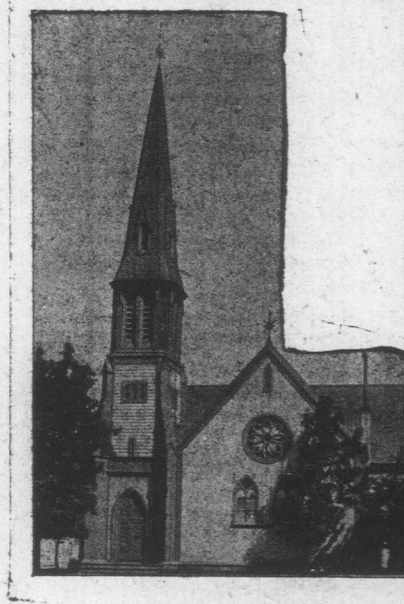


NARROW ESCAPE OF FIRST CHURCH

PRBSBYTERIAN PLACE OF WORSHIP ON FIRE

Fortunately Caught Just in Time and Damage Was Slight—The Patent Helmet.

The First Presbyterian church had a narrow escape from destruction by fire early Saturday. About 1 o'clock B. C. Pettigall, who was passing, saw smoke issuing from the roof of the edifice in the east section, and at once notified the fire department.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

From a small apartment off the vestry. It was in this room that the fire started, and when the "Jef" got there it was burning merrily up the wall and in the ceiling. He extinguished the fire with a chemical steam, while the men brought in a line of hose through the school room to guard against another outbreak.

SPARROW'S CRUISE TO SOLOMON ISLANDS

British Warship Makes a Display of Power For an Object Lesson to the Natives.

An interesting story on the cruise of H. M. S. Sparrow among the islands of the Solomon and Santa Cruz groups was received from Sydney, N. S. W., through the arrival of the Aorangi. The Sparrow reached port a few days prior to the departure of the Canadian liner. The Sparrow left Sydney on July 19th for New Zealand, and according to instructions received from the admiral a search was instituted for the missing steamer Quirang, which left Newcastle in June last for New Zealand, and has not since been heard of.

The murder of the Fijian woman, the wife of a native teacher, at Malleta, because of her adherence to the principles of Christianity, was reported to the commander of the Sparrow, in consequence of which the visit to that island was extended. It appears from statements made to the officers of the war vessel that some months ago the deceased was trapped by a band of natives and shot in the head with a rifle. The husband of the woman, who is a native of the little island of Teli, off the coast of Malleta, in the Solomon group, has spent 30 years of his life in Fiji, where he embraced Christianity and married a Christian Fijian woman.

the room, but found nothing else to corroborate the suspicion at first formed that the fire was started by design. The three appeared to have originated in the corner where the book was found, but it was understood a quantity of decorating material was kept in the room, so it is altogether likely that a lighted match or cigar thrown carelessly among the stuff started the fire. It may have been smouldering for some time, although a meeting was held in the vestry during the evening, and no small amount of smoke sufficed to fill the room.

This is the first time the Vagen-Baden smoke helmet has been tested at a fire, and it proved signally successful. With it on the chief was able to work where a man without the helmet would succumb in a very short time. The helmet affords absolute protection to its wearer from dense smoke and deadly gases, and with one on a fireman can work for a long time where a man not so protected would almost certainly perish.

The chief broke open the kitchen window off Parquhar street, and found the apartment filled with smoke. Protected by the patent Vagen-Baden helmet he was able to explore without any inconvenience, and immediately saw that the fire had burned a hole in the wall separating the kitchen

inside and fitting snugly about the chest and the neck are two pliable diaphragms or circles of sheep skin, which strain from any smoke that might force its way up into fatal and injurious substances. There are double-eye pieces constructed of the finest and clearest mica, while there are delicate mica diaphragms for the ears. Both the eye and ear pieces are protected by wire guards. There is also a rubber signal whistle which does not, however, consume any of the pure air in the reservoir.

where he considered that he would be more secure. With a view to impressing the natives with the seriousness of the crime committed by them, and of warning them against a recurrence of such acts, the Sparrow visited five places in the island of Malleta, namely, Auki, Sio, Uras, Kwi and Port Diamond.

At Port Diamond, another part of the same island, an altogether different state of affairs was found to exist. Some amount of risk was run by Lieut. Anderson, of H. M. S. Sparrow, and the deputy commissioner for the Solomons in landing without providing themselves with any safeguards against attack. These two gentlemen are probably the first white men to land at Port Diamond unarmed. They left the Sparrow in a native canoe, and upon landing the natives exhibited their friendliness in various ways. A large crowd gathered around the two men, and intimated in the best way they could that they were friendly disposed towards the Englishmen. The natives said that they desired to embrace Christianity, and even made a request that the Sparrow would send them a missionary to instruct them. One of the native boys, much to the surprise of the visitors, was carrying a Bible, and said that his name was David. It subsequently transpired upon questions being put to him that he had spent some years of his life at Cairns, in Queensland, where he had embraced the Christian religion and desired to spread a knowledge of it among his fellows.

IMPLICATED IN MURDER

Criminal Who Passed Unmolested Through Various Cities Found Guilty of Manslaughter.

Wm. Kaufman, "the St. Louis Fat," has been convicted of manslaughter in the second degree in San Francisco. The crime is that of being implicated in the murder of Policeman E. C. Robinson in that city. After the crime was committed Kaufman passed up the Coast visiting Victoria, Nanaimo and Vancouver. Following the C. P. R. he reached Port Williams before being captured. Kaufman's escape from San Francisco was a phenomenal open one. No man could be better marked for identification than he, and he was marked in many ways. His appearance was most striking, and his presence in the various Canadian cities was well remembered by the police authorities when the description of the criminal reached them. The San Francisco authorities seem to have been very slow in forwarding the information to the police here, but finally a few days after his arrival at the British Columbia city that the first information was received, giving a description of this man. On the Mainland he was held for the crime, but finally set free upon the message being received that the real Kaufman had been arrested in another part of the United States. Finally he was taken at Port Williams, and has now been found guilty of manslaughter in that city. It is expected he will be sentenced to life imprisonment.

THE OAK BAY HOTEL IS BEING PROMOTED

It Will Be Specially Planned to Meet the Needs of the Tourist Trade.

There is a proposition on hand for the building of an hotel at Oak Bay, and the project is now in shape to put before the public. If the hotel is to be completed, it will be the most complete tourist trade it is essential that the project be pushed forward at once, as no time is to be wasted.

The proposal is to erect a hotel with about 100 rooms. It is proposed to make it a joint stock company, capitalized at \$50,000, divided into \$1 shares. This stock is divided into two classes, ordinary and preferred, the ordinary to be proposed to have 25,000 shares. The preferred seven per cent. stock is reserved for the general public. The ordinary stock, a considerable amount of which has already been subscribed, will be taken by those parties who may feel sufficient interest in the scheme to put money in it to help it along.

SILVER WEDDING

Celebration of Anniversaries at 68 Pembroke Street Thursday Night.

TOURIST AUSTRALIA

Mr. Rose Says Affairs in Island Countries Are Not Altogether Bright—Rain Sorely Needed.

Among the passengers who arrived from Australia by the steamer Aorangi were Mr. and Mrs. Rose, who are completing an extended tour of some of the British colonies and the States. Starting from New York last Christmas they have completed a voyage to the States, New Zealand, and Australia, viewing most points of interest in both countries.

Mr. Rose says that business in Australia is in a deplorable condition at present. Some of the countries have not had a rainfall for eight years, and the sheep are dying in hundreds. The political condition is frightening away capital needed for the proper development of the country, and consequently retards business progress.

Referring to the ravages to the great industry of the Australian Commonwealth, that of sheep raising, Mr. Rose stated that it will require a long time before the country can be expected to regain its former prosperity. Even if rain was to commence to fall all over the country now the ordinary fall to put some prisms into proper shape.

Of the political conditions, Mr. Rose was not favorably impressed. The formation of a commonwealth at the present time, he says, has had the result of throwing everything into a state of confusion. He was at Sydney at the time Premier Barton's arrival there, and attended his address at the Centennial hall in that city. He says that the speaker could scarcely make himself heard. He did not make any reference to the policy of the government, but, and of things that had come to his notice during his trip.

Speaking of South Africa, Mr. Rose mentioned a controversy which has developed there, and which he remarked, especially for those searching for work.

Mr. Rose and wife will spend a few days in Victoria, and from here intend to proceed to San Francisco on their way home.

COMPANIES ACT, 1897

I hereby certify that "The Bella Coola Pulp and Paper Company" has this day been registered as an Extra-Provincial company for services rendered or to be rendered in or out of or any or the objects of the Company to which the certificate of incorporation or the certificate of incorporation is or shall be issued.

The head office of the Company is situated in the City of Tacoma, Pierce County, State of Washington. The paid-up capital of the Company is \$10,000, divided into 10,000 shares of \$1.00 each.

The office of the Company in this Province is situated at Victoria, and Lindsey Street, and the office of the Company in the City of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is situated at the corner of King and Front Streets East.

W. M. S. Y. WOOLTON, Registrar of Joint Stock Companies. The following are the objects for which the Company has been established: (1) To manufacture pulp and paper and cut timber for the manufacture of wood pulp or paper; to erect, maintain and operate all sawmills necessary for the cutting and sawing of timber into pulp and paper, and to carry on the business of pulp and paper manufacturers and dealers in all its branches; (2) To acquire, operate or carry on the business of a power company; (3) To acquire, by purchase, lease, hire, discovery, location or otherwise, acquire and hold in the Province of British Columbia, lands, estates, timber lands or leases, mineral claims or licenses to cut timber, surface rights and rights of way, water rights and privileges, quarts and placer mines or mineral claims, and all prospects, mining lands and mining rights, coal lands, mineral claims, and all other interests and treating ores and refining metals, buildings, machinery, plant, stock-in-trade, and all other real or personal property as may be deemed advisable, and to equip, operate and conduct the same, or to lease, sell or otherwise dispose of the same or any of them; or any interest therein; (4) To carry on the business of a mining, quarrying, smelting, dredging and refining company; and to mine, buy, sell and work, manufacture and make merchantable gold, silver, silver-lead ores or deposits, and all other minerals, and all other kinds of stone, oil, coal, earth or other matters or things whatsoever, and to produce or search for or to carry on the business of general merchants, loggers, lumbermen, miners,

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MINERAL ACT. CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS. NOTICE.

Wm. Mar. Fractions, Esq., Fiscal Proctor of the Victoria Mineral Claims, situated in the Victoria Mining Division of Renfrew District. Where located, Gordon River. Take notice that I, R. E. Billinghurst, as agent for R. A. Godman, E. M. C. B2435, R. E. Newton, E. M. C. B2436, C. J. Newton, F. M. C. B2437, R. A. Newton, F. M. C. B2438, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Registrar for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

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\$1.00 PER ANY ADD

THE PATERSON SHOE CO. LD. VOL. 33.

REMAINS FOUND

Gen. Parsons on a Force—Brakeman and Kill

Halifax, N. S., Dec.

commander-in-chief of forces in Canada, in an night, suggested the for

Halifax, N. S., Dec.

With face battered missing, the body of aged 25, who had been found in an old carriage Pier, near Sydney, on

Halifax, N. S., Dec.

Montreal, Dec. 1—A conservative, and Hon. Liberal were nominated to-day.

Winnipeg, Dec. 1—

shot at Elgin village, Northern line, to-day, had accidentally shot the back with a repeat rifle, and not more than a few feet from the front of Leslie's fur coat imbedded in the wound slight chance of his re- residents of Elgin.

Toronto, Dec. 1—

here for the 11 month 36th show an increase

The World this morn-

Long Distance teleph- tion was established

A head-on collision

Canadian Northern and Fort Francis, which was a freight train.

Winnipeg, Dec. 2—

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Halifax, N. S., Dec.

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