

Expect Startling Developments On Destruction of Old Basilica

Parish Priest Still of Opinion That Fire Was Not Due to Natural Causes.

Special to The Advertiser.
Quebec, Dec. 23.—The possibility of developments of a startling nature arising within 24 hours was the feature of a declaration made this morning to The Advertiser by Mr. Laflamme, parish priest of the destroyed Basilica, who would not, however, indicate the clues which were being followed. He admitted that he was still of the opinion that the fire could not have originated from natural causes.

The fact that the investigation has brought no solving of the mysterious fire, but instead has convinced the parish priest that natural causes up to now could not be held responsible for the fire, indicates that the theory of arson has not been abandoned altogether, though it is only accepted as the last one. There may have been carelessness on the part of someone connected with the building of the Basilica without criminal intent.

Mr. Laflamme would make no definite statement simply saying: "I believe there will be interesting developments within a few hours. In addition to the investigation, which is being ably conducted by the fire marshal, the authorities are also on a trail which may lead to unexpected developments. It seems well established that the gas and electrical installation seemed to have been in perfect condition. The furnace did not explode and

Balmy Weather Vanishes on Arrival of Severe Snow Storm in District

Prognostications of a delightful, almost balmy winter, found themselves buried this morning under a cold, wet blanket of snow.

With a decided change from southerly to northerly winds, the temperature took a sudden drop to ten degrees below freezing, and winter once more clung with its icy grasp. That the grasp will not be released for at least a few days is indicated by the reports from various weather bureaus, which tell of biting winds and snowstorms in many districts in the vicinity of Ontario.

DON'T MOVE LIQUOR INTO VACANT HOUSE

Londoners Take Beer to Apartment Before Moving In and Are Fined \$200.

If you are moving into a new home, don't move your liquor there before taking up your new residence, for, under the Ontario temperance act, you are guilty of having liquor in a place other than a private dwelling liable to a minimum fine of \$200. This was brought out in police court today, a conviction being registered and a \$200 fine imposed on a citizen who did this very thing.

Three brothers are involved in the case. One was the lessee of a two-story building. On the ground floor, another managed a place of business. The first, this manager and the third brother rented the flat above. This had a separate entrance at the side. The two decided to renovate the place and accordingly employed electricians and decorators. A telephone was installed. The workmen completed their business Friday morning.

One of the brothers testified he was given a sack filled with bottles of beer by his brother. He moved them to the new place he intended to occupy. Saturday morning he was going to move his furniture in. While he was away, police found the door open and entered. They found the bottles—ten empty, one half filled and thirteen full. They waited until one of the brothers returned. When he placed the "empties" against the wall they arrested him.

Then they arrested the manager of the business on the ground floor when he admitted he was a joint occupant of the apartment above. His case was heard first. He was fined \$200 and the charge against the other brother was withdrawn. The beer was confiscated.

When asked for a ruling by counsel, Magistrate Graydon promised the conviction against the apartment would not rest on it of its status as a private dwelling within the meaning of the Ontario temperance act when the brothers took up their abode there.

LIONS CLUB MEMBERS HOLD REGULAR MEETING

The "Lions" roared together today for the first time in three weeks, their noon meetings at the Townhouse having been postponed by reason of the rush of the Christmas season.

Financial reports were read, and records show 25 members in regular attendance. No addresses were given and very little business conducted, the meeting being more in the nature of a good fellowship reunion after the postponement.

Arrangements were made to hold the next meeting, Thursday, January 4, when Cub Tom Dudgeon will speak in "Banking."

SCHOONER WITH CARGO OF LIQUOR BROKEN UP

New York, Dec. 23.—The British schooner Madonna V., bound from Nassau to St. Pierre, was broken up today. The cargo of liquor, 100 cases, was found in the hold. The schooner was captured by the U. S. Coast Guard cutter, the USS Albatross, and is being towed to New York. The schooner was found to be carrying a cargo of liquor, 100 cases, which was found in the hold. The schooner was captured by the U. S. Coast Guard cutter, the USS Albatross, and is being towed to New York.

HEARING FOR DELORME TO BE HELD JANUARY 4

Quebec, Dec. 23.—The hearing of the case of Abbe Delorme, charged with the murder of Jack McKee, will be held on January 4. The case is being heard by the Provincial Court.

All the Theatres

GRAND.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Elaine Hammerstein in "Under Oath"; five acts of vaudeville.

New Year's Week: "The Man From Glengarry" and opening of winter season, with De Wolf Hopper Light Opera Company presenting Gilbert and Sullivan operas, including "The Mikado," "Pinafore" and "Iolanthe."

ALLEN'S.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: "To Have and To Hold," featuring Bert Lytell and Betty Compton.

LOEW'S.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Elaine Hammerstein and Conway Tearle in "One Week of Love," vaudeville.

PATRICIA.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Herbert Rawlinson in "Another Man's Shoes," vaudeville.

MAJESTIC.
Closed.

GOSSIP

He's Wonderful!
Charles de Roche, the French cinema actor who was brought to this country by the French Players to the Valentino roles, has passed the first and perhaps the most difficult test. Dorothy Dalton, his leading woman, thinks he's all right.

"Dr. Jack."
New York critics of the silver screen have received with enthusiasm Harold Lloyd's new offering, "Dr. Jack."

While admitting that he lacks Chaplin's "tremendous profundity," they herald Lloyd as a comedian of equal greatness with the world-famous Charlie.

A Thousand a Week!
Ernest Lubitch, the German director who made "Deception" and whose name has long been identified with Pola Negri and the best cinema production by Europe, has decided definitely to come to America to direct Mary Pickford in "Dorothy Vernon."

"The Passion Vine" from John Russell's story, recently dropped into a Miami restaurant for a hasty lunch. As the waiter would have it, the place was crowded and the service incredibly slow. But Miss Terry was thirsty, and she drank three glasses of water before there was any indication of food coming.

"If you keep on drinking that water you won't be able to eat any lunch," warned the waiter, Ingram, who accompanied her.

"On the contrary, it will only whet my appetite," countered the fair Alice.

Versatile Marguerite.
Marguerite de la Motte, the screen beauty who plays an important part in the Fred Niblo photoplay production "The Famous Mrs. Fair," is rapidly winning fame as a composer of dance music. She has many successful compositions to her credit, and her two most recent ones have scored tremendously in Los Angeles.

RAISES NEW POINT IN TEMPERANCE ACT
Hamilton, Dec. 23.—W. Carnew, representing the license department, raised a new point under the O. T. A. before Magistrate Jelfs this morning. He contended that the section which gives the right to investigate where an intoxicated man got his liquor, applied to all sections of the O. T. A. Magistrate Jelfs said he was not sure of this and that it was a recently made amendment, which did not too clearly indicate to what sections it applied. The case under consideration was that in which two truckmen, Hughes and Galloway, were fined \$150 each and an additional fine of \$200 was imposed on Hughes.

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The booster will be Gerald Pearson, manager of the market branch of the Bank of Montreal. Announcement has been made of the committee for 1923.

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ANTICIPATE MERGER OF PAPER CONCERNS

Would Mean Increased Profits for Numerous Shareholders.

Special to The Advertiser.
Montreal, Dec. 23.—Despite denials that have recently been made, there is every likelihood that there will shortly be seen some big developments in the newspaper world along the lines of a merger.

From information that Financial Service Limited says it has received from a reliable source, it would appear that at least tentative negotiations are afoot to consummate two mergers in the east and one in the west.

The western merger would be the Abitibi Power and Paper Company and the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Mills, whilst the eastern merging companies mentioned are Laurentide Company and Price Brothers. A moment's reflection would show what such a merger would mean to the shareholders of the companies concerned.

Any such saving in production costs would mean just so much more profits for distribution to the shareholders.

It is officially announced that the Windsor Hotel, owned by the Windsor Hotel Co., has been sold to a syndicate of investors.

The syndicate, which is composed of R. T. Leclerc Inc., Hanson Brothers, and Nesbitt, Thomson & Co., has purchased the hotel for \$2,500,000.

The hotel, which is one of the finest in the city, is being sold to the public early after the new year.

While admitting that he lacks Chaplin's "tremendous profundity," they herald Lloyd as a comedian of equal greatness with the world-famous Charlie.

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OUTLOOKS GLOOMY FOR EMERALD ISLE

Newspaper Attributes Greater Part of Rebel Activity to Irish Women.

New York, Dec. 23.—Reviewing the year-end conditions in Ireland, the Daily Mail's correspondent in Dublin paints a discouraging picture. He expresses the fear that the present lull in the military operations is only temporary, that republicanism is still strong enough to cause the government infinite trouble.

The correspondent attributes the constantly reviving activity among the rebels to women, seventy-five per cent of whom, he asserts, probably sympathize with the irregulars. He declares that even the wives of some of the ministers are passively, if not actively, rebels.

It is pointed out that although the national services are controlled by the government, they are not functioning with freedom and regularity. The ministers still are compelled to live in the government buildings; those who made brief visits to friends during Christmas have had to return to the office fortresses.

Referring to rumors which are indignantly denied by the authorities that sections of the free state army are over-throwing the government, the correspondent says "Whatever the facts may be, there recently have been reports of the national troops have been captured with suspicious ease by rebels."

The dispatch continues: "Astonishingly, the imminent peril of death to every member of the cabinet who had hoped the appointment of Timothy Healy as governor-general would tend to bring the parties together. Unfortunately it has not done so. The walls of Dublin are painted with scathing references to Healy, who now rivals Richard Mulcahy as the object of attack."

The Daily Mail has in no wise been considered anti-Irish. On the contrary, it has professed strong sympathy for the Irish government.

MOONSHINE MEANS \$500 AND COSTS Windsor Man, Arrested Wednesday, Pleads Guilty to Breaking Law.

Canadian Press.
Windsor, Dec. 23.—Pleading guilty to purchasing moonshine from an importer and having it in his possession, Samuel Zeron, 31 years old, 523 Niagara avenue, was fined \$500 and costs when he appeared before Magistrate Gundy in police court today.

Zeron, in company with Harry Gold of Detroit, and Max Horn, 810 Assumption street, was arrested Wednesday night by the mounted police and customs and inland revenue officers.

The other men pleaded not guilty. They denied knowledge of the liquor which was brought from Ecorse, Mich., across the river to Pettit Cove. They patrolled the shore and when the men came along in their automobile, they arrested them. One of the men leaped from the automobile as the officers came up and escaped.

Police had been tipped off that the liquor was to be brought from Ecorse, Mich., across the river to Pettit Cove. They patrolled the shore and when the men came along in their automobile, they arrested them. One of the men leaped from the automobile as the officers came up and escaped.

"We will now expect a veritable storm of protest," General Manager Buchanan stated, "but the power commission in the district to be affected has no person to blame but themselves. We have certainly exercised great patience with them."

Early in 1922 the utilities commissioners decided to eliminate all poles in the downtown districts. In order to do this, it was necessary for the various property owners and tenants on Dundas street to arrange for new wiring connections.

But instead of little or no progress had been achieved, and set a new date, December 1.

This day has long since passed and it was finally ruled that eight or ten months was quite sufficient for any customers and the order went forth that the alterations should be completed. The summer passed and a scattering few heeded the warning. Then the commissioners reviewed the situation, where an intoxicated man got his liquor, applied to all sections of the O. T. A. Magistrate Jelfs said he was not sure of this and that it was a recently made amendment, which did not too clearly indicate to what sections it applied. The case under consideration was that in which two truckmen, Hughes and Galloway, were fined \$150 each and an additional fine of \$200 was imposed on Hughes.

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Obituaries

MOSA RESIDENT DIES.

Mrs. K. Duckworth died last night at her late residence in Mosca Township, in her 87th year, after an illness of some seven months. She leaves two daughters and four sons, Dorchester, John, Brown City, Mich.; Mrs. W. Howitt, city; Mrs. M. Hayes, George, Port Huron; Peter, London; and Edward at home.

The funeral will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at her late home and interment will be made in Dorchester Union Cemetery.

MRS. ATTWOOD PASSES.
Mrs. Mary Ann Attwood passed away at the family residence, 201 Mill street, city, yesterday, in her 80th year.

She was well-known in London and leaves a host of mourners.

Mrs. Attwood is survived by one son, Frank of this city. The funeral will be held from the above address on Saturday to Littlewood Cemetery. Services will be conducted by Rev. Vance of Ilderton.

HONOR MR. AND MRS. CAREY.
Hamilton, Dec. 23.—Bruce A. and Mrs. Carey, formerly of this city, were honored last night by members of their old church, Charlton avenue Methodist, on a day visit to the city from Philadelphia, where Mr. Carey is a musical director. Gold watches were presented them.

TO CONSIDER APPEAL OF ABBE DELORME
Chief Justice Lemieux Will Deal With Case on January 4.