

ew Augustinian Edifice

Building Work Started

contract for the new Augustinian church in Limerick has been secured by S. G. Walsh & Sons, contractors, and the preliminary work in connection with the building has already started. The contract price is in the region of £45,000, and included the conventional work, confessionals, heating and lighting. Although it was the natural desire of the Augustinian Fathers that his large edifice should be secured by a Limerick architect it was not possible owing to the fact that the successful contractor was thousands of pounds lower than the nearest local tenderer.

LOCAL LABOUR.

A greater portion of the building will be carried out by local labour, and almost twenty men are at work. The seating capacity of 2,000 and a beautiful cut-stone facade will feature the new edifice, part of which will be on the site of the present church in Connell Street. In order that the religious services will be continued without interruption, work has commenced at the rear of the church and the study and sanctuary of the new church will be completed before steps are taken to remove the old building and re-build the site. The fact that there are men on either side makes the work more difficult than would otherwise be the case.

FOR £4,000.

The existing edifice was a theatre building which was acquired for its present purpose in 1832. It still retains many of its original purpose in the balcony which runs around the sides, supported by iron pillars. When the theatre failed the building was acquired by the Augustinian Community for £4,000, and following some structural alterations was re-opened for public use some weeks later. Since then it has been used continuously without structural alterations, but for many years past the seating capacity of 700 has been much too little to accommodate the ever-increasing congregation.

DIGNITY AND SIMPLICITY.

Dignity and simplicity are embodied in the plans for the new church, which, when completed, will be worthy of its red purpose and a monument to the laudable generosity of the people of Limerick.

PREDECESSORS BEREAVED

Late Mr. J. Reynolds

We regret to record the death, which took place at his residence, in Mungret, on Wednesday, of Mr. J. Reynolds. The deceased gentleman was father of Very Rev. Father J. Reynolds, C.S.S.R., Rector, Mount St. Alphonsus, Limerick, and of Mr. P. Reynolds, C.S.S.R., Belfast. He was a most unassuming figure, and was most popular and revered in the neighbourhood, where he resided for a long number of years. In his young days Mr. Reynolds was employed at the Great Southern Railways, Limerick. At Wednesday night's meeting of the Archconfraternity, Rev. Father Gorey, C.S.S.R., Rector, referred to the death of Mr. Reynolds, who, he said, was fifty-five years a member of the Confraternity and had been unfailing in his attendance at the weekly meetings. To Mr. Reynolds he on behalf of the community and Confraternity, extended sympathy on his bereavement.

A.R.P. AT LEINSTER HOUSE

At Leinster House, on Monday, members of the staffs of the various offices began a course of instruction as to steps to be taken in the event of an air attack. One of the higher officials, who has had a course of study in the various aspects of the matter, gave a demonstration in regard to gases, their effects, and at steps to be taken for the purpose of decontamination. The course will be the same as that undertaken by the military authorities, and will be extended to all Government offices.

CITY FIRE TRAGEDY

Doctor Burned to Death

Early Morning Conflagration

Three Firemen Injured.

Ninety-four years old Dr. Francis J. Butler was found burned to death in a fire outbreak at his home in 8 Cecil Street, in the early hours of Thursday morning. He was apparently overcome when trying to escape from the burning building.

The fire had gained a strong hold when the alarm was raised, and although the City Brigade were on the scene within a few minutes, nothing could be done to save the house, part of which was completely destroyed.

Three members of the Fire Brigade were injured when fighting the conflagration, and are being treated in hospital.

A terrible tragedy occurred in the early morning on Thursday, as the result of a fire outbreak in a four-storey house at No. 8 Cecil Street.

Dr. F. J. Butler, a retired Army doctor, stated to be 94 years of age, was burnt to death, and while endeavouring to extinguish the blaze three members of the City Fire Brigade were injured.

GAVE THE ALARM.

At about 5 o'clock this morning Mr. Michael Russell, a night watchman employed at Messrs. Matterson's, Roche's Street, observed a big blaze apparently in Cecil Street. He gave the alarm and in a few minutes all the members of the City Fire Brigade were on the scene.

When they arrived dense smoke and flames were leaping out of the windows of the first storey and it was obvious that the fire had taken a considerable hold. There appeared to be nobody in the residence, and the door was smashed in.

FELL THROUGH THE FLOOR.

Fireman P. McNamara entered the hall and mounted the stairs, but when he came to the landing the floor gave way and he fell through to the ground floor. He was rather seriously injured and was rushed to Barrington's Hospital.

Two other members of the Brigade, Terence Kelly and J. Matheson, were fixing the escape ladder outside the house. As they were doing so the top of the ladder came in contact with live wires attached to the house. The current ran through the ladder and both men were severely shocked. They also were brought to the hospital, where it is ascertained they are progressing favourably.

In the meantime the fire blazed fiercely and had spread to the third floor.

LIVING ALONE.

Up to this time there was no indication that the building was occupied. It was then learnt that an old man named Dr. Butler lived alone in the house and occupied a room on the first floor, where the outbreak had apparently originated.

Efforts to reach the floor failed owing to the fierce heat and the fact that part of the floor had fallen in.

The play of the hoses eventually began to have an effect, and in about two hours the fire was extinguished.

CHARRED REMAINS FOUND.

A search through the debris was then made, and Lieutenant J. Gough came upon the charred remains of Dr. Butler just inside the door of his bedroom. The features were almost unrecognisable. The lower part of the body was wrapped in a blanket, and it was apparent that the unfortunate victim of the tragedy had been trying to escape through the door when he was overcome.

Dr. Butler was more or less a cripple and could only walk with the aid of two sticks. He lived a very quiet life and was practically unknown in the city, where he possessed considerable house property. Although he lived alone he was looked after by a nephew, who resides in another part of the city.

Dr. Butler, in his early days, worked in the City Home and Hospital. He later went to Bradford, where he established a lucrative practice. He was a member of a very brilliant Limerick family, and qualified with the degrees of M.D., and L.R.C.P.S.I. He was a brother of the late Most Rev. Dr. Butler, Bishop of Chicago,

and had two other brothers priests.

Dr. Butler returned to live in Limerick about 20 years ago. His only living relative is a grand-nephew, Mr. P. O'Connor, 14 Denmark Street, Limerick.

The body was removed to the morgue at Barrington's Hospital pending an inquest.

VERY BADLY DAMAGED.

Throughout the day the house where the tragedy occurred was visited by hundreds of citizens. The building was very badly damaged, the first floor having fallen in, and so cutting off all communication with the upper stories. Most of the furniture was destroyed, and the damage is considerable.

DESERVED TRIBUTE.

Mr. E. O'Neill, Superintendent, Limerick G.P.O., who lives in No. 7 Cecil Street, today paid a glowing tribute to the work of Captain D. Hogan and the City Fire Brigade. He said he would not be doing his duty as a citizen if he failed to express appreciation of the magnificent work of Captain Hogan during the fire. The Captain had superintended the work of extinguishing the blaze in a manner that left nothing to be desired, and the members of the Brigade carried out their duties with a minimum of inconvenience to the residents of the adjoining houses. He was convinced that the competency and efficiency of Captain Hogan in directing the operations saved the entire block of houses, since there was a high wind blowing at the time, which was fanning the blaze.

A verdict of accidental death was returned at the inquest held by Mr. J. S. McNeice, Deputy Coroner, and a jury at Barrington's Hospital in the afternoon, touching the death of the deceased.

GRAND-NEPHEW'S EVIDENCE.

Evidence was given by Mr. P. O'Connor, grand-nephew of the deceased, to the effect that Dr. Butler had not practised his profession for the past forty years. He lived alone and would allow nobody to stay with him at night. Witnesses looked after him during the day. In the deceased's bedroom were two oil stoves and an electric heater. He left Dr. Butler in his bedroom at 9.30 p.m. last night, and the electric heater was lighting.

A LITTLE ECCENTRIC.

Supt. Meehan—Was he eccentric?—Yes, a little. He sometimes imagined that people were coming in through the window, and he always bolted the bedroom door at night.

Dr. C. Clohessy, Barrington's Hospital, said death was due to asphyxia and burns.

Capt. D. Hogan, Limerick Fire Brigade, stated that when the Brigade answered the summons to the fire they found the second storey of the house well alight. It was impossible to make an entry as the staircase was also blazing. The fire was extinguished at 6.45, but it was 7.30 before an entry could be made with safety. Michael O'Connell found the body of the deceased in a room on the second floor.

ORIGIN UNKNOWN.

The Captain added that he did not know how the fire originated, but was satisfied it broke out on the second storey. The Coroner and members of the jury paid a warm tribute to the work of Captain Hogan and the members of the Brigade.

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LIMERICK

A THRILLER

"Love from a Stranger"

McMaster Company's Fine Performance

That rapidly dwindling section of the citizens who extend unstinted patronage to all dramatic entertainments were rewarded for their constancy at the Coliseum on Monday night when Mr. Annew McMaster and his Company gave a really magnificent interpretation of "Love From a Stranger," by Frank Vosper. The production was completely satisfying and thrilled the audience as only a really good production can. It was the skilful acting of Mr. McMaster as the Stranger, however, that made the play, and the role invested in a less competent actor does not bear thinking about. It was an ideal vehicle for Mr. McMaster's technique, and he used it to the fullest advantage in the last act. In one respect the play left a good deal to be desired. The first act was really only a prologue (and not a very good one) to the remainder of the play, and except for the amusing depiction by Miss Ray Parry as a garrulous old lady, failed to stir the audience. The remaining two acts were worked up with consummate skill by the talented Company, and perhaps the greatest tribute to the acting of Mr. McMaster and Miss Darch was the tense silence of the audience during the last scene. The outburst of enthusiastic applause which accompanied the fall of the curtain was the reward of a Company which had put over a difficult play with admirable skill and smoothness.

A PERFECT PERFORMANCE.

Mr. McMaster played the part of Bruce Lovell, a stranger, who in the whirlwind style wooed and won Cecily Harrington, a typist just after winning a fortune of £10,000. In the last act the young bride realised that her husband was a maniac who had murdered several former wives for their money, and was determined to do likewise to her. How she circumvented his design is the high light of the play. Miss Alice Darch, as Cecily Harrington, gave a very natural and pleasing depiction throughout, but in the final scene proved herself an emotional actress of great promise. She was a perfect foil for her vis-a-vis, and if she lacked the

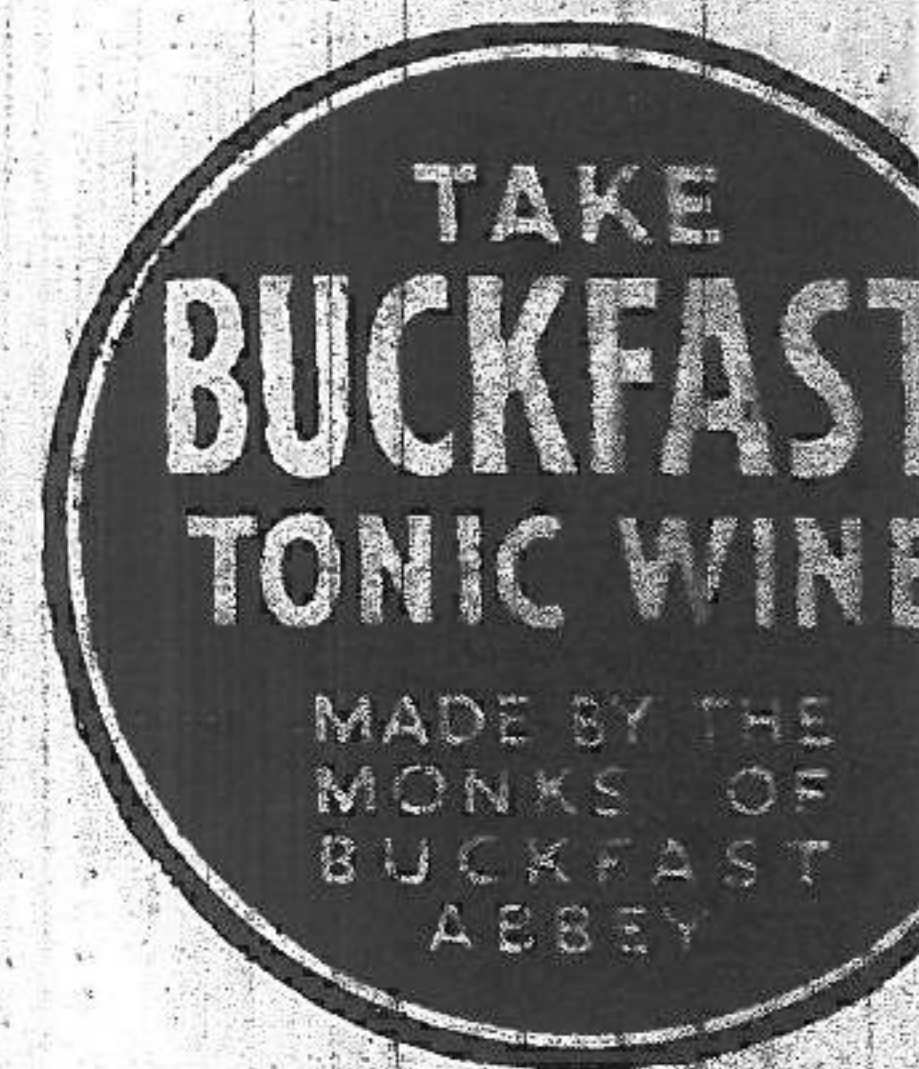
"WONDER FOOTBALL"

Death from Drugs in Vienna

Not gas, but drugs killed "Wonder Footballer," the 36 year old "footballer," a police statement on Tuesday.

Forcing the door of a Vienna police found Sindelar lying dead as gas pipe turned on. Also in but still alive, although in a condition, was Sindelar's woman, Camilla Castagnola, to whom belonged. She was stated to be lying from coal gas poisoning.

Sindelar at one time was considered the greatest centre forward on the Continent. He was a member of the Austrian "wonder team" which well against England in 1932, scored one of Austria's three goals. People of Vienna voted him in 1932 the most popular man in the



David Basil Gill, as Dr. Grib, a perfect performance. He cast, and his smooth, easy dialogue delightful.

Miss Joan Curry, as Mavis, friend of Cecily Harrington, gave good depiction of a level-headed young business woman, who allowed unexpected fortune to go to her head.

At times Miss Parry, as Cecily's interfering old maiden aunt, was lent. She provided some humorous relief, but is preferable in the Silesian roles she plays so well.

Alan Chadwick impressed as a rejected by Cecily in favour of Quintin Todd was well in the role of a gardener.

Miss Sibell Duan raised marvellous as Ethel the light-headed