Historic Fires at Bishop’s University

1874 - 1962
Fires at Bishop’s

Throughout its almost 160 year history, Bishop’s has been the victim of a number of devastating fires. Luckily, no one was injured in the disasters.

1874: Mr. McPhee, who spotted the fire rode on horseback to Sherbrooke for the steam fire engine, but it arrived too late to do more than assist in saving the adjacent buildings. The school building and all its contents were destroyed.

1876: When fire broke out shortly after midnight, faculty and servants organized bucket brigades to try to contain the flames. One of the staff ran to the railway station in Lennoxville to telegraph for the Sherbrooke fire engine, which arrived quickly and prevented further damage. The library was gutted, and the students lost all their possessions.

1891: Fire broke out in the afternoon when the dormitories were empty. Professors, students and villagers tried to quell the flames. Students dashed into their rooms to save their personal effects and Principal Adams cried unashamedly in the quadrangle. By the time the Sherbrooke Fire Brigade arrived, the firefighters concentrated on saving the original college building, as fire repeatedly broke out on the roof. The Bishop Williams Wing, erected the year before, was completely destroyed as was the grammar school. Only the walls of the chapel remained, but the original college building was saved. After the fire, there was a good deal of looting.

1917: Fire broke out in the room beneath the library from the explosion of an electric torch. It was put out before the Sherbrooke brigade arrived.

1929: Fire damaged the gymnasium, located in the rear of Old Arts (McGreer) and slightly away from the other buildings.

1944: The rink, a wooden structure, was destroyed.

1962: St. Mark’s Chapel and the two-manual electro-pneumatic organ were damaged. Students and both the Lennoxville and Sherbrooke fire departments worked to put out the fire. The interior of the Chapel did not burn.

(Sources: Bishop’s University Archives, Bishop’s University: The First Hundred Years by D.C. Masters and Bishop’s University: 1843-1970 by Christopher Nicholl.)

In 1944, Bishop’s first rink was destroyed by fire. In 1960, after nearly two decades without a rink, William B. Scott, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Corporation, saw the completion of the facility, which bears his name.
Fire of 1874
DOMINION NEWS

From Lennoxville

Fire
Special Telegram to the Gazette
Lennoxville Jan. 15

The grammar school connected with
Bishop's College was destroyed by fire this
morning. The building is completely
gutted. A strong westerly wind was blow-
ing, which carried the flames on to the
Rector's house, and it was only by great ex-
ertion that it was saved. The building of
the senior department and chapel are unin-
jured. The steam fire engine from Sher-
brooke arrived in time to be of great service
in saving the wooden out buildings. The
boys escaped uninjured, but lost the greater
part of their effects. We are given to un-
derstand by the Rector that arrangements
will be made so that the school will continue
as usual.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Montréal
Library Association Reel Number 68 (Dec. 31, 1873 to
July 15, 1874)
THE BURNING OF LENNOXVILLE

GRAMMAR SCHOOL

[From a correspondent]

Sunday Jan. 25

The Lennoxville Grammar School took fire to-day about 11 o'clock, and in very short time was burned to the ground. Fortunately all the masters and boys were at church in the village. Everything in the Rector's house were saved. Immediately on the first alarm a gentleman (Mr. McPhee) rode to Sherbrooke on horseback for its merryweather engine, and though the engine was on the ground and working in forty minutes, after going over three and a half miles, of frozen ground, almost bare of snow, it was too late to do more than assist in saving the adjacent buildings.

It is a great source of great congratulation that the fire did not occur in the night. Had it done so the consequences might have been terrible. The boys are as jolly as possible under the circumstances. Though they have lost everything except what they had on their backs, their only expressed regret is for the losses of the matron - a lady who had endeared herself to them by her great kindness and motherly attention.

It is believed that some building in the village will be at once put in order so that this most useful institution will go on with only an interrogum of a few days.
Thank God, the boys are all right, and no one injured, except in the loss of a little personal property that will be forgotten in the general safety to life. The buildings were well insured and will be rebuilt at once.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Montréal Gazette - January 27, 1874 - p. [1] - Canadian Library Association Reel Number 68 (Dec. 31, 1873 - July 15, 1874)
Lennoxville, Q.—RUINS OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BISHOP'S COLLEGE.
How about that "new lost?"

"Selution" is the new word for it.

Nimrod was a mighty hunter, but he never saw an ant.

Honest ducks dip their head under water to liquidate their little bills.

The latest dodge in books—returning borrowed volumes as Christmas presents.

A photographer requested that his sign, "taken from life," should be his epitaph.

A Western newspaper heads its list of female personal intelligence "Her column."

"Sol corn Catawba, vintage of 1875," comprises the entire issue of a local journal.

"Muggins," says that in these hard times, a five dollar greenback looks as big as a circus poster.

A Nevada postmaster has written to Washington to know if he can rent part of the office for a faro bank.

Bulwer said that journalism is more fitted to destroy good governments than to construct foundations for good ones.

Josh Billings says: "Success doesn't knock in never making blunders, but in never making the same one the second time."

If you wish to travel cheaply, patronize those railroads which the "lady in waiting" of the telegraph bureau has endorsed.

A Michigan real estate dealer recently received this order from a young lady: "Send me a Novel called buffalo bill and the chieftain." She is a recent dinner of shoemakers the following toast was given: "May we have all the women in the country to shoe and all the men to boot."

"What comes after T?" asked a teacher of a small pupil, who was learning the alphabet. He received the bewildering reply: "You—do to see Liza."

The Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Journal devils thinks it an all-wise Providence that ordains that religious revivals don't set in until after the stove pipes are all put up.

A girl hearing her mistress ask her husband to bring "Snowboy and Son" with him when he came home to dinner, set two extra plates for the expected guests.

"How fast they build houses now!" said H. "they been building last week, and now they are putting in the lights."

"Yes," answered his friend, "and next week they will put in the liver."

A solemn warning might be taken from the fate of a Western editor who started out to "astonish the natives" with a lecture: but a snow storm arose, the driver lost his way, the wagon was and the sailor broke his collar bone and two ribs.

Ben Franklin's whistle is owned by a staunch old Pennsylvania farmer. This is opening the year with a first-class stock paragraph. For an economical man Franklin owned many watches. We know of four. Perhaps he used to "swap them."

Peter Van Dyke, an old chap, who died in New Hampshire the other day, worth $10,000 in cash, requested in his will to be "brought in Dubuque and shed crooked tears at his funeral, but cover him over and then hurry home to fight over his money."

Not long since, at Sunday-school, the teacher, after trying hard to impress on the minds of a class of small boys the idea of Sabbath-breaking, asked, "Is Sunday better than any other day?" when the smallest boy in the class answered, "You be your boots it is!"

"Did you ever" asks a correspondent, "sit down to a good old-fashioned Kentucky supper, cooked by an old slave of the family, say Aunt Sally? Well, if you haven't, then never speak of having eaten! Good, crisp potatoes for the rice, served hot, as jelly; Ham, fresh baked bread and elettich butter; Bluegrass can produce, broiled quiet; squirrel; good country ham; a great, big roast turkey at the head of the table, and all this, while the other end a roast pig, cooked to a turn, and so nicely dressed up that his jovial extended in light at the situation?"

Music and the Drama.

Capoill, the London Figaro is not unmindful, was a dressmaker's assistant.

Mrs. Siddons, the great actress, was a sculptor as well, and executed the busts of herself and brother, Mr. John Kemble, marble-colours well.

A new association is to be started in England, to be called the British Musical and Dramatic Institution. It is for the study of music and the drama.

The Week.

Dufferin is spending the Carnival has gone almost as a unit for the last few weeks.

The President of the Electric Railways, the new initiative to be taken is that the War Office, from Sir Garnet of the Asylum, has been warned to prepare for a great movement of little prisoners, and has agreed to

The city of London returns to the Liberal party, the result being A. D. S. mayor. - Ditto has declined the honor.

Six people were killed at Brevard, where a Liberal meeting was held.

VALUE OF POINTS WHEN PERFECT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Game</th>
<th>Pace (Style and Speed of Hunting)</th>
<th>Pointing (Study and Sidewinders)</th>
<th>Drawing on Game (Gleaning)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bells</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>435</td>
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On page eight, we give two scenes of the Coup d'Etat in Madrid, on the 2nd January. Immediately Senor Castelar became aware of the strength of the majority against him, he and...
Fire of 1876
DOMINION NEWS

From Lennoxville

FIRE AT BISHOP'S COLLEGE

Lennoxville, January 7

The Bishop's College was burned last night. The grammar school, dining hall, chapel and Principal's house were saved. The College library is about one-half destroyed.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Montréal Gazette, January 8, 1876 - p. [3] - Canadian Library Association Reel Number 71 (Aug. 14, 1875 to Feb. 18, 1876)
COMMUNICATIONS

THE FIRE AT BISHOP'S COLLEGE,
LENNOXVILLE

To The Editor of the Gazette

Dear Sir - Some of your readers will probably be looking for an authentic account of this second calamity by fire which has befallen us. On Thursday night, or, to speak more correctly, on Friday morning, about half an hour after midnight, a light was observed in an unoccupied part of the College, which could only proceed from a fire. It was found to be in one of the small halls (about 12 by 18 feet) into which the students' rooms open; the fire had run up the wall, and already caught the ceiling. Immediately the alarm was given. Some of the servants who heard it, seeing no sign of the fire themselves, supposed the alarm to be false. I was myself just ready to go to bed. As soon as I was able to reach the spot by the main staircase, I found that it was impossible to stand at the head of the staircase. By this time the men-servants and some others had reached the spot. They carried up buckets of water by the small staircase leading up from the dining hall, and to some extent checked the flames for a while. The whole space between the two staircases being ignited, all access to the students' room in the main building was cut off. Everything belonging to them was destroyed. Meanwhile I had opened the library and placed a light there. Mr. Grey, one of the masters of the school, commenced to remove the books. He was almost immediately called off to hurry to the station to telegraph for the Sherbrooke steam fire engine. Professor Scarth who is librarian, was soon after upon the spot, and
with what help he could obtain, urged on the removal of the books. Before a quarter of the books had been taken out, the fall of a chimney, and the consequent bursting through the floor above the passage leading out from the library, put a summary stop to his endeavors.

The Sherbrooke engine (No. 2), under Captain Lomas, with Captain Foss of No. 1, and a detachment of the 2nd Brigade (eight men, I believe, in all) reached the spot and got to work in an incredibly short time. The flames from the upper windows and roof of the College had by this time just began to lay hold of the roof of the Principal's house. In an instant they disappeared. Between the College and the house there was only one opening through the brick wall. Upon this door, and upon the occasionally re-igniting roof a steam of water was played in turn. The danger of the house may be judged of by the fact, that several of the panels of the door were so burnt that they crumbled under the touch of the finger.

Meanwhile the other steam from the "Merryweather" was so busily and effectually employed, that for a considerable time the north-east wing appeared to be almost safe. At least, however the flames crept insidiously through the flat roof, into Professor Tambs' sitting-room, and although one branch was immediately turned upon it and in spite of the axes of the firemen, whose splendid exertions were nobly supported by several gentlemen from the village, found their way into the roof of the dining-hall. Here, after an obstinate fight they were eventually conquered a little before daybreak. The engine, after playing for some time on the ruins, returned to Sherbrooke with the men, whose untiring exertions had been beyond all praise, thoroughly exhausted.

The dining-hall, kitchen, &c., remain uninjured except by the flood of water which
was poured into them, and a few trifling repairs will render the Professors’ lecture rooms available for use. The term commences properly on Saturday, the 15th, but two or three days will be needed for the repairs above alluded to. A circular has been issued by the Rector of the School, calling the boys back on Wednesday, the 19th. By the same date arrangements will have been made for the accommodation of the students, of which they will be individually notified at the earliest possible moment.

Professor Tambs, as well as the students, has lost everything, including a valuable collection of books. Unfortunately he was not insured. The museum was entirely destroyed. There is a fair insurance upon the whole property.

The school and outbuildings were never at all in danger, nor was the safety of the chapel seriously threatened.

I am, dear sir

Yours truly

J. H. NICOLLS.

Bishop's College, Lennoxville

January 10th, 1876

Reproduced in full from a letter to the editor in the Montréal Gazette - January 12, 1876 - p. [3] - Canadian Library Association Reel Number 71 (Aug. 1st, 1875 to Feb. 18, 1876)
The Principal of Bishop's College desires to inform the Students that, in consequence of the late disastrous fire, the work of the College will not begin until Thursday, the 20th instant. Provision will be made for their board and lodging in private families in the village, who will be ready to receive them on Wednesday Evening. Should any Student be unable to be present at that date, it is hoped he will not fail to send timely information.

The Principal sincerely regrets that in consequence of the suddenness of the fire, and the time of night at which it occurred, as well as the locality in which it was first discovered, it was impossible to save any of their effects.

Text-books will be on hand for those who require them. No bedding will be required unless in some specified cases.

Bishop's College,  
January 12, 1876.  

m38(5)
Fire of 1891
A BIG FIRE AT LENNOXVILLE

Bishop's College Has a Narrow Escape From Destruction

THREE BUILDINGS BURNED

The Rectory, Chapel and Grammar School in Ruins - No One Injured
Loss About $50,000

Sherbrooke, Que., February 5 - About 3 o'clock this afternoon the neighboring village of Lennoxville was startled by the reported breaking out of a fire in the Grammar School department of Bishop's college. The village appliances were quickly on the spot, but finding themselves unable to cope with the fire a demand was made for the Sherbrooke brigade to go out, the steam engines of which were immediately dispatched. Before they could reach there, however, the fire had made rapid headway and spread to the Williams wing, to the rectory and the chapel. It was soon observed that none of those buildings could possibly be saved from total destruction. This being the case the fire brigade devoted all their energies to prevent the fire from seizing hold of the original college building attached to the chapel.
After long continued and severe efforts this was assured. Of the Grammar school, chapel and other two buildings nothing now remains but the bare walls. There is said to be about $39,000 damage, fully covered by insurance.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE

The fire commenced in attic among the servants' quarters. Its origin is not certain, but it is thought to have been caused by a spark finding its way into the room through a loose brick in the chimney. The quick spreading of the fire is attributed to the ventilating flues, which carried the blaze to each floor.

Many of the students of the Grammar school came into Sherbrooke and are now being taken care of by their friends here. Others are billeted in Lennoxville and no doubt many, if not all, of them will leave for their homes before the end of this week, the building now standing being incapable of accommodating the Grammar School students.

A great deal of looting took place with the furniture and private effects of the professors and students. It was feared at one time that the matron had lost her life but after some search among the neighbours she was found to be safe. The fire of to-day has revived in some minds the question of removing the college to Sherbrooke, but the general opinion is that Lennoxville should retain the honor held by her so long.
A GREAT LOSS TO THE COLLEGE

The loss to the institution will be severe. The Bishop Williams wing, the latest erected of the college buildings, was opened only a year and a half ago and cost between $5,000 and $6,000. The school building, rebuilt after the fire of 1874, cost over $25,000. The chapel, which originally erected in 1857, was nearly doubled in size in 1875, and was a beautiful ecclesiastical building with a fine organ. There were about 125 boys in attendance at the school, of whom 110 were resident in the hall and rectory. These are all comfortably provided for. The insurance on the buildings is considerable, and is divided between between the Royal, the Phoenix, the Stanstead and Shefford Mutual, and the Liverpool and London and Globe.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT

Lennoxville, February 5 - Bishop's College school, the chapel and the rectory were destroyed by fire this afternoon. The fire broke out in the school, and was first discovered at two o'clock and the alarm given. The local fire brigade hastened to the scene, and with the aid of the townspeople they succeeded in getting the fire under control, after about two hours' hard fighting.

As yet the origin of the fire is unknown. There were no lives lost nor anyone injured. The boys lose all their effects and the majority of them are housed with friends and will leave for home to-morrow.

The college proper, which is partially isolated from the school and chapel, was saved. The loss is placed at $50,000 and is said to be fully covered by insurance. The names of the companies interested and the amounts cannot as yet be learned.
Reproduced in full from two articles in the Montréal Gazette - February 6, 1891 - Preston Microfilm Service, Ltd. Reel Number 50 (1891 January to March) - [Page 1]
The Fire of 1891

(The following is an excerpt from Dr. Christopher Nicholl's newly released book, Bishop's University, 1843-1970.)

On 5 February 1891 Bishop's again suffered ordeal by fire. Fortunately it broke out during the afternoon, when the dormitories were empty, but the system of heating by furnaces through hot air ducts ensured that it would spread rapidly from the attic of the school building where it was first detected. In spite of the efforts of the professors, masters, students, and villagers, it was soon evident that the school building was doomed, including the Bishop Williams Wing which had been completed only the year before. The arrival of the Sherbrooke fire brigade with its steam fire engine provided welcome reinforcement to the firefighters, who now concentrated their efforts on the college building. The flames leaped to the chapel, and the college was saved only by the steady streams of water from the fire engines and the heroic efforts of firemen and members of the college who clambered about on the roof, extinguishing fires started by flying embers. Some of the personal effects of the boys were saved, but the school was a total loss, and only the walls of the chapel remained.

The community rallied to provide housing for the 110 schoolboys. Principal Adams placed the Lodge at the disposal of the School Association, and the infirmary (Morris House) was pressed into service. Many friends of the school in Lennoxville and Sherbrooke opened their homes to the boys. Dr. Allmat, who had been living in the house built for the rector at the south end of the school building, moved into the partly finished Divinity House. Corporation appointed a committee to oversee the rebuilding of the school. In June this committee reported that the total cost would be little short of $60 thousand. Insurance would provide $33 thousand and the government of Honoré Mercier had consented to a grant of $10 thousand, payable in five equal annual instalments, toward the cost of the new building. This was the first capital grant Bishop's had ever received from the government; it is remarkable that it came from a premier who is remembered as the first to claim that his government was the "national government" of the people of Quebec. A campaign was mounted to raise the balance of $17 thousand, and, with some misgivings, bonds from the college endowment were pledged as collateral for a loan against the promised government grant. In the event, one of the contractors for the new building went bankrupt, and the ensuing legal battle with his creditors gave the trustees some anxious moments. However, the new and improved building was completed on the old site by the beginning of Lent term, 1892.

Rebuilding the chapel proved to be a more controversial project. Some members of Corporation wanted to rebuild on the same site, arguing that the chapel was a memorial to Jasper Nicoll, who had raised the funds required to enlarge and embellish it, and that it was in harmony with the other buildings. Others coveted the site for college facilities including a separate dining hall. A compromise was finally achieved, by which the chapel was rebuilt on the same site and some of the needed facilities were provided in new floors added above the ante-chapel. Much of this work was completed by the end of 1892; but the superb interior woodwork was not completed until 1898. In 1894 the cloister passage from the school to the college was built at the expense of the School Association, completing the northeast corner of what has become the Quadrangle.

A Special Release

Bishop's University, 1843-1970

by Christopher Nicholl

360pp, 58 photographs

Christopher Nicholl brings his experience as Principal of Bishop's (1976-86) to the task of recounting the University's development from its founding in 1843 to its battle for survival amid the radical reforms introduced into Quebec's system of higher education during the 1960's. Tracing the academic, administrative and physical growth of Bishop's through periods of crises and calm, Nicholl concludes optimistically that Bishop's will be able to maintain its academic traditions.

Please send me ___ copy (copies) @ $41.68 each ($34.95 + $4 shipping and handling + G.S.T.) of Bishop's University, 1843-1970.

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Tel: _______________________

Please make cheque payable to Bishop's University Bookstore and send to (or call with your VISA number):
The Bookstore
Bishop's University
Lennoxville QC JIM 1Z7
tel: (819) 822-9645

November 1994  Bishop's University Alumni Newsletter
Fire of 1917

Library
FIRE AT
BISHOP'S COL.,
LENNOXVILLE

Started Beneath Library But
Was Extinguished Before
Serious Damage was
Caused

Fire broke out this morning at
Bishop's College in the room beneath
the library. It is understood the fire
originated from the explosion of an
electric torch. For a time the situation
looked very serious. The fire got into
the partitions and worked up.

Fortunately the blaze was discov-
ered in time, and a liberal supply of
water succeeded in extinguishing it
before very serious damage was done.

The Sherbrooke brigade was called,
but the fire had been put out before
its arrival.

The damage from the fire and water
will be considerable, but as compared
with the threatened damage very
small indeed. It is understood the
library was undamaged.
term of this year. Nevertheless, the response has been surprisingly good, as the following figures will show:

Red Cross—Lady Students .................. $12.00.
Men Students ........................... 28.75.
Halifax Relief—Men Students .............. $37.50.
Victory Bond—Lady Students .............. $30.00.
Men Students ........................... 75.00.

The $100 Victory Bond has been placed to the credit of the Student's War Memorial Fund.

As the result of their performances this year, the Dramatic Club has also been able to subscribe a sum of $70 to the Lennoxville Patriotic Association.

In addition to the above figures, the Trustees and Faculty of the University have contributed liberally to the various funds.

Fire!

Clash, clang! Clash, clang! Wow, wow! The citizens of Lennoxville rush to their windows and on to the street. What is the matter? The fire alarm is sounding. All is excitement; where is the fire? The fire brigade turns out in full force, with the chief at its head, and rushes down College Street at breakneck speed. Then the awful news passes from mouth to mouth that the University is on fire. The disaster of '91 is about to be repeated. The ancient and imposing seat of learning is about to be destroyed.

At the University perilous and anxious moments are passing. An electric torch has exploded in the face of the chief carpenter, Mr. Main, in the midst of the workshop, which was filled with combustible material, and was situated directly beneath the library stack room in a corner of the library wing. The flames are spreading rapidly over the shop and are licking up the walls of the floor above. Badly burned though he is, Mr. Main hastens to connect the fire hose with the hydrants, whilst valiant Jim hastens to turn in the alarm. The Bursar is momentarily away, the Principal, hearing the alarm, hurriedly arrives and sends for the Sherbrooke brigade. Meanwhile the flames spread out from the shop and leap from beam to beam of the basement; immense clouds of choking, resinous smoke roll up the basement stairs and through the corridors. Will help arrive in time to save the building? The Professor of English History determines to carry his priceless MSS. to the safety of the "Shed," the sanctum of those in trouble.
Fire of 1929

Gymnasium
FIRE DAMAGED
GYMNASIUM AT
BISHOP'S UNIV.

Night Watchman Discovered
Flames Shortly After Five
O'Clock This Morning and Im-
mediately Spread Alarm
Throughout College - College
Apparatus was Brought into
Action and Flames Placed
Under Control - Damage Esti-
mated at About Three Hun-
dred Dollars.

Damage to the extent of about
three hundred dollars was caused
early this morning to the gymna-
sium of the University of Bishop's
College by a fire which is supposed
to have started from a cigarette
butt, which apparently had been
thrown away by some one in the
building last night.

The fire was discovered shortly
after five o'clock this morning by
the night watchman, and a general
alarm was immediately turned in for
the students, who set to work with
the college fire apparatus and man-
aged to get the flames under con-
trol, although not before they had
burned a hole through the roof and
badly damaged the walls of the
building. It was very fortunate that there was not a strong wind blowing at the time, as otherwise very serious damage might have occurred.

The gymnasium is a brick building in the rear of the old Arts Building and slightly away from the other college buildings.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Sherbrooke Daily Record - October 3, 1929 - p. 4 - Bobine Positive Reel Number 44 (3 Sep 1929 31 Jan 1930)
Fire of 1944

Rink
FIRE DESTROYS BISHOP’S UNIVERSITY RINK

$30,000 Loss is Suffered
in Fire of Unknown Origin

Fire of unknown origin late this morning destroyed the rink at the University of Bishop’s College and five men from Lennoxville and Sherbrooke were still fighting the blaze at the time of going to press.

The arena situated at the rear of the Old Arts Building, is a wooden structure about 200 by 15 feet and is about 1000 yards from the main college buildings. At no time was the College itself threatened by the flames, although they shot high into the sky when they broke through the roof.

Rev. Dr. A. H. McCreer, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, stated to the Record early this afternoon that the rink would be a complete loss. The damages were estimated at $30,000.

Stanley Moisan, caretaker at the College, said that he was in the arena building working and went out for about fifteen minutes. Upon re-entering the building he noticed the flames, which had started in one of the dressing rooms. He immediately sounded the alarm and after the Lennoxville firemen reached the scene a call was put in to Sherbrooke for help and Chief Donahue sent out one of the pump engines with four men.
At 12:30 o'clock this afternoon one side and the middle of the building had caved in.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Sherbrooke Daily Record - January 4, 1944 - p. [3] - and on microfilm on Reel Number 77 (1 Sep 1943 @ 31 Jan 1944)
NO PLANS FOR

REBUILDING RINK

AT UNIVERSITY

Authorities at Bishop's University announced today that no plans for the reconstruction of the college rink, which was completely destroyed by fire yesterday noon would be made for some time, and it is believed that the Students' Council will be left to decide the stand to be taken with regards to a home rink for the hockey team which is playing in the Sherbrooke Junior "B" Q. A. H. A. League. All the students are still away from the University on their Christmas vacation and nothing definite will be decided until they return and find out how the team stands.

Damage to the rink was estimated at $30,000 and the wooden structure was a complete loss. No cause for the fire has as yet been determined and the blaze was not discovered until some time after it had reached an advanced stage. The college rink was one of the older structures on the grounds and with it went one of the old landmarks of the University.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Sherbrooke Daily Record - January 5, 1944 - p. [3] and on microfilm on Reel Number 77 (1 Sep 1943 to 31 Jan 1944)
The University Rink in flames, 1944
Fire of 1962

St. Mark's Chapel
Damage to 105-year-old Structure May Amount to $10,000

HISTORIC BISHOP'S CHAPEL DAMAGED BY BLAZE

by James Davies

(Record Staff reporter)

Bishop's University's historic Chapel of St. Mark was heavily damaged by a fire on the Lennoxville campus yesterday afternoon.

Lennoxville Fire Chief Ronald Farrow said he believed total damage to the 105-year-old structure would probably amount to about $10,000.

The blaze is believed to have started when a defective motor in the hot air fan in the basement of the chapel caught fire, spreading flames along the floor of the building.

The two-manual electro-pneumatic organ in the building was also heavily damaged by smoke and water and it is believed that the instrument will have to be dismantled, cleaned and repaired at considerable cost.

STUDENTS HELP

Although the flames were confined to the small area be-
tween the cellar ceiling and the chapel floor, fifteen firemen from both the Lennoxville and Sherbrooke fire departments working with a hastily assembled student fire brigade under Clem Chapple, were unable to get the fire under control until 4 p.m. - two hours after it started.

Firemen attempting to get to the heart of the fire were hampered by thick black smoke that billowed from the basement into every corner of the building.

Some of them donned gas masks, strapped oxygen tanks on their backs and groped their way through the smoke-filled cellar to fight the flames from the inside, while others poured streams of water into the burning building from the outside.

Meanwhile outside on the university campus hundreds of students milled about the burning building.

The general feeling among the students was one of regret as they watched one of their most cherished landmarks engulfed in a dense black smoke.
Arts student Marlene Parker said: "every student in the university regardless of their religious affiliation, has a strong feeling of attachment to the chapel."

Many staff members who stood about watching the fire were visibly saddened.

"The incident is extremely regrettable" said St. Mark's Chaplain, Rev. John Anido.

Although the interior of the Chapel was not burned, everything from the Bishop's chair to the Gothic paneling to the carved oak altar and the Chapel organ were coated with a thick layer of soot.

An annex to the Chapel was slightly affected by the smoke.

The university was alerted to the fire at 1:50 P. M. when the fire alarm was sounded.

See "Damage" Page 5
by Roger Sharpe a student at the university.

At the sound of the alarm, every building on the university premises was evacuated within minutes said Reverend Anido.

Mr. Sharpe said he was returning to the Chapel to practice on the organ when he spotted the flames shooting up through the register in the centre of the Chapel floor.

Reproduced in full from an article in the Sherbrooke Daily Record - November 9, 1962 - page 1, 5 - Bobine Postive Reel Number 138 (1 Aug 1962 to 30 Nov 1962)
CHAPEL SUFFERS HEAVY FIRE DAMAGE

Ironically following a feature in the November 7 edition of The Campus, the Bishop's University Chapel of St. Mark suffered heavily in a spectacular two-alarm fire on Thursday afternoon.

Students of the university were attending lectures and picking up mail when the alarm was turned in at 1:50 pm by John Rothwell, a fourth-year business student. Mr. Rothwell was alerted by smoke fumes when he discovered flames shooting up through the register in the floor.

The flames spread along the floor of the building as a defective motor in the hot air fan is believed to have precipitated the blaze. Lennoxville Fire Chief Ronald Farrow stated that an estimate of total damage was impossible without a detailed inspection. Insurance investigators termed the damage "heavy".

Students filed out in routine fashion as smoke seeped out from under the rafters of the 105 year old structure which also suffered heavily in a fire in 1891. Heavy black smoke filled adjoining McGeer Hall as 15 firemen from Lennoxville and Sherbrooke rushed to the scene.

Many students of the university manned hoses while residents of McGeer (SEE "DAMAGE" P.2)

CUSO Branch Started

Bishop's University has established a branch of the Canadian University Students Overseas (CUSO). Dr. Poole, head of Bishop's philosophy department, chairs the CUSO branch.

Gordon Mason, president of external affairs, described CUSO as the Canadian equivalent of the United States Peace Corps, sending students to work and teach in foreign countries. CUSO's aims are

CUSO Branch Started

Bus Ad, Science Win In Skinner

The first round of the annual Bishop's Skinner Debates featured two one-point victories. The topic was resolved that another academic building is more important than

CUSO Branch Started
Alumni Notes...

BIRTHS
MacDONALD: At North Bay, Ont., on October 14, 1962, to Hugh 88 and Mrs. MacDonald, a daughter, Susan Joan.

DEATHS
MITCHELL: Accidentally, at St. Vincenwitch, P.Q. on November 1, 1962, George '56, beloved husband of Maribel Fritz '55.

NEWS ITEMS
Dr. G. A. McMurray '33, head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan, has been elected president of the Canadian Psychological Association.
N. L. Currier '47, after some years in insurance has returned to teaching at Stratton High School in Outremont.
Recent promotions at Rolls-Royce of Canada Limited include Gerry Ramirez '41, commercial manager, who also becomes secretary.
David Bown '51 has been made superintendent of the Technical Training Laboratory of Columbia in Prince Rupert, B.C.
Peter Creswell '53 has joined the insurance firm of Osborn & Lane after 3 years in the oil industry.
Peter is also a graduate of the University of Toronto and is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers.
T. M. Sterling '55 has been transferred to Ottawa as regional sales manager of John Labatt Ltd.
Leslie Marcus '50 received an M.A. from the University of Oregon in 1962 and is now pursuing a doctorate at the same university.
Ed Shane '61, Bob Smithers '61, and Brian Jones '60 have entered their second year law at Queen's. Presently, in their first year law are Brian Stevenson '61, Peter Gordon '52 and Paul Hermiston '61.

Damage Checked By Quick Action
(From Page 1)

Hall fought through the smoke to throw open all windows, One of the most dramatic incidents was the emergence of the facade of a mask in the fire in a string of a building in the city of a masked firefighter carrying the altar cross.

Hundreds of students milled about the burning building, and many feared the complete destruction of St. Mark's. It was later ordered by a member of the fire department that this would have been the case had the blaze gone unchecked for another 15 minutes.

Fortunately, few items were completely destroyed, but all hand carved paneling and the carved oak altar was covered with a thick layer of soil. The electro-pneumatic organ was rendered useless by the fire, and it will have to be dismantled, cleaned and repaired, involving a considerable cost.

Smoothest thing on paper

If your North-Rite "98"
doesn't write as true as you

Bishop's Jazz Club
Swings into Action

A new campus club came into being recently, the Bishop's University Jazz Society.

Mr. Nick Kerton was elected president and Miss Annie Henderson was chosen as secretary.

Informal meetings will be held every two to three weeks alternating with the Music Club. The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, and everyone is welcome to attend.

It is hoped that the society's program will be extended sponsoring both jam sessions and jazz concerts with possibly a combination of talented students.

FOOD
FUN, OR FELLOWSHIP...

Molson goes