

FIRE BELIEVED TO BE WORK OF GERMANS

Cure of Beauport Church Warned That Edifice Would be Burned.

By Canadian Press.

Quebec, Feb. 21.—The fire which destroyed the Beauport parish church this morning was incendiary in its origin, it is believed here. It is understood that the cure, M. Deziel, recently received a letter in which it was stated that his church would be burned down on February 20.

Sensational talk is going about the fire that today completely destroyed the Beauport church.

The city editor of *Le Soleil*, Quebec's leading daily, admits that some days ago he received an anonymous letter saying that Pastor Deziel, of that parish had been threatened in anonymous letters, presumably coming from sympathizers of Germans interned at the Beauport armory.

For the last five months a number of letters were received from the Beauport district stating that two Germans were patrolling the region. The rumors said that two foreigners, men, but one of them posing as the other's wife, were living now at Ste. Anne de Beaupre, later at St. Michael's range, in the rear of Beauport.

A telephone message came from St. Annes where the world famed shrine is located that the two Germans had taken abode in an abandoned shack near that place.