Dioecese of Montreal

Among the “sermons from closed churches”, in the Saturday newspapers was one from Archdeacon Paterson Smyth. He said: “The city is troubled through fear of death. The death lists are coming in daily from the war, and the lists from the epidemic swell them. We are afraid of death. We are like the heathen who through fear of death are all their lifetime subject to bondage. The Lord is risen. There is no death, but the people do not seem to know it.” He went on to say how different it was in the early days of the Church. Here was St. John at four score and ten looking out like an eager boy into the great adventure: “Behold, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be.”

The ringing of all church bells in the city on November 7th announced the news of final victory in the great war. Although the people were told at the same time that the news was not officially confirmed, nothing could damp their joy and enthusiasm, not even the downpour of rain. The ban as to opening churches and other public places had been withdrawn the day before. —St. Jude’s Church, Montreal, has been renovated. The authorities took advantage of the enforced closing to have the necessary work done at that time. —Sergeant Jack Farthing, youngest son of the Bishop, has been offered a commission. He has been at the front for some time in the Canadian Field Artillery. —The Parish Hall of St. James’ Church, St. Johns, was destroyed by fire November 2nd. It had been loaned to the Canadian Engineers as a recreation room.