

skilled horseman, a man who could and did undergo severe privations and whose robust physique enabled him to carry on under rigorous and difficult situations.

In 1891 Cortlandt Starnes married the daughter of Judge L. V. Sicotte of Montreal. The charming personality and unfailing kindness of Mrs. Starnes quickly endeared her to all members of the Force and despite the fact that in her new sphere of life she had many discomforts to undergo, she always remained the same and she is still held in affectionate regard by all who know her.

His next tour of duty was the far off Yukon—the inhospitable north—the land of gold—where the Police ruled with an iron hand—and there Starnes found himself in his element and his reports from Dawson city, the mushroom metropolis of gold, make most interesting reading. Crimes of violence were prevalent but justice was quick and stern and the adage that “crime does not pay” was never more fully exemplified than in those early Yukon days.

Leaving the Yukon with the respect and good will of all the “sour-doughs”, Starnes next found himself in Maple Creek, a ranch country, the headquarters of “A” Division, and from there he was again transferred, in 1905, to his old stamping ground, Fort Macleod, in which busy Division he remained until his long awaited promotion to Superintendent in 1909.

His experiences had been varied but there was still a supreme test awaiting him and the new Superintendent moved to the barren shores of Hudson Bay where he remained in the isolated, bleak but historic Fort Churchill until 1912. There were few, if any, comforts in those days at that inhospitable spot. The climate was execrable, accommodation was not of the best and social life was entirely non-existent, but the bonhomie of Starnes and the unfailing charm of his helpmate quickly enabled them to endure and to even enjoy their stay in the land of the Eskimo, but undoubtedly the next transfer back to Regina in 1912 was a welcome one.

After a stay of about one year in Regina, Superintendent Starnes found himself once again at Historic old Fort Macleod, this time as commanding officer, which post he occupied until 1918, renewing old acquaintances and forming new and invaluable friendships and ever dealing out justice fairly and impartially, respected and liked by all.

In 1918 Starnes was selected to assist the military forces in connection with the enforcement of the Military Service Act in the Province of Quebec, a delicate task but one which Starnes was well fitted to handle and his services as Assistant Provost Marshall in the Province of Quebec were fully appreciated by his superiors. His imperturbable good humour served him in good stead and instead of making enemies he created friends.

In 1919, after the Great War had ended, great changes took place in the Force and old “D” Division from Fort Macleod found itself transplanted, lock, stock and barrel, to Winnipeg in Manitoba. Troublous times quickly followed. The Winnipeg strike of 1919 was called. Extraordinary measures had to be adopted. Fighting and bloodshed occurred in the streets of the Prairie Metropolis and as ever the Force remained true to its motto—“Main-