lives were lost; the railway wreck at Wentzell, Western Ontario, about 25 years ago, in which about 30 lost their lives; the disaster at Quebec when the collapse of the middle span of the bridge under construction at that time took an immense toll of lives; the Herald building fire in Montreal in 1910, when 33 lost their lives, and the fire in the Hochelaga school in Montreal in 1907, which took a toll of 16 lives.

THE PANIC WHICH CAUSED THE DEATHS RANKS AS ONE OF THE BIGGEST DISASTERS CANADA HAS EVER EXPERIENCED.

It was such a tragedy and one of the greatest ever caused in the Dominion by fire or the panic of fire, although dwarfed by the terrible loss—1,500 lives—in the Halifax explosion nearly 10 years ago.

LIST OF DISASTERS

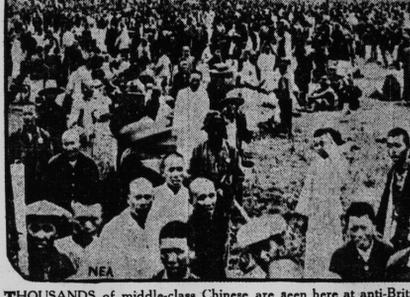
Following is a list, as complete as can be gathered from various sources, of the more serious disasters in the Dominion since about the time of Confederation:

- 1864—St. Hillier, Que., train off track; killed, 83.
1872—Belleville, Ont., engine left track; killed, 30.
1887—St. Thomas, Ont., petrol explosion; killed, 14.
1889—Hamilton, Ont., train off track; killed 17.
1890—Springhill, N. S., mining disaster; killed 125.

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Chinese Dragon Snarls At British Lion

THOUSANDS OF MIDDLE-CLASS CHINESE ARE SEEN HERE AT ANTI-BRITISH DEMONSTRATION IN HANKOW.



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This and similar manifestations of unrest and animosity toward foreigners brought troops and gunboats to take them to Shanghai.

REFUGEES FROM HANKOW TELL OF ROUGH TREATMENT THERE

HISTORIC AIRPLANE FLIGHT COMPLETED

Sir Samuel Hoare and Lady Hoare Reach Delhi; Are Welcomed

DELHI, British India, Jan. 10.—A salute was fired when the air liner Hercules made a graceful landing here and Sir Samuel Hoare, British minister, and Lady Hoare, completed their air voyage from England. The last leg of the long flight was from Jodhpur. Sir Samuel and Lady Hoare left Crofton, England, in the Hercules on December 27. They completed the 6,300 miles in 63 flying hours.

ENGINEER IS KILLED

Two Sections 20th Century Limited Collide

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Two sections of the Twentieth Century Limited, famous New York Central train, collided at Sanannah Station, west of Syracuse yesterday, during a fog. Engineer Walter Seydell, of Buffalo, was killed and his fireman, Stanley Henderson, also of Buffalo, was seriously injured. Several passengers sustained minor injuries but all except Arthur Kennedy, of Oakland, Calif., were able to continue their journey.

Plan To Establish Big Game Reserve

KENORA, Ont., Jan. 10.—Establishment of a wild animal reserve from Keewatin to Manitoba's boundary, bounded on the north by the Canadian Pacific tracks and the south by the Lake of the Woods, is being considered by Kenora Board of Trade. A committee has been appointed to report on its feasibility. The board feels that such a reserve would be an attraction for tourists. The board will also ask the department of interior at Ottawa for serial maps of the Lake of the Woods region, as there are lakes in the district practically unknown.

MUST SERVE TERM

Earl Carroll, Theatrical Producer, Loses Appeal

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Earl Carroll, theatrical producer, lost his appeal today from a sentence of a year and a day in Alcatraz penitentiary for perjury committed in connection with grand jury investigation of a "bath tub party" in his theatre. The United States Circuit Court of Appeals today affirmed both the verdict of guilty and the sentence imposed by the lower court.

ARE MAROONED

About 100 foreigners were said to be marooned at Kulling, just south of Kulling, and others in distress at Nanking, farther down the river. Some of the women refugees reported that they had been compelled to submit to a series of indignities which were heaped upon British women when they left the foreign colony at Hankow. Coolies threw bricks and spat at them, while they boarded the ships. Many babies were among the refugees. Stories from missionary sources at Kulling also say the foreigners were pelted with bricks, and that three were slightly wounded.

FIRE DESTROYS 1,500 HOMES AT MANILA

5,000 Persons Made Homeless by Blaze Starting in Church; No Deaths

MANILA, Jan. 10.—Five thousand persons were made homeless and 1,500 houses, mostly of the small frame variety, were destroyed in a fire of undetermined origin, which swept the Tondo district of Manila today. The loss is estimated at 2,000,000 pesos. No deaths were reported. The blaze started in a church.

STATE TO SEEK DEATH PENALTY IN NORRIS CASE

Nearly 200 Witnesses and 300 Jurors Summoned

AUSTEN, Texas, Jan. 10.—Dr. Frank Norris, Baptist pastor and evangelist, of Fort Worth, today faced trial in district court here for the slaying of Dexter E. Chippo, wealthy lumberman, who was shot to death in Norris' office July 17 last.

FEELING HIGH

Minister Will Take Stand in Own Defence and Explain Shooting of Cripples

When Dr. Norris was summoned to court to testify for the state, he was accompanied by a large number of his followers. The trial was expected to be a sensational one.

JEALOUSY CAUSES DOUBLE KILLING

Colored Chauffeur Kills Landlady and Then Shoots Himself Through Heart

WINDSOR, Ont., Jan. 10.—Crased by jealousy, James Smith, 35, colored chauffeur, last evening shot and killed Mrs. Amelia Buckland, aged 36, with whom he had been boarding in Windsor. After sending two bullets into the left side of Irvine Ernie Graves, aged 50, Smith turned the gun on himself, the bullet passing through his heart.

OUTLINES DEFENSE

In outlining defense plans, Dayton Moses, counsel for Dr. Norris, said evidence would be introduced to show that Chippo telephoned the pastor shortly before the shooting that he was coming to see him and would demand a retraction of the attacks on Meacham. William McLean, special prosecutor, declared that "if Norris' theory of the killing is correct, he should go free, if our theory is correct, he should be executed. There is no middle ground."

SAYS IT IS 'PERSECUTION'

When told that the state would demand the death penalty, Dr. Norris said: "This proves my contention that I am written all over the state's case and that it was persecution, not a prosecution. Dr. Norris has expressed 'unflinching confidence' in the outcome of the trial, and declared he wished to take the stand 'to tell just what is back of this case.'"

LOW TEMPERATURES

FREDERICTON, N. B., Jan. 10.—Temperatures ranging down to 24 degrees below zero were recorded in this province during the week-end. At some points on the North Shore, temperatures recorded this morning were far below those of Sunday, when the mercury dropped to the lowest for the season here, establishing a low winter record of 17 degrees below. Andover headed the last of sub-zero temperatures with 24 below. Florenceville reported 22 degrees below.

Nations' Body Celebrates Its 7th Birthday

GENEVA, Jan. 10.—On its seventh anniversary, Monday, the League of Nations, which spends 2,512,341 gold francs (approximately \$80,930) annually to promote the cause of world peace and understanding, will point to the following achievements it has on record for 1926:

Progress made toward disarmament and economic conferences; measures taken to prevent aggression such as arrangements for rapid communications between protecting nations in the event of suggestion against a smaller country; settlement of the Mosul dispute and steps toward preventing recurrence of Greco-Bulgarian disputes.

The chief regret of members of the League has been over withdrawal from its councils of Spain and Brazil.

The Weather

FORECASTS: Cold, With Snow. MARITIME—North-east winds probably gales; cold with snow. NEW ENGLAND—Generally fair tonight and Tuesday; continued cold, fresh northerly winds, diminishing by Tuesday.

Temperatures

Table with columns for location, highest during 8 a.m., and lowest during night.

TORONTO, Jan. 10—

Table with columns for location, highest during 8 a.m., and lowest during night.

Millerand Is Defeated In French Elections Yesterday

PARIS, Jan. 10.—One-third of the members of the French Senate were elected yesterday without gain or loss to the parties of the Left or the Right. The elections passed unnoticed excepting as they marked the elimination of former President Millerand from active politics. He went down to defeat on the second ballot.

Caillaux over Morocco, was eliminated from the field.

Louis Barthou, M. Caillaux, Leon Berard, Victor Dalbiez, Justin Godart, Jules Poincaré, Paul Dupuy and Pierre Laval, former ministers, were among those returned. One lone Communist, Emile Bachet, in the Seine department, succeeded in breaking into the charmed circle of the French Senate.