#### CHIEF OF "MOUNTIES"

JOINED "RIDERS OF THE PLAINS" IN 1885.

Commissioner Starnes Has Seen Service on All Past and Present "Fronts" of Canada—Took Part In the Reil Rebellion.

You will find the Royal Canadian Mounted Police through the length and breadth of Canada, from the wind-swept prairies of the West to icobound Arctic regions within a few hundred miles of the North Pole, writes James Montagnes in Tit-Bits. The man who heads this organization has seen service on all of its past and present "fronts." Roughand-ready Dawson City was his headquarters during the hectic days of the gold rush, and more recently he has played a major part in extending the activities to Arctic regions. He is

Commissioner Cortland Starnes. Born and educated at Montreal, this strapping broad - shouldered youth left with the 65th Montreal Regiment to put down the Northwest Rebellion of 1885. He was an adjutant, despite his twenty-one years, and he set out to help put down the rising of the Indians and half-breeds led by Louis Riel.

Riel had but recently returned from Montana, where he had fled following his first failure as a revolutionist in 1870. Now he preached a separate state to stem the annexations being made by Eastern Canada. He advocated bloodshed if need

An uncompleted railway carried the Canadians from Kingston, Montreal, and Quebec. The railway which now stretches across the top of Lake Superior was not finished. As an armed force, the regiments could not make use of the United States railroads which ran west of Lake Superior. It meant marching through an unknown wilderness, a country unsettled and, except for a few surveyors' marks here and there, un-

Prince Albert was the main white settlement. It was already being defended by the Prince Albert Volunteers and the Northwest Mounted Police. To relieve this town and squash the bands of Indians led by halfbreeds roaming in that territory was the work of the three regiments which had come West, one of which was Starnes' outfit. They made quick job of it, for within three months Louis Riel had fled and the rebellion had been broken.

inhabited.

There had been serious encounters. whites and Indians being killed. But shortly after the arrival of the soldiers peace was restored, the Indians went back to their reserves, the mili tia was demobilized and sent east. But Cortland Starnes stayed. He decided that those tall frontiersmen, the Northwest Mounted Police, could probably find a place for him. They were recruiting, for now the entire territory would once more be under their charge, and immigrants were coming in. So young Starnes became an inspector of the "Riders of the

The Yukon gold rush came in [ 1896, and reached its height in '98. Men came in thousands from the ends of the earth, There were all types of men who braved the wilderness, the mountain passes, and finally the life in the mining towns. As with every gold rush, gamblers and guumen' came in with the earnest prospectors. The best and the wor't in humanity were congregating in an unknown, unsettled country. The "Mounties" were sent in to keep order. Insp. ctor Starnes took charge of the detach-

ment at Dawson City. Those were wild days in Dawson. The gold rush was at its height. Drunkenness was the order of the day. Murders were committed with regularity, fights were common, and the gambling saloons took the gold dust for which prospectors had worked hard; 744 prisoners were tried by Inspector Starnes during the first year in Dawson. Other duties were also pressing. Other detachments had to be looked ! after. During his second winter out of Vancouver, Starnes braved the rigors of a sub-Arctic climate. With dog-team and a half-breed he set out

on a 1,500-mile inspection tour over mountains and frozen streams. At each of the police posts there was work to be done. Prospectors! had to be looked after, for the Royal Northwest Mounted Police not only guarded the banks and the customs houses on windswept summits, but they looked after the isolated, nurs ed the sick and buried the dead. In 1910 the inspector sailed for Hudson Bay on board the Jeannie. Her captain was Beb Bartlett, the man who sailed with Peary when he discovered the North Pole. On board saip were supplies need d to start

new norther r posts. The party handed at Churchill, and there deposited what materials were necessary, Winter was a short time away. Then he sailed to Wazer Bay and established a new post there. The Jeannie run into a violent Arctic storm on her return trip and was stranded on the shores of Wager Bay. Seventeen men! ir the party managed to get to shore ! safely. A whaler, late on its way out of the bay, hove in sight, and saved! them a 500-mile trip to Churchill in

I: 1919 Commissioner Starnes was in charge of the Manitoba division, with headquarters at Winnipeg, when a general strike was declared. The trades and the post office stopped work in Winnipeg. Even the police were sympathetic. There was to be a parade, the police heard, and Starnes, burdened with threatening strikes in | neighboring cities, prepared. Fifty-four mounted troopers led ! the way, their scarlet tunies blazing

open houts.

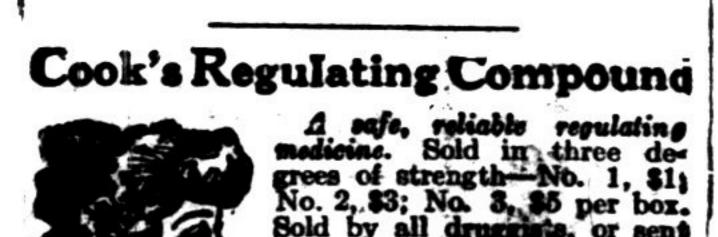
in the sun, the same searlet tunics which had made friends with the In- j dians in days gone by. They were! followed by forty-six more in trucks. A force of 100 to fight, if need be, 10,000 strikers. Starnes ordered the crowd to disband, but no one moved. The order was given to draw revolvers. Then the crowd disbanded, and the strike was over.

> ---Widows Remarried.

The British Minister of Pensions stated recently that the number of pensioned widows of officers and men who have remarried is 111,000. The annual value of the pensions which have been discontinued as a consequence during the period since the grant of the pensions is £8,010,000.

Educational Institutions.

In its annual survey of education in Canada the Bureau of Statistics reports the number enrolled in all educational institutions in Canada 1928 at 2,342,391, or about 51,000 more than in 1927.





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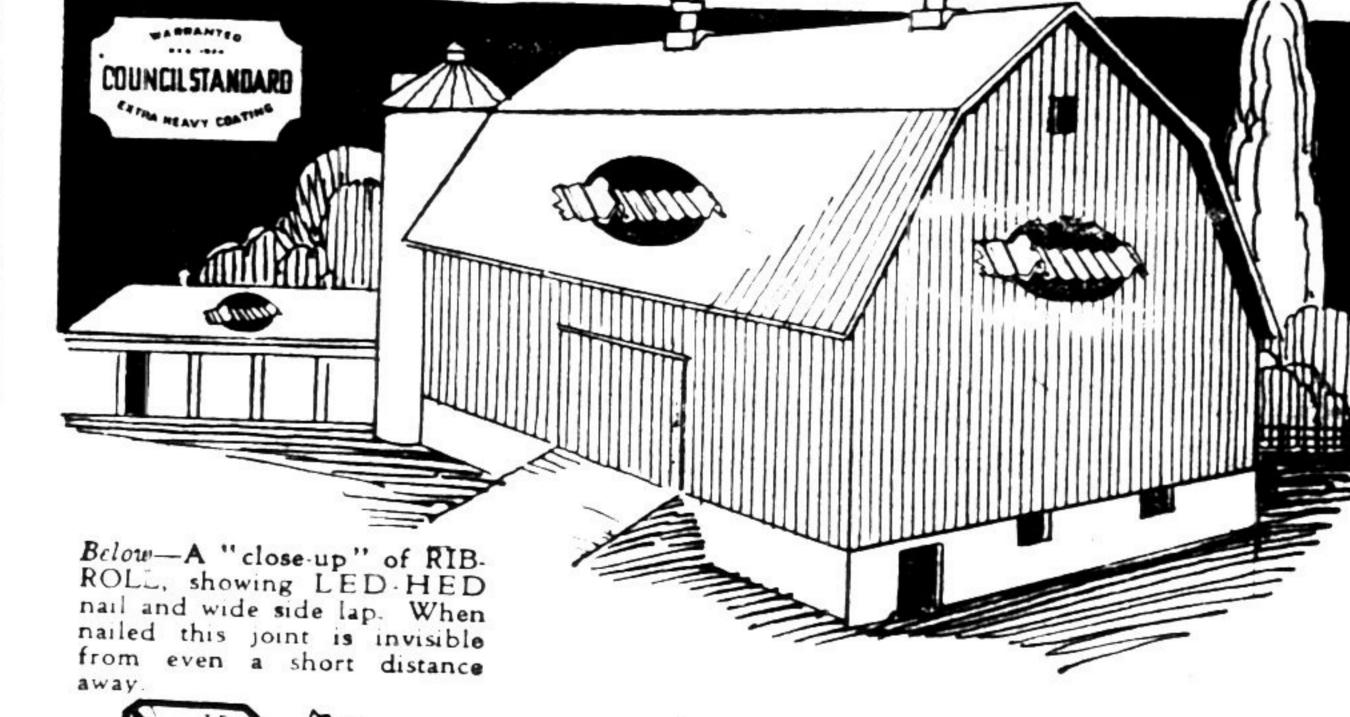
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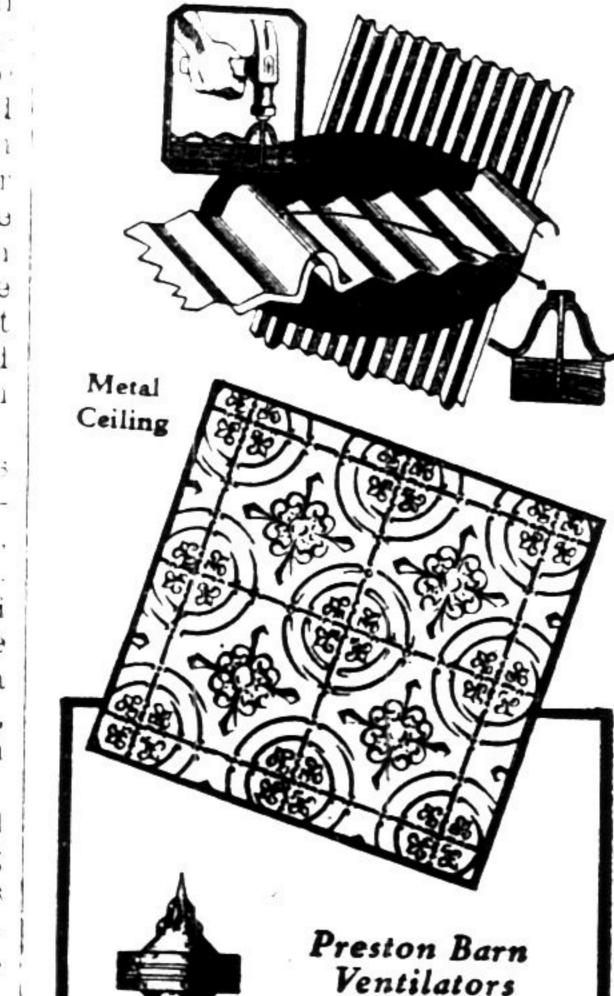
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#### Skull on Side of Rock Commemorates 'Soapy' Smith



there was nothing better to do. He had a trick of appearing to wrap a cake of soap in a five sunny places of green hill sides dollar bill and of selling it to a and flowers, of placid lakes and gullible customer for a few cents. roaring rivers, of great peaks and "Soapy" up in Skagway in the up there in the summer time. "Soapy" was too tough and too augmented by the S. S. Prince frontier of the north. One day Steamships. The CNS. "Prince he was a bit slow on the draw. Rupert" and the "Prince George,"

desperate career.

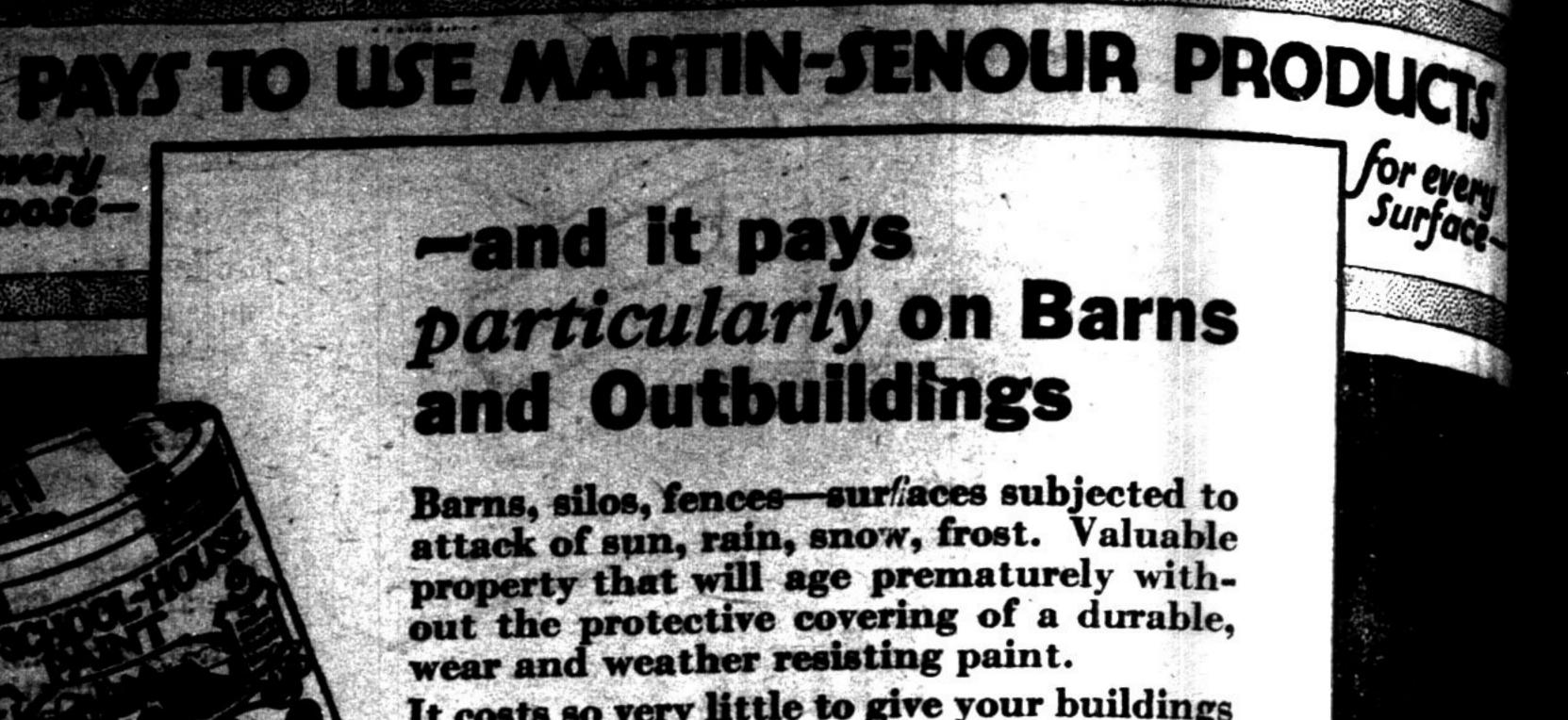
He was shot and killed and of the same line are already known buried with his antagonist, whom for their comfort and seaworthy he had mortally wounded, in qualities to the thousands of the little cemetery adjoining the tourists who each year make town. When news of his sudden and Inside Passage to Prince Rupert long hoped for death arrived the and Skagway. Two other new townspeople apparently thought steamers now being built for the

66COAPY" SMITH was a tough | painted a skull on a cliff and letguy. He shot men for the tered Soapy's name on it. Today fun of it and robbed them when tourists to Skagway stand and photograph' this relic of a day Alaska and the Yukon are

Because of that they called him | deep valleys when the boats cruise days of '98. But This year the service is to be even for the rough Henry, of the Canadian National

the voyage up the well-known something should be done to Canadian National Pacific Coast commemorate the end of a Service, the Prince Robert and the Prince David, will ply be-Someone had said that "Soapy" tween Vancouver, Victoria and was as hard as rock. So they Seattle.

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