

PRIEST AND TWO WOMEN DIE IN FIRE

Bodies Consumed After Rev. Father Hermann J. Ernst, of St. Patrick's Church, Had Tried Vainly to Save Servants

PASTOR INJURED IN LEAPING TO ESCAPE.

Flames in the Rectory Spread to Stairways So Quickly that Victims Had No Time to Effect an Escape.

The Rev. Father Hermann J. Ernst, assistant rector of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Academy and Paynter avenues, Long Island City, and two servants, Margaret and Mary Brady, cousins, were first suffocated and then burned to-day, when fire destroyed the rectory and damaged the church.

From the position in which the priest's body was found it was evident that he had given his life in a hopeless effort to save the two domestics.

Other incidents of the fire included the rescue of the rector, Rev. Father Edward H. Mannigan, who was sick with pneumonia, through a window, and the leap for life and serious injury of the Rev. Father James J. Carney, an assistant in the parish.

Fire Is Discovered.

Sexton William M. Dolan from his underground room, from the street saw flames in the windows of the rectory before daylight to-day and ran across and broke in the kitchen door. Seeing that the place was all ablaze, he shouted "Fire!" and Policeman Hines turned in an alarm.

This brought Engine No. 151, a couple of blocks away, and as it drove up Father Mannigan could be seen from the window of his room, on the first floor above a high basement.

The flames, which had started from a defective electric switch on the front hall, cut off all escape by the stairs. The hook and ladder trucks had not yet arrived, and Lieut. Lynch and Fireman Howe found a short ladder which carpenters had left in the grounds. As they mounted this it broke, and both firemen were hurled to the ground, but sustained only a few scratches.

Brave Rescue of Priest.

A long board was then secured, and this was placed up against the window. A fireman clambered up this and took the sick priest in his arms and slid down the plank into the street. Neither one of them was injured.

Just as an ambulance was taking Father Mannigan to St. John's Hospital Father Carney appeared at the window in his room on the second floor, twenty-five feet above the ground. The flames were then left on the second room, and no effort was made to get even to put on anything, he leaped from the window.

The priest, who is twenty-eight years old, fell in the narrow space between the building and the picket fence. He received a number of cuts. The ambulance was halted and he was also taken to St. John's Hospital.

Cut Off by the Flames.

Efforts were made to get to the room occupied by Father Ernst, and to that occupied by the two servant girls on the top, or third, floor, but the flames swept through the building with such velocity that it was impossible.

When a sufficient quantity of water had been thrown into the building to cool the front part, firemen entered and there found the mute evidence of the dead priest's heroism.

Father Ernst, probably aroused by the smoke and the noise of the blaze, had left his room on the second floor, next to the room of Father Carney, and instead of going to a window or to the stairs which might have led him to the street, he went to the stairs leading to the third floor where he knew the two servants slept.

Seven or eight steps up these stairs his charred body was found. The smoke had fast overcome him, and as he fell the flames had crept upon him and consumed his body before it was reached. The girls' room were too small to admit their escape that way, and with the smoke and flames were completely at the mercy of the flames.

Found the Dead Women.

Penetrating the ruins further, the firemen found the charred bodies of the two domestics in their room. They had left their beds and had tried to reach the door, but, overcome by the smoke, they had fallen back and the flames had burned their bodies to a crisp.

Margaret Brady was twenty-two years old and her cousin Mary was twenty-seven. Both had come to this country from Ireland only a short time ago.

The Rev. Father Ernst was forty-four years old and had been in St. Patrick's parish only about eight months, having been transferred from Bath Beach. His body was sent to the morgue in St. John's Hospital, while the bodies of the two servants were sent to Dolan's undertaking rooms.

St. Patrick's Church was only recently erected and was not yet completed. The decorator's scaffolds were still up about the church, and for several months services have been conducted in the basement.

The fire spread from the rectory to the back of the church, and there did considerable damage before it was subdued. The firemen placed the total damage at \$55,000.

CHIEF JUSTICE M'CARTHY.

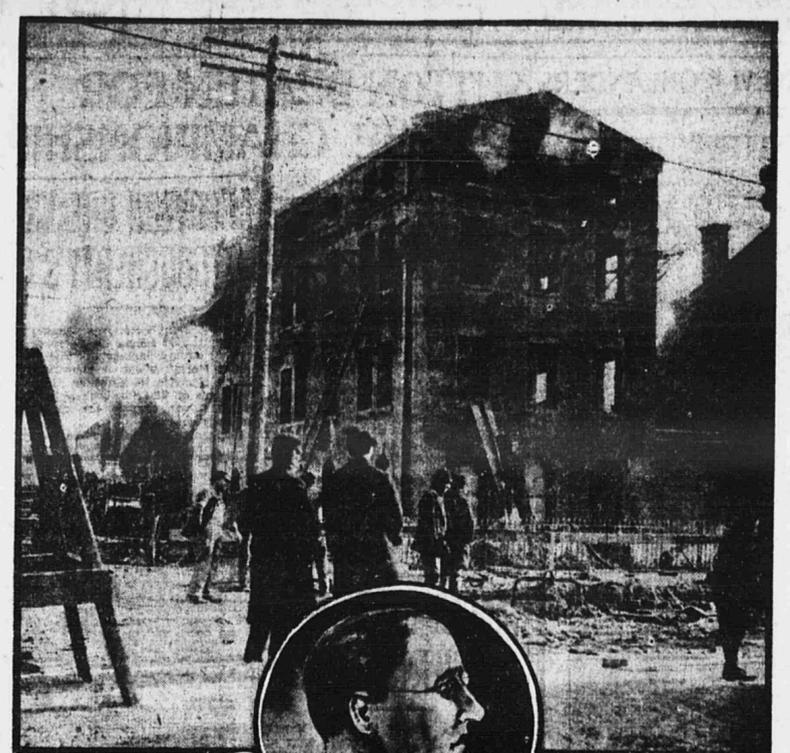
Associates on City Court Bench Decide to Appoint Him.

It is announced that the Justices of the City Court have agreed upon the selection of Justice John Henry McCarthy for the Chief Justiceship in place of the late Chief Justice James M. Fitzsimons.

The City Court bench is composed of six Justices. The five living Justices are McCarthy, O'Dwyer, Hascall, Delany and Seabury, will meet Monday and formally designate the "little judge" to preside.

McCarthy, the senior Justice, his term expiring Dec. 31, 1905, is looked upon as a probable candidate of Fitzsimons' Hall for promotion to the Supreme Court bench at the expiration of

PRIEST WHO WAS BURNED TO DEATH IN LONG ISLAND CITY, AND RECTORY WHERE FIRE OCCURRED.



LOCKED UP ON BIGAMY CHARGE

Clerk Accused of Having Two Wives, One of Whom He is Said to Have Married Fifteen Years Ago.

William Attawa Danagall, forty-three years old, a clerk for the Waterbury Brass Company, of No. 122 Centre street, was arrested this afternoon by County Detective Hammond on a charge of bigamy.

According to the complaint against Mr. Danagall, he married a woman fifteen years ago, whose first name was Mary. Before Feb. 2 last he deserted Mrs. Mary Danagall and married Miss Florence Gertrude Farr, of Haveremeyer street, Brooklyn.

The second marriage was performed by the Rev. Joseph Ashton. In sending a duplicate certificate to the Board of Health the Rev. Mr. Ashton forgot to sign it. The blank bore Mr. Danagall's name in the District Attorney's office and where Mrs. Danagall No. 1 is still living.

Mr. Danagall, who is twenty-eight years old, fell in the narrow space between the building and the picket fence. He received a number of cuts. The ambulance was halted and he was also taken to St. John's Hospital.

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GIRL THIEF IN TROUBLE AGAIN

Celia Gilson, Who Once Confessed to Robbing Over 150 School-Houses, is Now Accused of Fraud.

MAGISTRATE HOLDS HER FOR NEW TRIAL.

This Time, It is Said, She Went to a Department Store and Had Goods Charged to a Business Man.

Celia Gilson, the young Harlem girl who was arrested in Washington last December with Fannie Lewis, another Harlem girl, for robbing schools, and who confessed to the robbery of over one hundred and fifty educational institutions in this city and Washington, was again arrested to-day on a charge of theft.

Celia, who is only seventeen years old, went to a Broadway department store several days ago, bought goods valued at \$7 and took them away with her, ordering the saleswoman to charge them to Charles D. O'Callan, an engraver, of No. 234 Fourth avenue. Mr. O'Callan repudiated the transaction afterward, and she was taken to Magistrate Pool, in the Jefferson Market Police Court, held the girl in \$500 bail.

Celia Wilson's home in this city is at No. 14 East One Hundred and Fourth street. She and the Lewis girl were much in the company of a gang of young corner loafers in Harlem, and it was charged that these youngsters corrupted them. They robbed a number of schools in this city, and then went to Washington, where they successfully looted schools. In Washington they were accused of doing a little shoplifting on the side. They wore good clothing, travelled around with sporting men, and were much at the race track.

When they returned to this city they rested on published descriptions shortly after they had robbed the Business School in Washington. The girls professed ignorance. Sentence was suspended on them, and they were allowed to go home.

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MINISTER SUES WIFE'S FATHER

Rev. Henry A. Dorr, Formerly Assistant Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Demands \$100,000 Damages.

Rev. Henry A. Dorr, formerly assistant pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, has begun suit for \$100,000 damages for the alienation of his wife's affections. Mr. Dorr was recently in court to answer charges of wife beating. In retaliation he now sues the relatives of his wife, who was a Miss Edith Colby.

The summons and complaint have been served upon the defendants Thomas E. Colby, the father of Mrs. Dorr and her grandfather, Charles H. Colby and her mother, Mrs. Belle Colby. Dorr alleges in the complaint that all three combined to direct the affections of his wife toward other channels than his own breast.

He says on three different occasions his wife was induced to leave him and return to the home of her parents. He denies having treated her in cruel and brutal fashion and declares that he is a much wronged man.

The Colbys are wealthy. They are the owners of the National West Bank Company, at Nos. 64 to 702 Metropolitan avenue, Brooklyn. Charles H. Colby is the president and Thomas Colby is the vice-president and secretary.

The Rev. Mr. Dorr, who received the sum of \$100,000 from the estate of his wife's father, says that he did not support her for four years and would not work. The charge of beating was denied, he declares, is too bitter to consider.

According to James Archibald, President of Local 701 of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper-Hangers, that body, which comprises about 4,000 skilled workers, will go on a sympathetic strike within a week unless the demand of the sign writers that the Employers' Association sign their yearly agreement is complied with.

It is claimed that a committee from the sign writers' body, headed by Mr. Dubois and James Van Dyne, was informed, with what they style unnecessary curtness that the employers did not intend to enter into any written contract affecting their relations with their workmen.

PRETORIA A NOAH'S ARK. Steamship from Hamburg Has Big Cargo of Animals.

The peaceful town of Hoboken will to-morrow be a veritable Ararat if the steamship Pretoria, from Hamburg, gets in on time. The ship has aboard forty camels, a colony of giraffes and a miscellany of other animals and birds.

Application was made to-day to the Collector of the Port for permission to land the cargo on Sunday, the steamer having been aboard for a long time.

COURT DECIDED AGAINST S. A. GROFF

Arrest of Judgment Denied Post-Scandal Prisoner Who Demurred, and Sentence and Fine Pronounced Against Him.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Justice Pritchard to-day overruled the motion of Samuel A. Groff, one of the recently convicted defendants in the post-office trial, for arrest of judgment and sentenced him to two years in the Moundsville Penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$10,000, sentence to begin on arrival at the Penitentiary.

Groff immediately furnished bond for \$20,000 and appeared in court to-day. The motion to-day places Samuel A. Groff on the same plane as his brother, Diller B. Groff, who was sentenced to two years in the Moundsville Penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$10,000, sentence to begin on arrival at the Penitentiary.

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