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THE DAILY NEWS.

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Play Had Another Good Showing In Church Last Eve

The second presentation of "Melvina's Courtship" in the First United Church went off last evening even better than on the first night. The audience was larger and was very responsive. During the intermissions, piano selections were played by Norman Ireland who is a master of the instrument.

After the play, members of the cast were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vickers.

"Melvina's Courtship" will be repeated next Tuesday evening at Rupert East United Church.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Etherington, who have been visiting here for the past couple of months with Mrs. Etherington's father, J. W. McAuley, sailed by the Camosun last night on their return to Alert Bay.

Transferred To Prince George

Corp. J. H. Smith Goes to Interior As Divisional Clerk For Provisional Police

Accompanied by his wife and members of the family, Corp. J. H. Smith, divisional clerk of the provincial police here for the past seven years, left on this morning's train for Prince George to which point he has been transferred in a similar capacity. His departure from the city will be generally regretted for he has become well known and was popular among many friends. He was particularly active in connection with the affairs of the Orange Lodge and the Baptist Church.

The change amounts to practically an exchange of positions for Constable J. H. McClinton, divisional clerk at Prince George, is Corp. Smith's successor here.

WHEN CHILDREN CRY

CHILDREN often cry for no apparent reason. Many times we can't guess what is wrong. The crying may mean a touch of colic; the little bowels may be sluggish—or some other upset. It may mean any of the common little ailments that children suffer. To bring quick comfort to your little one, give a few drops of Castoria. Most upsets of children are soon soothed away by this pleasant-tasting remedy that children all love.

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FENDER AND BODY WORK A SPECIALTY

MARK SITE OF FURNACE

Historical Monuments Board Expected to Commemorate Efforts to Establish Blast Industry

BROOKVILLE, Ont., February 28: The Historic Sites and Monuments Board has, after preliminary investigation, placed upon the agenda for its next meeting, the question of designating the site of Lyndhurst (formerly Furnace Falls), in Leeds County, of what is generally agreed to be the first blast furnace for iron that was established in Upper Canada. It was on Sept. 13, 1800, so General Cruikshank, the chairman of the board has discovered, that a certain Wallace Sunderlin (sometimes referred to as "Captain") approached the Executive Council of the province asking permission to erect works at the Big Falls of the "Gannanockway" (Gananoque) River. These works were to include a sawmill and furnace for the manufacture of "Potash Kettles and other furnace ware that shall be necessary for the use of people in this country," and Sunderlin undertook, in addition, to build a bridge across the river and to invest the sum of $7000 in the enterprise.

The site of the proposed works was then in the veritable backwoods. Settlement did not extend for any great distance back from the St. Lawrence. The building of the Rideau Canal, destined to give the interior of Eastern Ontario its first impetus, had yet to be undertaken. Fifteen years or more were to pass before the settlements of disbanded soldiers were to be established on the shores of the Rideau. Nearly all of the surrounding country was wild and undeveloped, connected with the river-front only by roads that could have been little better than blazed trails. Yet Sunderlin, who hailed from Tinmouth, Vermont, seems, with true Yankee perspicacity, to have perceived opportunity in such a field. In some manner he had discovered there were deposits of iron in the neighboring township of Bastard and he had conceived the idea of utilizing them and the water-powers of the Gananoque River to put his scheme into effect.

Because the waterfall in question lay remote from the settled area, the land in the vicinity had yet to be allotted for patent and Sunderlin asked the government, as encouragement and in return for his investment, to grant him a "sufficient tract of land for timber, coal and ore to carry on said business." He undertook to have the works completed within a year from Oct. 1, 1800, and he furnished the Executive Council with a list of persons whom he proposed to bring from the United States to assist him. The council appears readily to have acquiesced in the suggestion. It granted him the permission he sought (with the provision that the works were to be completed within the specified time or forfeited without compensation) and the Surveyor-General was instructed to appropriate 2400 acres of land where Sunderlin should designate, of which 1200 acres were to be his when the conditions were performed. Thus was born Upper Canada's first iron furnace.

Sunderlin made haste to fulfill the conditions imposed. By November, 1801, so Dr. Solomon Jones, an early magistrate and judge of the Johnstown District Court, informed Chief Justice Elmsley, he had erected the iron-works and "a good sawmill" and had built "a good bridge." Moreover, Dr. Jones reported that he had seen the forge that had been opened and "two bars of iron manufactured which appeared to be of good quality" and a considerable quantity of "coal wood made into Pitts and burnt into coal." From this it may be judged how primitive were the methods Sunderlin employed.

Ore Used

At the same time the originator of the scheme was joined by Ephraim Jones, one of the most prominent Loyalist settlers in Augusta township and an early member of parliament, who also invested a sum of money, and at a later period Bradley Barlow of Fairfield, Vermont, became a third associate. The ore used is described as "scaly red" hematite of inferior quality and limited quantity obtained on lot 25 in the tenth concession of Bastard township. It had to be drawn a considerable distance and the supply had obvious limitations.

Whether for this reason or because of other difficulties, the undertaking did not realize the expectations of those who launched it. A certain number of pots and kettles were cast for the use of the settlers, but these are said to have proved failures. Sunderlin sold out to his associates and, presumably, returned to Vermont. The remaining partners allowed the iron works to fall into decay. As early as 1816 it was reported they were in "a state of ruin and no great use was ever made of them," to which information is appended the opinion that "the height of the fall, the constant supply of water, abundance of ore and other advantages render it a matter of regret that so valuable a property is not put to use."

To that use the property has never been put. Other mills have been operated at "Furnace Falls," but the iron works never recovered from their decline and no attempt was ever made to revive them. They have, indeed, become little more than a legend, insofar as the people of Lyndhurst and the surrounding country are concerned.

Today if one wishes to ascertain where the first iron furnace in the province was operated, one must pause in the still rather obscure village of Lyndhurst, not without admiring the beauty of its surroundings, pass across the yard of the stone grist mill and descend a steep narrow wooden stairway that leads to the edge of the swirling stream. There, in a stone-strewn plot of ground used as a poultry yard, there may be observed under a tree that has sprung out of the foundations of the establisment, all that remains of the iron furnace. It consists of a few stout timbers, that have survived a century or more, protruding from the unpromising soil and two or three large lumps of slag—nothing more to show for Wallis Sunderlin's enterprise and investment or to furnish proof that in this out-of-the way spot, there was made the first attempt to put Ontario's iron ores to commercial use.

Fred Wesch

President of Prince Rupert Radio Association

ST. DAVID'S DAY TEA IS BEING HELD

St. David's Day, the anniversary of the patron saint of Wales, is being celebrated today by the Ladies' Aid of the First Baptist Church with a colorful tea and sale of home cooking this afternoon at the home of Mrs. Bert Morgan, Fifth Avenue West. The rooms have been tastefully decorated for the occasion with daffodils, leeks and other Welsh emblems and a large Welsh flag predominates. Miss Ceredwyn Morgan, daughter of the hostess, in Welsh costume, is opening the door for the guests.

Mrs. George Hibbard, president the Ladies' Aid, is assisting Mrs. Morgan in receiving the guests. Mrs. Norman Fraser and Mrs. Herbert Hampton are pouring and the serviteurs are Mrs. J. Armstrong, Mrs. Vic Houston, Mrs. W. S. Hammond and Mrs. D. Orchard McLeod. Mrs. F. Morris is among those assisting in the tea room.

Mrs. Charles Larkin and Mrs. W. W. Wrathall are in charge of the home cooking table and Mrs. Jas. Hampton is acting as cashier.

A musical program arranged for the afternoon includes vocal solos by Mrs. James Waugh, accompanied by Mrs. J. S. Black and piano selections by Miss Connie Morgan.

Miss C. Chapman returned last night to Ocean Falls after visiting several weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Dingwall and family, Fifth Ave. West.

The Principal Causes of SLEEPLESSNESS are nervous strain and digestive unrest

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GOING TO NANAIMO

Understood C. L. Monroe Will Go Island City as Government Agent

VICTORIA, Feb. 28—While no definite announcement has yet been made, it is said here that upon the reinstatement of Norman A. Watt as government agent at Prince Rupert, C. L. Monroe, who has been agent in the northern city since Mr. Watt's suspension a couple of years ago, will be removed to Nanaimo, the administrative centre of the north end of Vancouver Island, in the capacity of government agent.

It is understood here that Mr. Watt will be instructed to resume his duties at Prince Rupert on April 1.

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