



UNIVERSITÉ
BISHOP'S
UNIVERSITY

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 Sherbooke 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.

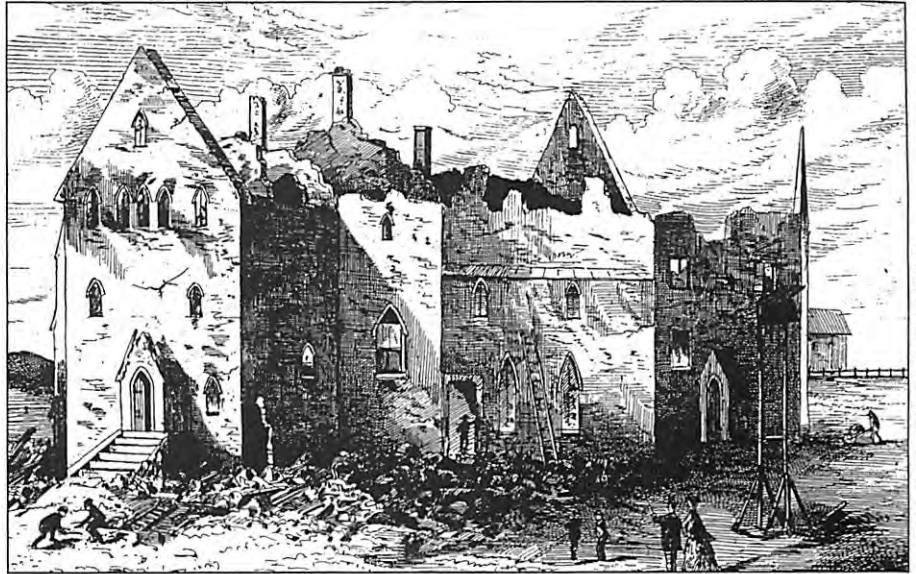
1917: Fire broke out in the room beneath the library from the explosion of an electric torch. It was put out before the Sherbrooke brigade arrived.

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

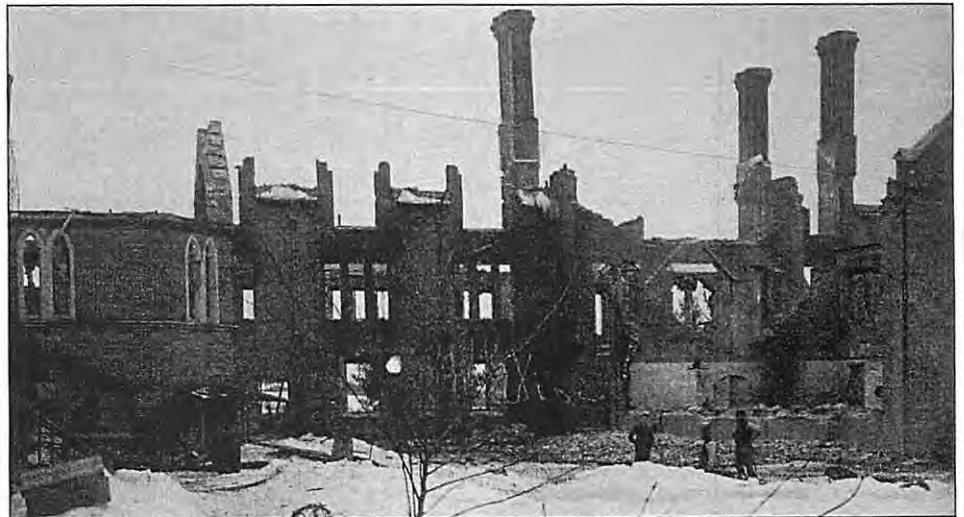
1944: The rink, a wooden structure, was destroyed.

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.)



The ruins of Bishop's from the fire of 1874.



The fire of 1891 was the most devastating fire in the history of Bishop's.



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.

Photos courtesy of Bishop's University Archives

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 blowing, which carried the flames on to the Rector's house, and it was only by great exertion that it was saved. The building of the senior department and chapel are uninjured. The steam fire engine from Sherbrooke 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 understand 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 Gazette - January 26, 1874 - p. [3] - Canadian 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 interognum 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.

Our Illustrations.

Oddities.

...A BACON.
 claiming to be a descendant of the
 Bacon, took up her abode at Stratford
 he fell purpose of hunting up and
 ear an tradition on and not on record
 ast as a playwright and a demigod
 the full conviction in her own
 more than at first a link-man and
 ds a mere common second-rate actor
 and at the Globe, was made to bear
 a writer of stage plays, by their
 puritanical tone of whose family
 from from acknowledging the great
 unhappy lady set to work upon a
 prove her theory. That it was hardly
 will be aware: that they do not
 to be assumed. However, for
 Shakespearean authority in the neigh-
 death by this unhappy fanatic, by
 th of her belief. But it was only
 d precaution, she disclosed to my
 d final coup she was about to
 ment of her object that her true
 gine one dark winter's night the
 one of the most influential burgled
 led by a wild haggard-looking
 riously informing him that she
 an entrance into the church, and
 dislomb the mouldering remains
 he helper? Would he share with
 uttering to the winds the myths
 rised for three hundred years?
 keys then in his possession to save
 consequently damaging the sacred
 to it? Would he help her, she
 gs in Lord Bacon's hand, which
 d with the body, that all the so-
 where the work of her great ances-
 of those who are tempted by the
 through them will be more or less
 without imagination, as the case
 to imagine the consternation of
 brought upon him that night by
 and there he had to hand her over
 amply has been life-long. From
 one idea her scant reason had
 her misery was reserved for my
 described.

the Week.

Dufferin are spending the Carnival
 has gone almost as a unit for the
 ne out with a manifesto.
 will await the result of the elec-
 Government is determined on.
 at the War Office, from Sir Garnet
 of the Ashantees had accepted Sir
 white prisoners, and has agreed to
 The city of London returns
 Liberal to the new Parliament, in
 no represented the city in the last
 England, a serious election disturb-
 ber of imported Irishmen, and
 read, and the military were sent
 order. Disraeli has declared
 some tax. Six people were killed
 at Bury, where a Liberal meeting

through lines from New York to
 form classification for freights, as
 A Washington special denies the
 ad to send goods to the Philadelphia
 stling, father of the Senator, died
 The Scientific Medical Com-
 with the widows of the Siamese
 of the twins to the Railway for
 dia. It is understood between the
 that the bodies are not to be mu-
 of the Baltimore and Ohio R. R.
 of the New Jersey Southern
 speculation. A Philadelphia
 tion: have advanced the wholesale
 opening price, to take effect 20th
 the ship carpenters, now on strike,
 rect contracts for repairing and
 is are out of employ in the Iron
 States. Collector Havard, of
 dred orders from the Secretary of
 eding of the

ON THE LOOK OUT is the picture of a man who lives in a life-boat station and watches for wrecks. The stout build of the body is in contrast to the sharp, dreamy expression of the face. Who knows what thoughts pass through that busy brain, as the eyes look out on the stormy waves beyond,

The fire at the GRAMMAR SCHOOL, Lennoxville, was perceived by Mr. Livingstone Morris, on his way to church, and he at once communicated his discovery to the congregation, when a general stampede took place. On reaching the school, the flames were seen bursting out round the cupola, and the fire had made such frightful progress that nothing could be done to stop it. However, much useful work was done by tearing down the wooden covered passage, leading from the school to the college, thereby preventing the spread of the flames to the latter building. At the first alarm, Mr. Macfee (of the St. Francis & Megantic International R. R.) rode over to Sherbrooke for the Merryweather engine, which came with wonderful promptitude, and, though too late to prevent the spread of the fire, did excellent service in saving the surrounding buildings. In fine, in less than three hours, Bishop's College School was only represented by blackened and smouldering walls. How the fire originated is uncertain; it probably broke out through the imperfect working of one of the furnace pipes. It is a matter of congratulation that, for this great disaster, no one is to blame. Almost all of the masters and boys resident in the school, to the number of about 80, lost all but what they stood upright in. These losses, however, are but trifling, compared with the terrible loss of life, which might have ensued. The Rector of the school, in no wise discouraged at this apparently crushing calamity, has made arrangements by which all the boys will be comfortably housed in the various buildings connected with the school; and after a brief interregnum, the works of the school will go on as usual. The school was well insured, and will be rebuilt without delay.

Much incredulity has been expressed at the alleged discoveries of Prof. Schliemann of the site of ancient Troy. But whether or not it is really the city of Priam whose ruins he has unearthed, it is very certain that he has found many artistic treasures whose antiquarian value are of the highest value. We present two illustrations in one of which, it is claimed, that the site where the old Trojan King buried his treasure is located, and another giving a view of a row of Trojan amphoræ or wine and oil jars.

A Frenchman named SILAS is the inventor of the luminous LIFE-BUOY illustrated on another page. It consists simply of a metallic sphere containing phosphide of calcium. If a man falls into the sea during the night, this buoy is thrown after him, and the water, penetrating into the hollow sphere, decomposes the phosphide of calcium by generating an abundance of phosphated hydrogen. This gas escapes by a tube on top of the buoy, and it has the remarkable property of burning spontaneously on coming in contact with the air, without being extinguished by the water. A bright light guides the shipwrecked man. He can hold on to the buoy till a boat comes up.

BELLE, the champion pointer of England, is a liver and white bitch, pupped June 28th, 1870, by Lord Henry Bentick's Ranger out of his dog Grouse, and is the champion field trial dog of his day. Winner with Judy (No. 3) of the Bangor Stakes for Pointer Bitches, and of the County Stakes for all aged bitches at Vaynol Field Trials, 1872; and with Greelan Bend (No. 4), of the Acton Reynold Stakes for Pointer Bitches, and of the County Stakes for aged Pointer bitches, at the National Pointers and Setters Field Trials held at Combermere, near Shrewsbury, April 29th, 1873. Also at the Grouse Field Trials, 1873. Second with Roman Fall (No. 5) in the Penlyn Stakes for Braces, August 13th, 1873. She was first in the Rhiwlas Stakes for all aged Pointers and Setters, beating Mr. Maddona's Ranger, Mr. Llewellen's Countess and Flax, Mr. Slatter's Rob Roy, and other celebrated performers. Appended are the points she made in the Rhiwlas Stakes.

VALUE OF POINTS WHEN PERFECT.

30	20	20	15	10	5	100
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POINTS MADE AT THE BALA FIELD TRIAL.

Name of Dog	Age.	Pace and style of Hunting.	Breaking	Pointing (Style and Steadiness in)	Backing.	Drawing on Game or Road-ing.	Total.
Belle.	27½	20	20	15	10	5	97½

On page eight, we give two scenes of the COUP D'ETAT in Madrid, on the 2nd January. Immediately Sonor Castelar became aware of the strength of the majority against him, he and

How about that "new leaf?"
 "Seclusion" is the new word for it.
 Nimrod was a mighty hunter, but he never saw an aunt elope.
 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 lists of female personal intelligence "Her column."
 "Sod corn Catawba, vintage of 1873," comprises the entire "wine" list of a Lafayette hotel.
 "Muggins," says that in these hard times, a five dollar green-back 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 bad governments than to construct foundations for good ones.
 Josh Billings says: "Success don't konsist in never making blunders, but in never making the same one the second time."
 If you wish to travel cheaply, patronize those railroads which advertise to carry their passengers "through without change."
 A Michigan newsdealer recently received this order from a young lady: "Send me a Novel called buffalo bill and the cats doins."
 At 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 Lizza."
 The Mount Pleasant, Iowa, Journal devil 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 "Dombey 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 began that 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 upset, and the lecturer broke his collar bone and two ribs.
 Ben Franklin's watch 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 tickers."

Peter Van Dyke, an old chap, who died in New Hampshire the other day, worth \$140,000 in cash, requested in his will that no one "should snuffle and shed crocodile 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 sin of Sabbath-breaking, asked, "Is Sunday better than any other day?" when the smallest boy in the class answered, "You bet 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 Sallie? Well, if you haven't, then never speak of having eaten! Good, drip coffee for the rich cream, as thick as jolly; waffles spread with the yellowest and cleanest butter; bluegrass can produce; broiled quail; squirrel; good country ham; a great, big roast turkey at the head of the table, as big as a young ostrich; while at the other end a roast pig, cooked to a turn, and so nicely dressed up that his jowls extended in delight at the situation!"

Music and the Drama.

Caponi, if the London Figaro is not misinformed, was a linen draper's assistant.
 Mrs. Siddons, the great actress, was a sculptor as well, and executed the busts of herself and brother, Mr. John Kemble, manfully 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.

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 begun 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 stream 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 ACCOMODATION OF THE STUDENTS, of which they will be individually notified at the earliest possible moment.

Professor Tams, 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. 14, 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. }

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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 accomodating 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 removed 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*.)

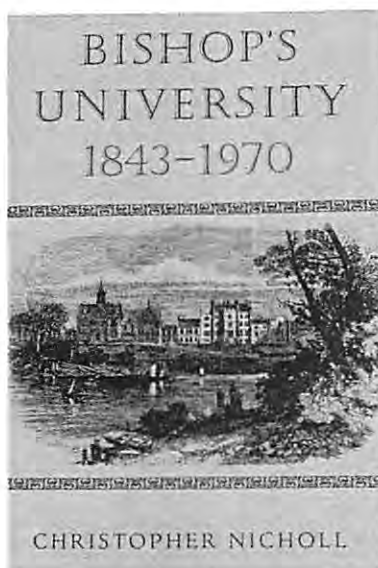
On 5 February 1891 Bishop's again suffered ordeal by fire. Fortunately it broke out during the afternoon, when the dormitories were empty, but the system of heating by furnaces through hot air ducts ensured that it would spread rapidly from the attic of the school building where it was first detected. 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. Allnatt, 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 Nicolls, 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*.

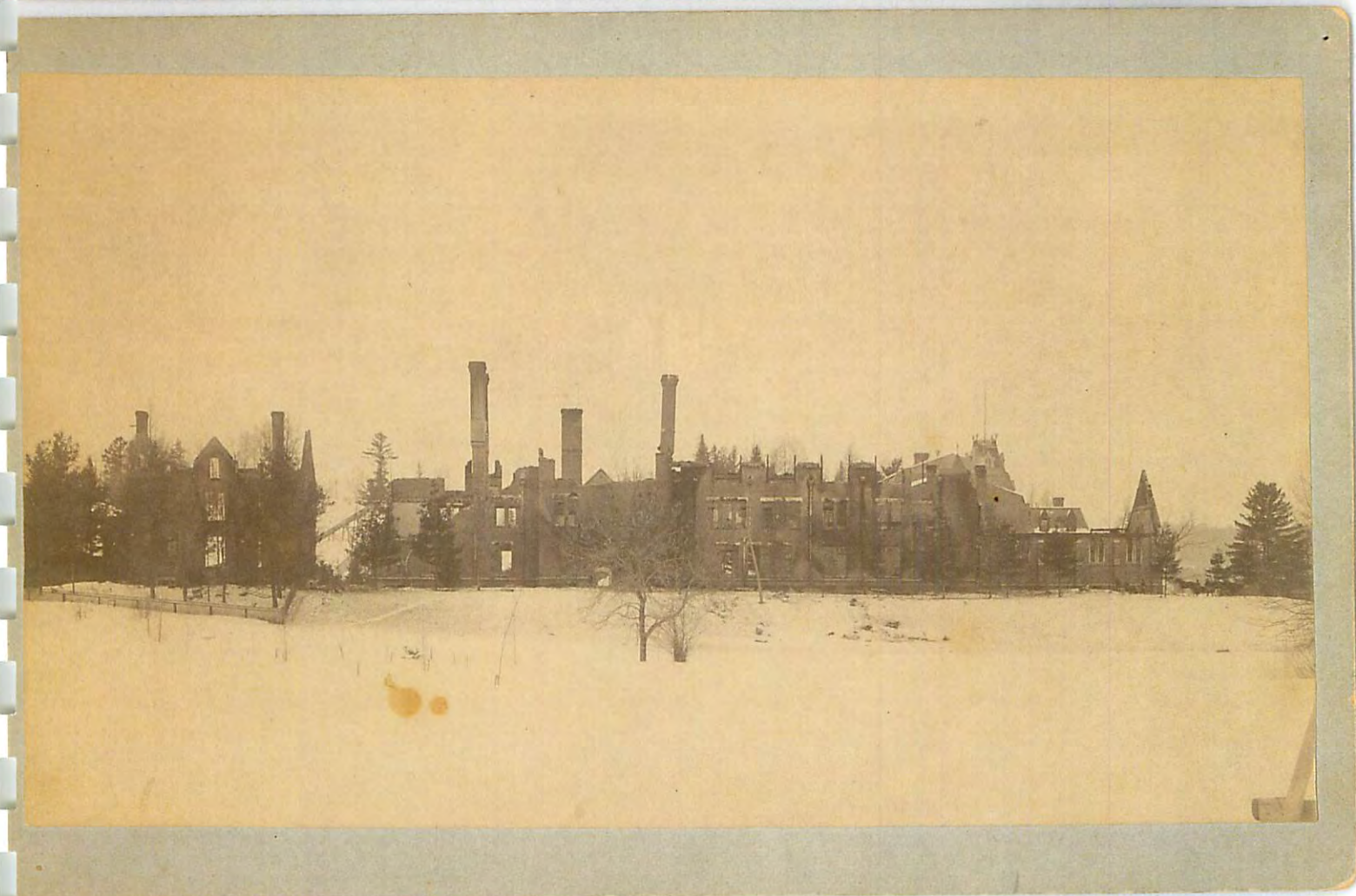
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1891



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 discovered 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.....	70.00.

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 excited interest; where is the fire? The fire brigade turns out in full force, with the chief at its head, and rushes down Collège Street at break-neck 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 which 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.

The town fire brigade now arrives; smoke pours forth from the doors and windows of the Arts building; smoke so dense no fireman can work in it. The flames are now sweeping the basement stairs and the basement windows are melting. A clash in the fire fighting methods now ensues within the ranks of the firemen. The chief insists on closed doors to prevent draughts, some of the men on open ones to clear off the smoke, but this detail is forgotten soon. The stack room is then found to be on fire, the flames having burned through the floor; priceless volumes are being burned. The door cannot be forced, the janitor is not yet on hand. Holes are smashed through the walls from the corridor and from the laboratory, the door at length gives way. One tier of valuable Government records is on fire. The flames leap to the ceiling and are reaching to the library above. The Principal is with difficulty restrained from risking his life in the effort to save books from the flames.

The bursar and janitor are now arrived. It is seen that the whole wing is in great danger. The priceless Codex Sinaiticus and other invaluable books are in the library, they must be saved. Three times the aged janitor attempts to ascend the big staircase, three times he is driven back by the smoke, in spite of his large experience of fires (he having safely passed through thirteen). At the fourth attempt, however, he succeeds in reaching the landing and unlocking the library. The bursar makes a run for it and reaches the abiding place of the Codex: having shivered the great glass case at one blow, he carries the precious book and companion works to safety. A hole is now cut in the library wall to pour water down on the burning walls below.

Finally the fire is checked and then extinguished. But what a sorry sight remains. The great stair-case and main corridor are sheets of black, grimy ice; hundreds of volumes of books are burned, a thousand soaked within the stack room. The basement is fire swept and the carpenter's shop demolished. Over \$1,000 of structural damage is done. But what of that? The University was saved, the disaster of '91 was not repeated, and measures have at once been taken to restore the pristine order. To so good effect has this been done that once more the great Codex safely resides in its old resting-place.

The Hoodoo.

The success of the performances of "Professor Pepp," given by the Bishop's University Dramatic Club, was more than equalled by this year's play, "The Hoodoo," which was presented at St. Anthony's Church Hall, Lennoxville, on

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 gymnasium 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 managed to get the flames under control, 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 45 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. McGreer, 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 build-
ing 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 @ 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

Page 5

DAMAGE TO

Continued From Page 1

by Roger Sharpe a student at
the university.

At the sound of the alarm,
every building on the uni-
versity premises was evacu-
ated within minutes said Rev-
erend Anido.

Mr. Sharpe said he was re-
turning to the Chapel to prac-
tice 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 (a)
30 Nov 1962)



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(Gary Davies)

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The Campus

... over the prone,
fatigued and
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unproductive canine.

VOL. XXIX, No. 7

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY — November 14, 1962.

PRICE — 1 Fayle

CHAPEL SUFFERS HEAVY FIRE DAMAGE



Students mill around fire truck as smoke pours from entrance of St. Mark's Chapel

(Photo by Gerry Lemay)

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.

Dramatics Presents Three One-Actors

In the best of Bishop's tradition, the presentation of three one-act plays in the Memorial Gymnasium on November 15, 16, and 17 will be an extremely diversified program.

President of Dramatics Bob Harlow is very pleased with the progress of the plays and urges all students to attend one of the performances.

The Lesson, co-directed by Barb Moffatt and Peter Hyland, is a modern play of only three actors, featuring Priscilla Macey and Peter Turner in the key roles.

Rory Aforesaid, directed by Jack Rose, is a humorous play which bases its appeal on the accents of 15th century Scotland. It concerns the hilarities of a legal battle over a theft, and stars John McIlmurray as Rory.

George Bernard Shaw's Passion, Poison and Petrification is an outright farce and is under the direction of Brian Arnott. Pat Young,

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 McGreer Hall as 15 firemen from Lennoxville and Sherbrooke rushed to the scene.

Many students of the university manned hoses while residents of McGreer
(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

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

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

Esber Esber Esber

Alumni Notes...

BIRTHS

MacDONALD: At North Bay, Ont. on October 14, 1962, to Hugh '58 and Mrs. MacDonald, a daughter, Susan Joan.

DEATHS

MITCHELL: Accidentally, at St. Hyacinthe, 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 Strathcona High School in Outremont.

Recent promotions at Rolls-Royce of Canada Limited include **Gerry Rayner '51,** commercial manager, who also becomes secretary.

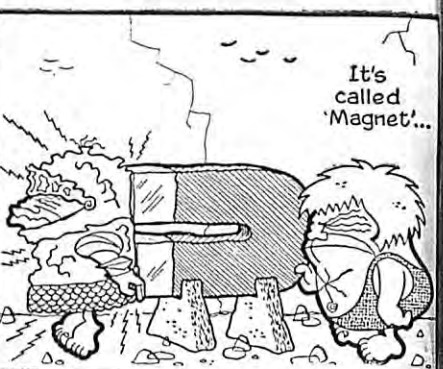
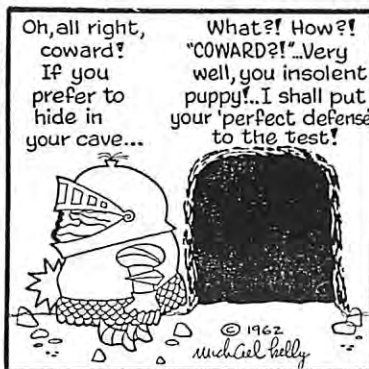
David Bown '51 has been made superintendent of the Technical Control Laboratory of Columbia Cellulose in Prince Rupert, B.C.

Peter Creswell '55 has joined the insurance firm of Osborn & Lange 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 '59 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 '62** 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 from the chapel of a masked fireman 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 opinioned 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 panelling and the carved oak altar was covered with a thick layer of soot. The electro-pneumatic organ was rendered useless by the fire, and it will have to be dismantled, cleaned and repaired, involving a considerable cost.

Prayer books and hymnaries were hopelessly damaged by smoke and water.

CLEAN UP

When the fire was finally brought under control at 4 pm, students donned work clothes and helped clean up the building which was still filled with smoke. Members of the university staff worked hard into the night scrubbing walls and floors of the chapel, the annex, the common room and the basement.

Meanwhile residents of McGreer Hall Found all their belongings saturated with soot and it was anticipated that sports jackets,

suits and sweaters would smell of smoke for weeks.

Almost before the fire had subsided, the Reverend S. Jellicoe, Dean of Divinity, announced that regular services would be held in the Divinity House Oratory and in Bishop Williams Hall. At the Thursday evening service, he extended his gratitude to students who helped fight the fire.

At the monthly meeting of the Students' Association that evening, students voiced their concern over the condition of residence fire hoses that were used. One of these burst when turned on. President David Williams assured action by the Students' Executive Council.

Bishop's Jazz Club Swings into Action

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

Mr. Nick Kirton was elected president and Miss Ginnie Henderson was chosen as secretary.

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

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

**FOOD
FUN, OR
FELLOWSHIP...**

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