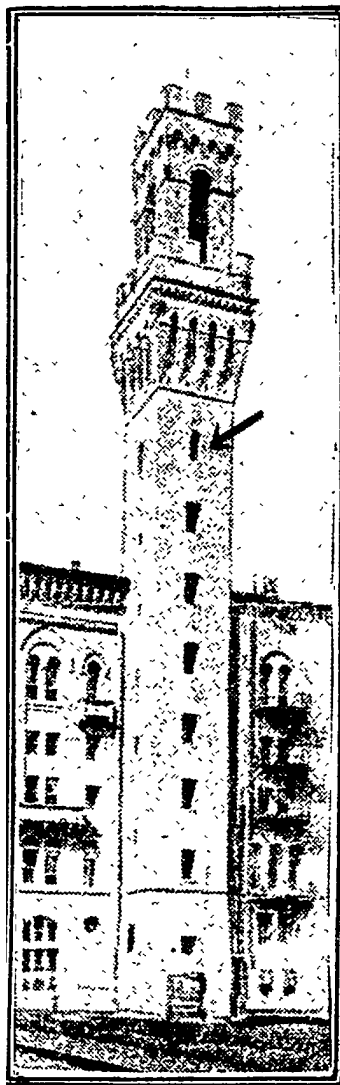


REMARKABLE CLIMBING FEAT.

Capt Macdonald Scales Eight-Story Building and Returns to Ground in Six Minutes.



FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.
Arrow on Tower Marks Hight to Which Macdonald Climbed.

Capt Allan J. Macdonald of ladder 19, Pittsburg st, climbed up the eight stories of the Bristol-st fire headquarters building, tower included, and down to the ground again in six minutes, yesterday afternoon, with a scaling ladder and nothing else to assist. It was described as a truly remarkable feat, particularly for a captain, who isn't supposed to be as agile or as much in training as a private.

A scaling ladder is about 18 feet long and weighs 33 pounds. It has a hook at the top and the rungs branch out from a single pole. The stunt is to hook it onto the window sill of the first story, climb up, straddle the window, hook on the third-story window, repeat the tactics and continue to the top and then return.

There is said to be one young man in the department, champion of the world on scaling, who can do what Capt Macdonald did in four minutes, but that fact doesn't make Capt Macdonald's performance the less skillful. The captain has had no practice; he hasn't tried to do it since 19 years ago, so it really was a brand new achievement done on the spur of the moment.

He is 43 years old, is 6 feet tall and weighs 190 pounds. He is a good fire-fighter and deservedly popular with his men and associates.

That part of the building where training of the firemen takes place is known as the yard side. The entire height, tower and all, is 105 feet. The window sills are of granite, but above the granite is a board which helps fix the ladder's hook firmly in place. The windows are open while the test of climbing is on.

Both drillmaster Lieut Daniel O'Brien and District Chief John O. Taber said yesterday that what Capt Macdonald had done was a "fine performance and stood as a record for the other captains in the department to beat." District Chief Daniel Sennott congratulated Capt Macdonald, as did the men of his company.

Those who saw the captain's feat have an idea that he will reduce the time to four minutes the next time he tries it.