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—ONE FOR EVERY INCOME

All Mason & Risch Pianos are built to the highest standards. Some are inexpensive but none are cheaply constructed—the very lowest priced has a tone quality excelling many instruments costing twice as much.

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FIRE AT EDMUNDSTON DOES DAMAGE TO EXTENT OF \$25,000; NINE PERSONS HAD CLOSE CALL

Edmundston, Dec. 9—Nine persons narrowly escaped with their lives at an early hour this morning when fire practically destroyed the Berube block. Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Dionne and their five months' old baby were cut off by flames and the woman and her child were rescued by firemen, who had been warned of their predicament only after Mr. Dionne had been unable to lead them to safety and had slid down a clothesline in the rear of the building and so appraised the fire fighters. A Chamberland barrister of Grand Falls, a guest of the Dionnes, made his way onto a front verandah and hung over the edge by his fingers, about 50 feet from the ground, until the firemen were able to reach him with a ladder. D. H. Vanwart, druggist his wife their two sons and a maid, who occupied another part of the block, were forced to flee the building in their night-clothes.

The fire was first discovered about 7 o'clock in the morning and was not finally under control until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The damage is estimated at about \$25,000 nearly covered by insurance.

Firemen Hurt.

One of the firemen suffered a fractured shoulder, when he slipped off the ladder to the floor below and another suffered a dislocated finger.

The fire is said to be one of the most serious suffered in Edmundston for years. Luckily, E. J. Albert, another occupant of the Dionne flat, was absent at the time as the location of his room would have made it very doubtful if he could have been rescued.

The heaviest losers are Joseph Berube, owner of the building; Mr. Vanwart, owner of the drug store and occupant of one of the flats, and E. J. Albert, who owned the barber shop fixtures and the furnishings in the Dionne flat. The firemen with the co-operation of Fraser Company's men and numerous citizens

of the town performed heroic work and rendered valuable services.

Flat in Flames.

When the fire was discovered the flat occupied by Leo. J. Dionne was in flames and the only stairway leading outdoors was also a mass of flames. The flat was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dionne and their five months' old baby girl; A. Chamberland barrister of Grand Falls was a guest. The rest of the building was occupied by D. H. Vanwart, druggist, both as a residence and drug store. The lower flat was occupied by Larry Desjardine as a barber shop.

Escape Cut Off.

The fire was discovered about seven o'clock and the first jacking the inmates had was hearing the fire alarm. Mr. and Mrs. Dionne immediately got out of their room but found the hall and the rest of their flat a mass of flames, and the only exit barred. Mr. Dionne managed to reach Mr. Chamberland's room, but had to return through the smoke and flames to reach his wife and child. Finding their way blocked they broke through the window on the back porch, but found their exit blocked there, also, as the height of the building was about 40 feet from the ground.

Seeing no way of escape and not being visible or able to be heard by the people in the street, Mr. Dionne managed to slide down a clothes-line leading to the next building and from there climbed down to the ground. He immediately apprised the firemen of the plight of his wife and child and in a few minutes Mrs. Dionne and the baby were rescued.

Escape in Night-Clothes.

Mr. Vanwart and his family were more fortunate in escaping as, when the alarm sounded the fire had not yet reached their part of the building. The flames made such rapid progress, however, that the entire family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Vanwart, their two sons and maid, were forced to flee the building in their night-clothes.

LIQUOR MEN CONTRIBUTED TO BOTH SIDES

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 9—Suggestion that some of the sittings of the customs inquiry to be held in camera came from counsel for one of the important Vancouver witnesses this morning. Henry Reifel, president of the Brewers and Distillers of Vancouver, Limited, and of other British Columbia liquor organizations, was on the stand when the suggestion came from his lawyer, J. W. Farris, K. C.

Mr. Farris continued that the Commission had asked for cooperation of witnesses in arriving at the truth.

Inquiry into the accounts of Mr. Reifel's company led to some interesting information. One class of expenditure in a certain account was expenditures in operation of prohibition. The account was labelled "insurance and protection account."

Mr. Reifel hesitated to give any further information in regard to other expenditures from this account. Finally Mr. Farris said that his client was hesitating because some of the expenditures were for political campaign funds.

"To both parties?" asked Chairman J. T. Brown.

Mr. Reifel said yes. The figures for the insurance and protection account were 1925, \$89,041; 1924, \$8,005; 1923, \$5,200.

"There must have been an election in 1925," interjected Chairman Brown.

635,000 MORE GET THEIR MAIL OVER R. F. D.

Washington, Dec. 10—More than 635,000 persons in rural districts received their mail at their front doors for the first time during the past year. They were served, the postoffice department announced today, by the 332 new rural mail routes established during 1926.

The department reported that 45,318 rural routes, supplying 6,616,000 families estimated at 30,435,500 persons, and covering 1,249,978 miles, were in operation during the year. The rural carriers covered 377,045,703 miles in their deliveries, the average length of the routes being 27.5 miles.

AN UNUSUAL DINNER PARTY SET FOR DEC. 18

Milo, Me., Dec. 10—This little Maine town is going to have an unusual dinner party, one at which the only guests will be couples who have been married more than 50 years.

There will be at least 16 persons present, it is expected, for Milo, which boasts a population of 3300 has at last eight couples who have been married more than half a century. One couple celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary a year ago and another pair will celebrate their sixtieth anniversary tomorrow.

The proprietors of one of the village's two hotels, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Dillon, themselves married more than 50 years, will be the hosts. The date for the party is Dec. 18.

MORE FISH THAN GOLD FROM YUKON

Washington, Dec. 10—The land of the Yukon, fabled in song and story, has turned from the romantic pastime of seeking elusive fortunes in gold to the more profitable business of fishing, it is revealed in the report of the Governor filed with the interior department today.

Fisheries products during 1925 totalled \$40,038,000, while the Alaskan mines produced \$18,220,000 worth of minerals. The Alaskan fisheries industry has more than \$67,000,000 invested in equipment, the report shows.

Sale of seal skins from the herd in the Pribilof Islands brought in \$787,284 during the year.

"My wife has a great scheme to save coal."

"What is it?"

"Spend the winter at Palm Beach."

O. C. Jones and wife of Woodstock were at the Barker House last night.

Rich, Satisfying Flavour

"From the finest gardens"

"SALADA"

TEA

H818

has become the standard of Tea goodness.
Brown Label 75c - Orange Pekoe Blend 85c

Chosen President.

Mrs. Harry Black was elected most Excellent Chief of Temple, No. 13, Pythian Sisters of Saint John at a meeting last evening. Mrs. Black is a daughter of Mr. John Toner of this city.

Chicago, Dec. 10—The influence of alcohol is no reason for the annulment of a marriage, in the opinion of Judge Sabath. He denied the petition of Mrs. Virginia Coons Merling. Mrs. Black is a daughter of Mr. John Toner of this city.

QUEEN HOTEL Special Xmas Dinner

12.30 to 2.00 p. m.

5.30 to 7.30 p. m.

OUR ANNUAL DINNER, CONCERT
AND BALL WILL BE HELD ON

FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 31ST.

See the Old Year out and the New Year in. For table reservations
PHONE 700.

The Greatest Values Yet Uncovered

The Great Sale which started this morning certainly surprised and amazed hundreds of Thrifty Buyers. But Business must be kept at "Top Speed" from now until Xmas. — Startling Values Daily Will Do It.

Every Day New Lots Go Out

The Bargain Counters will be Heaped high every day — Goods Purchased for "Spot Cash" at Great Price Concessions — and passed on to you at

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