

M. O. H. CONDEMNS TENEMENT LIFE

Real Estate Expert Suggests
Converting Rooming Houses
Into Apartments.

PROMPT ACTION

City Fathers Must Find Im-
mediate Solution for
Growing Evil.

"How can the thousands of people living in crowded quarters downtown be provided with better accommodation without adding to their expenses?" was the question put by The World to a number of persons who have studied the matter.

Donald S. Corlett of East Dundas street who has dealt in real estate in the downtown house district for fourteen years, expressed the following views:

"There is a situation in this district which calls for prompt attention from the city hall authorities. Being within walking distance of business, the district has become a popular rooming and apartment area. The high frontage taxes have helped to make it so because owners cannot afford to use these houses as one family residences, and many of the houses are too large and old fashioned in construction in this day of costly household help for such a purpose. Consequently, the owners are crowding them full of single roomers and families at high rentals without providing proper facilities for comfortable living. What is needed is a building plan that will permit owners to convert these houses into three apartments. This would give the owner a fair revenue over the carrying charges, which a duplex arrangement would not give them. A great many houses in this district have on the ground floor a large double parlor, dining room and kitchen, and four rooms on the second floor, and three or four on the top floor. Each floor could at moderate expense be converted into a three or four room apartment and bath room added. These buildings do not lend themselves so readily to division into two apartments because of the substance of the building. The second floor is on to the lower apartment and the other part onto the top. It is for the officials at the city hall to find a solution."

Against Tenants.

When interviewed by The World Dr. Hastings, medical health officer, after having been given the substance of the foregoing suggestions, said: "That is the idea that speculative builders have been trying to have adopted for years. An apartment is only a disguised name for a tenement, and tenement houses are the curse of any city, because they destroy home life. For reasons which I have many times explained I would strongly protest against the tenement house evil ever getting a foothold in Toronto. A duplex is not so bad because each part has a separate entrance and there is usually a yard for each family. We don't want human packing cases in Toronto, we want single family houses, and the housing commission is endeavoring to solve that."

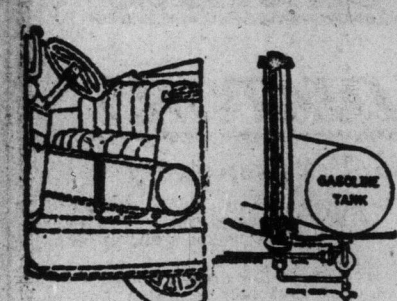
In reply to the suggestion that people are packed in now in some districts more thickly than ever before, Dr. Hastings said conditions in that respect were no worse now than they have been during the last four years.

Upstairs Opposed.

Mr. John O'Neill, former controller when seen by The World recalled that he had made a strong effort when in the council to have the city attempt a solution of the downtown housing problem. He had advocated amending the bylaw to permit owners to convert houses in the district bounded by Bathurst and Parliament and south of Bloor into two, three or four-family apartments, but this idea had been opposed by the so-called uplifiers who talked about gardens for every family. They refused to be practical. It would be alright to get a big piece of land outside the city and lay out homes with gardens, but Toronto has a hub population and no provision is being made for their comfort. It is no service to tell the thousands of girls and young men working in offices and stores that they must crowd into street cars morning and night to travel five miles or more to and from work. They would far rather have quarters in the heart of the city, and that is one of the reasons the houses are crowded to the roof. If the owners were allowed to convert these into apartments these people would live in comfort and would pay no higher rent than they pay now.

"Under the present bylaw," said Mr. O'Neill, "the house owner has the privilege of objecting to a house next to him being turned into an apartment, and I regard that as a weakness in the bylaw. Under present regulations the investment element is absent. One cannot pay the taxes and interest on the rent from one or two families, and consequently hundreds of houses downtown are left in a run-down and unsightly condition. This is a state of affairs that the housing commission will not solve. There will always be a downtown population and that fact must be recognized before we will get anywhere."

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FESTIVAL DANCES FILL BLEACHERS

Midsummer Program of Central District Playgrounds
Show Pupils' Merits.

The interest taken in playground work was evident last night by the large number of parents and adults that witnessed the best demonstration of folk dancing and games that has ever been shown at Moss Park recreation centre. The bleachers were crowded very early, and the crowd overflowed into the field.

The occasion was the combined midsummer festival of the central district playgrounds, which included Winchester, Lansdowne, O'Neill, St. Andrew's, Elizabeth and Moss Park, who put on the following program:

Singing games—Moss Park.
Cornish May Dance—Elizabeth and St. Andrew's.
Country dance—Lansdowne.
Mistress Mary—Elizabeth.
Potato races—Lansdowne, St. Andrew's, Elizabeth and Moss Park boys.
Spanish dance—Moss Park.
One-step dance—St. Andrew's.
Allegretto—Elizabeth.
Nightingale—Elizabeth and O'Neill.
Active games—Elizabeth boys.
Daisies—Elizabeth, O'Neill and St. Andrew's.
Siciliana—Solo dance by Miss Grace Bolton, Moss Park.
Highland Fling—Elizabeth and St. Andrew's.
Mountain March and Children's Polka—Moss Park.
Pyramids—Elizabeth boys.
French Baby—Lansdowne.
Playfulness—Elizabeth.
Mignonne—Elizabeth, St. Andrew's, O'Neill and Moss Park.
Swedish Polka—Winchester.
Gondoliers—Elizabeth.
Dutch dance—Elizabeth, St. Andrew's, O'Neill and Moss Park.
Irish Jig—Elizabeth and St. Andrew's.
God Save the King.

The potato races were very keenly contested, and each playground representative was given enthusiastic support by their followers; Moss Park came first in midge and juvenile with Elizabeth taking second.

The demonstration was under the direction of S. H. Armstrong, director of recreation of the city playgrounds, assisted by the following: Moss Park, Lady Principal Miss Miller, Principal L. Watson; from Elizabeth, Lady Principal Miss Seaman and Principal F. Denning; from St. Andrew's, Lady Principal Miss Butchart and Principal A. Francis; from O'Neill, Lady Principal Miss Grew and Principal H. Bryans; from Lansdowne, Lady Principal Miss Chapman and Principal J. Harris; from Winchester, Lady Principal Mrs. Johnson.

CHILDREN ACCOMPANY ARRESTED MOTHERS

Two Russian women, arrested last night charged with selling liquor, refused to enter the police van until the police officers had carried their children in also. Mrs. Annie Potchuk, 354 West Adelaide street, was arrested by Plainclothesmen Sullivan and Knight. She is alleged to have sold two bottles to the police. Sullivan allowed the baby to spend the night with its mother. When the police arrested Mary Skibon, 34 Eastern avenue, she dressed her three small children and brought them along with her. After being registered at Court street station the mother demanded that all of the children remain with her. The sergeant on duty made arrangements for the women to keep their children in a large room on the floor above the cells.

WANT OF CAUTION LOST BOY'S LIFE

Running in front of a motor car on Jane street at 6.30 last evening, Clarence Dunn, aged 11 years, of 270 Windermere avenue, was run down and so badly injured that he died. The child was playing on the sidewalk, and without looking to see if the road was clear ran from the curbstone and was struck.

Gordon Beales, Brampton, driver of the automobile, reported to Cowan avenue police station and was not detained. The body of the child was removed to the morgue and an inquest will be held.

AMERICAN CLOTHIERS ENTER AGREEMENT

An agreement to last until June next has been reached between the Associated Clothiers of Toronto and the Amalgamated Clothiers of America. They agree to operate preferential union shops. Important clauses are included dealing with wages, in which a uniform scale is laid down. Provision is also made that the new scale of 50 per cent. becomes operative on September 1st, and the balance in November of this year.

RECRUITING RETURNS

Lieut. Atkins, adjutant of No. 2 military district recruiting depot, stated yesterday that since the establishment of the depot in April the following number of recruits had been obtained for the different regiments: R. C. D. 195, P. C. L. I. 83, L. S. H. 48, R. C. A. 230, R. C. R. 37, C. A. P. V. C. I. R. C. E. 4, R. C. G. A. 2, C. O. C. 27.

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"The city does not want to overlook the fact that before the war there were about five thousand houses vacant in Toronto and that the owners had paid taxes on these properties even when they were empty about half of the time. They will never get back the lost rent. The rentals now being collected just about give the owners a fair revenue from their investment and I mean by fair revenue, about six per cent."

Lack of Transportation.
Mr. Kerr says the crux of the housing situation is the lack of transportation facilities. He said that at one time he had plans prepared for \$40,000 worth of houses in North Toronto, but when he saw that the paving of Yonge street and provision for a pro-



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Niagara

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Returning boats leave Lewiston 10.30 a.m., 12.30 noon, 6.20 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Same as above, except that early boat leaves Toronto 8.15 a.m.

Hamilton

Steamers leave Toronto Saturday 8.15 a.m., 2.15 p.m., 6.45 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. Above are daylight saving times. (Hamilton time is one hour slower.)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Boat leaves Toronto at 9.30 a.m., 2.15 p.m., 7.15 p.m. Above are daylight saving times. (Hamilton time is one hour slower.) There is no more delightful short trip than the one to Hamilton. The service is so arranged that you may go at any time of the day that suits your convenience. You will find much to interest you in and about Hamilton—delightful beaches, good boating and bathing.

Grimsby

The finest beach on Lake Ontario—the ideal spot for a day's outing. Splendid facilities for picnic parties. Grimsby is just about two hours' sail from Toronto—a delightful trip with a real beauty-spot as your destination.

Saturday boats leave Toronto at 8 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Sunday boat leaves Toronto 10 a.m. Returning boat leaves Grimsby at 7.30 p.m.

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The River St. Lawrence is at its glorious best in August. Here, within a few hours by boat from Toronto, lies a vacation spot beyond compare—the Venice of America. A wonderful trip on palatial steamers. Boats leave Toronto for 1000 Islands, Rapids, Montreal, Quebec and the Saguenay daily at 3.30 p.m. Extra boat every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 5 p.m.

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EXHIBITION SOUVENIR EXPECTS RECORD SALE

The annual souvenir number of the Exhibition Illustrated was published yesterday, and contains several pictures of Canada's royal visitor. Numerous views of the buildings and grounds are included in the journal. A list of officers, directors and patrons, together with much information regarding events and attractions, are given. Apart from its value as a photographic record of this gala Exhibition, the Illustrated will doubtless make a record sale as a souvenir of the prince's visit.

Eight-Hour Schedule Begins In Toronto Street Railway

An 8-hour day is now in effect at Toronto trolley, and the T. S. R. The Dundas and Yorkville divisions have had the reduced schedule for some time. It is stated that approximately 150 motormen and conductors in addition to the pre-strike staff, have been engaged.

Judicial Probe on Monday Into Barton Road Matters

Hamilton, Ont., Aug. 22.—Announcement was made today that the judicial probe into the charges against Road Superintendent Taylor, of Barton, will open at the court house on Monday, with Judge Snider presiding. The case for the municipality will be in the hands of T. H. Simpson.

GENERAL ELECTION OR GENERAL STRIKE

Foreshadowed by British Union
Official as Result of Government Policy.

London, Aug. 22.—A general strike or a general election, but probably the latter, will be the result of the government's declaration against the nationalization of mines, according to a statement made today by Fred Bramley, parliamentary spokesman of the Trades Union Congress. Mr. Bramley added that the government's decision was in direct opposition to the policy of the Trades Union Congress, which supported the principle of nationalization of vital industries, and of general resources where monopoly exists.

RETURN OF TICKETS ISSUED VETERANS

Captain A. R. Donald of headquarters stated yesterday that tickets for the admittance of 25,000 veterans and relatives to the Exhibition grounds and grand stand for the parade to greet the Prince of Wales have been issued.

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This is the number given by the Exhibition commission for this purpose. No tickets were available yesterday, but Captain Donald stated that every day brings back a number of those sent out thru the men changing their addresses and for other reasons. Those eligible who wish to attend the parade and have not got tickets should keep in touch with Captain Donald.

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