

KING STREET STORE
For years occupied by W. H. Clubb,
King St. W. For rent from April 1st.
Give five year lease. Write
H. H. WILLIAMS & CO.
Realty Brokers - 26 Victoria

PROBS—Strong northwesterly winds; clearing
and colder; snow flurries.

ONTARIO MAY BECOME BIG "SILENT PARTNER" IN THE PUBLIC SERVICES

Powers of the Railway and Municipal Board to Be Widened, and New York State Affords a Fine Model Law.

ENSURES A SQUARE DEAL TO THE PEOPLE WHO PAY

When the Ontario Legislature passed the act constituting the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, it was because the Ontario Government meant business in dealing with popular rights as affected by corporation franchises. The act gave the board all the powers that appeared at the time to be necessary to give the board due authority, and to enable it to make its orders effective.

In one instance at least the board found that it was unable to enforce an order that was issued after careful study of the situation and consideration of the rights of all concerned. The order was not complied with, and that fact caused the board to take the case to the court.

It is not to be expected that the forthcoming legislative session will ignore this condition of affairs. The board was intended as an effective instrument for the work proposed.

The people anticipate that Hon. Mr. Whitney will make the powers of the board fully effective in all respects wherein they may be found wanting.

Not alone in Ontario has the experience of such boards in dealing with corporations been of an unsatisfactory character. Corporations recognize no amenities. They refuse to do anything that they are not compelled to do. They are not obedient to a compelling force. They are not animated by human motives, but only possess the brute instinct of self-preservation.

A New York Model.
In New York State this has been recognized in the last year in a very real and effective way. Corporations in their rough animal fashion, governed only by elemental instincts, trod over everything that came in their way without showing their grasping desire. People suffered dumbly for years, but the oppression became so unbearable and tyrannical that the time had come to chain and muzzle the corporations.

As a member of the commission for the second district recently gave "The very clear idea of the development and working of the board. It is written by Isaac F. Marquess, and we have drawn upon it in the following:

How It Came About.
Charles E. Hughes, now governor of New York, had investigated the gas companies, had stirred up the public scandal, had personally examined the Brooklyn bridge scramble of a quarter of a million people, and he was not satisfied with the results of the people's needs, saw the remedy. His first message as governor of the state contained his recommendations. The threefold boards were to be abolished and a public service commission substituted with the following powers:

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Protecting the People.

New York State has a public service commission, which is accomplishing wonders for the people of that state. The powers and duties of the commission, summed up, are:

1. The regulation and control of all common carriers, gas and electric lighting companies and express companies doing business in New York State.
2. Fixing rates for the transportation of freight and passengers, and for gas and electric service.
3. The safeguarding of public life and limb, and the protection of public interests in the operation of all public service corporations.
4. The prevention of unlawful mergers of corporations at the expense of the people.
5. The supervision of traffic and the laying out and building of new transit facilities in New York City.
6. The investigation and regulation of all new securities (stocks and bonds) issued by public service corporations and railroads.

commission organized bureaus of traffic, of gas and electricity, and in the case of Thomas David, accused of the murder of his wife last summer, after they had quarrelled at McAdam Junction, brought in the verdict of guilty of manslaughter in the lowest form, with a strong recommendation to mercy. He will be sentenced Monday. The prisoner showed no concern. It was proved during the trial that David was subject to fits of insanity and that he and his bar had lived an unhappy life.

Investigate All Complaints.
No complaint from a citizen is too small to receive prompt attention and investigation. Habitually blocked railroads, or annoyance from unnecessary noise from trains are just as thoroughly inquired into as are complaints affecting the entire management of the railway system.

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16 CHILDREN TRAPPED TO DEATH

Forty Others Injured in Panic in Public Hall at Barns- ley, Eng- land.

BARNESLEY, England, Jan. 11.—Sixteen children were trampled to death, and forty others, several of whom cannot live, were injured in a mad rush for better seats at an entertainment given in the public hall here Saturday afternoon.

There was a great crush to secure admittance to the entertainment, and when the show opened every seat was taken and the gallery was literally packed with children. Some of the children were fighting to reach the staircases, joined in the stampede.

With a view to relieving this crowding in the gallery, the attendants decided to transfer some of the children to the body of the house, and one by one they called out "Some of you children come downstairs."

Immediately the rush started, and within a few seconds hundreds of children were being trampled under foot. Even those who had seats in the gallery, doubtless being panic-stricken by the screams and struggles of the crowd fighting to reach the staircases, joined in the stampede.

The scene was a terrible one, the cries of the injured and the moans of the dying causing the greatest excitement among those gathered in the body of the hall.

Police and ushers rushed to the head of the staircase, which was literally strewn with dead and dying, and by the most desperate efforts managed to drag most of the children to the safety of the corridors below. It was with the greatest difficulty that a panic among the children was averted, all of those eventually being taken to the streets in safety.

When the reserve police arrived they found the narrow staircase practically blocked by bodies, which were crushed and trampled to death, and many of the injured children were found later to be suffering from fractured bones and severe lacerations, in which they had been trampled upon.

Three Large Meetings Decide to
Go Into Competition With the
Butchers Who Have Raised
Prices.

"We will boycott the butchers and start shops of our own."
Translated that into Yiddish and you have the battle cry which is now arousing the enthusiasm of thousands of the Jews in this city. The "strike" against the Jewish butchers is stronger than ever, and yesterday a big step was taken when three largely attended meetings decided to establish new butcher shops on the co-operative plan.

The plan is to establish four stores on Centre-street, Chestnut, York and Elizabeth-streets. The capital is to be raised among the consumers at \$5 a share, no one being allowed to subscribe for more than three shares in order that there may be a perfect equality amongst all interested, and that no person or clique may secure a controlling interest.

Practically the same plan was adopted at the three separate meetings. Each meeting appointed a committee to work out the scheme, and the committees will unite and meet together every night this week to get the enterprise under way. By to-night it will have about \$5000 cash in hand with which to begin operations.

One meeting was held in the University-avenue Synagogue. Mr. E. Pullan was chairman, and about five hundred were present, including a number of women. The meeting represented the well-to-do members of the Jewish community, and the present agitation practically all the orthodox Jews are united. There 300 shares were subscribed for and \$1500 collected in cash. The balance will be paid by to-night.

Mr. E. Pullan was appointed chairman of the committee; Mr. H. Papernick, treasurer; Mr. N. Lewis, secretary, and Mr. J. S. Granatstein, assistant secretary.

Subscriptions Received.
The meeting in the Shaarey Tzedek Synagogue on Centre-street was made up chiefly of working people. It was no less enthusiastic, and unanimous, however. Mr. Max Rothman presided, and several speakers who discussed the various grievances against the butchers were loudly applauded. A committee was appointed with instructions to get to work at once. Sub-dollar shares, the terms being one dollar down and the balance in six months.

A third meeting was held in the evening in the synagogue at 17 Elm-street. Mr. Granatstein was the chairman. Mr. H. Papernick was appointed secretary. After a thorough discussion it was decided to unite with the committees already appointed in the afternoon, and subscriptions were received for 150 shares.

The grievances against the butchers are numerous, but the greatest complaint is in regard to the price. The twenty-four Jewish butchers who are united in an association, of which Mr. Mayer Goldfarb is president, have all raised the scale of prices from 10 and 12 cents a pound to 10, 12 and 14 cents.

Francis E. Dagger Makes Serious
Assertion in Letter to Win-
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WINNIPEG, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Francis E. Dagger, who was the expert in charge of the campaign for public ownership of telephones in Manitoba a year ago, and is now engaged as telephone expert of the Saskatchewan Government installing a system here, Manitoba, has written a letter to the Winnipeg Tribune, in which he charges that the Manitoba Government has paid for the Bell system a million dollars more than it is worth.

He says: "I would ask the people of Manitoba a straight question: 'Are you willing to make the Bell Telephone Company a present of a cool million dollars over and above the actual value of its plant for the privilege of allowing your government to furnish you with the same service at the same rates?'"

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DETERMINED TO SLIDE.



LITTLE LIBBY: Well, if they won't let me have a slide on this side the fence, I'll go and slide with Conny on his side.

JEWIS FREELY SUBSCRIBE FOR CO-OPERATIVE STORES

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"Maltese Cross" Rubbers

Twenty Years FOR JOSEPH ASHWORTH

Made Murderous At- tack on His Wife --Man a Low Type Immigrant.

CORNWALL, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Joseph Ashworth, aged 60 years, was sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary by Justice Anglin at the close of the assizes here on Saturday. The crime of which Ashworth was found guilty was an attempt to murder his wife on Dec. 23, when he chased her from the house with stove shaker, knocked her down and when she had wrested the poker from him slashed her with his pocket knife. Ashworth is a small man, and his wife struggled desperately to save her throat. In so doing her face was slashed, and her fingers so incriminated that one of them had to be amputated. The interference of two little children and the arrival of passers by saved the woman's life.

Ashworth, going into the box on his own behalf, claimed to have no recollection of the assault after his wife had "sensed" him.

Dr. Bruce Smith of Toronto, inspector of prisons and asylums, who was called as an expert, said that he had examined Ashworth, and considered him sane and responsible for his actions. He was, however, one of the low type of emigrants, many of whom were finding their way into the province, and public charities of Canada. The jury were out only a short time, and returned a verdict of "guilty."

When asked if he had anything to say before sentence was passed, Ashworth mumbled a request for mercy in his old age. He seemed dazed by the heavy sentence, and in conjunction with the King v. Eamer, was a very expensive bit of litigation growing out of the alleged theft of a couple of old horse blankets. Romberg's blankets were stolen and he claimed to have recognized it in Eamer's stable. Afterwards the blankets were found in Eamer's barn. Eamer was acquitted, and Ashworth was sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary. The total expense will be over \$1500.

THE LAW RELENTLESS.
Man at Funeral Arrested for Theft of
\$150 Seven Years Ago.

Charged with stealing \$150 from the City Dairy Co., while a driver in their employ seven years ago, Richard Schiller, aged 24, of 107 Hubbard-street, was arrested Saturday night on the old warrant.

Schiller had come to Toronto to attend his brother's funeral. When the alleged offence took place, it is said his mother offered to pay what the company claimed was a shortage in his account. This was refused and before the warrant was served the boy—then he was 17—had left the country.

Exiled from home and friends, his first return to the city so many years ago, he had no relatives to turn to, and his brother, who was not notified, and the young fellow was locked up in No. 3 station to appear before the magistrate to-day.

MULAI HAFID SULTAN.
Couriers Despatched to Summon Him
to Fez.

TANGIER, Jan. 11.—Further advices received here from Fez state that Mulai Hafid was proclaimed sultan, on condition that he abolish taxation, make an alliance with the Sultan of Turkey and suppress all relations with Europeans except those "prescribed by custom and rules."

Couriers have been despatched to Morocco City to summon Mulai Hafid to Fez. That city is reported to be in an uproar. The residents are armed and are fearful lest outbreaks of pillage or a massacre occur.

LEMIEUX'S REPORT.
Ready for Presentation to Parliament
Tuesday.

OTTAWA, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—It is expected that Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux's report of his mission to Japan, to secure a better understanding on the question of Japanese immigration to this country will be ready for presentation to parliament on Tuesday.

The cabinet occupied Saturday afternoon in discussing the question, and it was stated to-day by a man of authority that the future action of the government has not been determined.

HITCH IN TIMES' SALE.
LONDON, Jan. 12.—It is stated that Messrs. Higgs is threatened in connection with the sale of The London Times, to which many of those having financial interests in the paper are strongly opposed.

Godrich Organist Dies.
GODRICH, Jan. 12.—W. H. Cuff, who has been organist for a number of years of St. George's English Church, died this morning.

DR. MCKAY RETIRES.
INGERSOLL, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Dr. McKay, nominated as Liberal candidate for the legislature in South Oxford, has withdrawn. He says it is for business reasons only.

DEATH OF ST. JOHN.
ST. JOHN, N. B., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—G. V. McInerney, K.C., ex-M.P., died to-day, after a prolonged illness, from heart disease, aged 60.

ARRESTED FOR FORGERY.
Alfred Evans, Publisher, of This City,
Taken in at Hamilton.

Alfred Evans, alias Wesson, 29 years publisher of The White Flyer, an eccentric journal with offices in the Dineen Building, was arrested in the Merchants' Bank at Hamilton while attempting to utter a cheque for \$450, to which he is charged with forging the name of W. and D. Dineen & Co., Toronto.

Other charges, including the passing of a forged cheque for a large amount on a Hamilton bank, will likely be laid. Upon him when arrested were found cheques on the Home Bank at Hamilton for \$250 and cheques upon the Dominion Bank at Hamilton for \$200, \$350 and \$450.

Death of Francis Winton.
PITTSBURGH, Pa., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Francis Winton, former minister of finance for Newfoundland, once partner of Horace Greeley on the Tribune, died here to-day within two days of his wife's death.

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Continued on Page 7.