

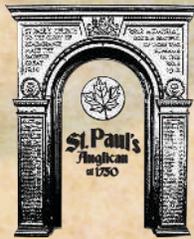
Samuel Henry Prince

Born 22 January 1886

Died 19 October 1960

Age 74

*St. Paul's
and the
Great War
"For King
and Country"*



The Reverend Samuel Henry Prince was the busiest, most overworked Curate in St. Paul's long history. He had just settled into his new job when RMS Titanic sank in April 1912. Archdeacon Armitage, away in Toronto, sent an urgent telegram to Prince, "Hold special memorial for all." His new Curate arranged a memorial service where he spoke powerfully to a church filled to overflowing.

During the years 1914 – 1919 Prince was Armitage's right arm, regularly conducting the morning and evening services while the Rector, Chaplain of the 66th Regiment, gave the military services at Chain Lake Camp or York Redoubt. The newly recruited 25th Battalion Nova Scotia Regiment's first Church Parade marched to St. Paul's where the Curate "preached a strong patriotic sermon of great eloquence and power." Superintendent of the Chinese Sunday School, he was also Chaplain of the church Cadet Corps, training 70 or more boys to sing in the gallery at services. He looked after assigned pay arrangements so that wives of needy families had some income while their soldier husbands were overseas, managed the Parish Magazine, spoke often at the Mission Hall's heavily attended Sunday evening Evangelistic Services, helped entertain at the Soldiers' Receptions, preached in other churches, gave speeches to many Halifax organizations, and conducted baptisms, weddings and funerals.



Prince and Armitage

"At times it must have seemed to him that every military recruit entering Halifax was told that if he needed any help to go to the Reverend S. H. Prince. He also received news of casualties of any members of the congregation, and he would have to go to the families and give the sad news. Then came the battles of the Somme and it seemed that scarcely a day passed without a message for "Mister Prince to please call the telegraph office". It made a grim Christmas for many, mourning a son, brother or husband killed in action, or worrying over them in army hospitals. - *Sammy The Prince* - Leonard Hatfield 1999

When the news of the Armistice reached Halifax, people came into the church early in the morning to kneel and give thanks. Prince was there, holding three services of thanksgiving before 8:00am, another at 11:00am and the following day the church was filled for a Public Thanksgiving Service. He resigned his curacy in 1919 to attend Columbia University, New York. His Ph.D. thesis, *Catastrophe and Social Change*, on the social effects of the 1917 Halifax Explosion was published in 1920.