

**HOUSING PROBLEM  
IS BEING SOLVED**

Relief at Last is in Sight From  
High Rent Prob-  
lem.

**MODEL HOUSES READY**

Demands for Accommodation  
Are Too Numerous to  
Provide for All.

Of the many things in Toronto crying loudly for solution, that of the housing problem is perhaps the most glaring and the most omnipresent, for it is everywhere, and an every hand answer is being demanded. The present high cost of living is the menace and scourge of our city. It is known and acknowledged that nowhere on the continent, not even excepting New York, Chicago or Washington, is living more costly than in our own beautiful Queen City.

House accommodations are included in and is a small part of living. The question of housing is therefore one that concerns every member of the community. To live decently, in comfort and at a rental that will not eat into the better part of the income of a man or woman, is something which during the past ten years many thousands have not been able to comply.

Relief, however, seems at last in sight. It is not yet sufficiently comprehensive to take in all whom it would like to assist, but if plans are at present outlined so liberally, there is no doubt but that a very short time will see that long-felt want—small, well-equipped dwellings at moderate rates—by no means uncommon feature of our city life. The Toronto Housing Company has been working for some time quietly but intelligently and enthusiastically, and now its first development is about completed and open for the inspection of all who are interested in the matter.

The first production of the company has been designated Spruce Court, and is situated on Spruce Street, north of the old General Hospital. As the name implies, the houses are built in the old English fashion of a semi-detached row. Some of the buildings are for single families, others are apartment houses, but always so planned that every family is entirely independent of every other, separate equipment being provided in every case for the tenants.

Thirty-eight houses are now receiving finishing touches and more applications can be filled are already in from would-be renters. The interior will be so planned and will form the recreation centre for the children of the occupants. This at the onset solves one problem, that of keeping the little ones off the street.

The houses are of brick, every one with a veranda and basement cellar. Every apartment, whether of three, four, five or six rooms, has a kitchen or kitchenette, bathroom, range, laundry tubs, hot and cold water, all the year round, electric fixtures, blinds and heating included in the rental.

Prices of one or two will be sufficient to illustrate the value of the company's offering to the public. A six-roomed house is renting at \$25.00, and a two-roomed apartment—living room, bedroom, kitchen, alcove, bathroom, veranda and the further equipment already quoted, rents at the astonishingly low rate of \$12 per month.

One hundred other apartments and houses are in course of construction on Balm street and before long they, too, will be ready for occupancy.

**Women Stockholders.**  
The work is in the hands of competent business men, who are making use of the best of what they have studied from the experiences of other cities along the same line. Among the stockholders are the names of men who are naturally interested in all that concerns the home and who are more than pleased at the labor-saving devices and apparatus which will hasten the construction of this latest development in home construction.

The company has municipal backing, and the support of those who have made the financial end of the concern their particular study have figured out that at the end of the year the property will be entirely paid for and stand free from encumbrance.

There seems no doubt but when sufficient headway has been made in the work of the company on a scale large enough to impress itself upon the city that it will be recognized as one of the most important and radical turnovers in the real estate line that has yet visited the city. The expansion of the Housing Company's work will be epoch-making for Toronto, and will prove the first milestone set up against the present intolerable and high-priced housing system.

**OPPOSES GRANT OF  
BALLOT TO WOMEN**  
Mrs. A. J. George Will Speak  
Next Monday at Margaret  
Eaton Hall.

Mrs. A. J. George of the Massachusetts association opposed to the further extension of suffrage to women, who is to speak in the Margaret Eaton Hall, next Monday evening, is a native of Massachusetts, a graduate of Wellesley College, and has been identified for many years with educational and sociological interests. Having made a special study of the laws affecting the welfare of women and children, she draws upon a storehouse of accurate knowledge of facts.

**A Brilliant Speaker.**  
Mrs. George is acknowledged, even by those who oppose her, as a brilliant and forceful speaker, and her work against woman suffrage, both through her personal influence and by her speeches, has made her one of the most prominent leaders on her side of the question.

Furnace refuse from ocean steamers is now discharged from an opening below the water line.

Metal shavings and cuttings are now pressed into brick form and made use of in iron smelting.

It is said that documents and newspapers may be preserved indefinitely in a vacuum.

**ENEMY FAILED TO  
CAPTURE THE CITY**

Sham Attack on St. Catharines  
Yesterday Proved to Be  
Unsuccessful.

**HISTORIC BATTLEFIELD**

Capt. Darrell of Toronto Led  
Besieging Forces—Victory  
for Reds.

ST. CATHARINES, Oct. 20.—(Special.)—Major Gordon Hall of London, umpire-in-chief of the sham fight which took place this morning on the escarpment near Thorold, overlooking St. Catharines, decided that the attacking force, under command of Capt. Darrell of Toronto and consisting of two guns of the 7th Field Battery and detachments of the R.C.R. and the Royal Canadian Regiment of Toronto, had failed in their attempt to capture St. Catharines and exhort money and supplies.

**Captured the Guns.**  
The defending, or red force, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Burleigh of St. Catharines, consisted of two troops of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, two guns of the 7th Battery, the 18th Regiment of St. Catharines, the 88th Dufferin Rifles of Brantford and one company of the 44th Regiment of Niagara Falls. The dragoons of the red force by a rapid movement captured the guns of the mountain top and silenced them at the outset. After a rally the approaching enemy made a counter-attack, but this was repulsed by the Brantford Regiment, which had just arrived on the scene.

**The Various Umpires.**  
Lieut.-Col. E. E. W. Moore of Hamilton was director of operations. The umpires with the various forces were: Major Thorne, Mississauga; Horse, Toronto; Lieut.-Col. E. H. Ridley, St. Catharines; Capt. J. O. Merritt, Capt. Vancluse, 4th Battalion Leinster Regiment, Ireland, and Capt. Van der Vorst, Niagara Falls.

**Afternoon Parade.**  
The various corps that were engaged in the sham fight proceeded to St. Catharines in the afternoon and participated in a parade, at the conclusion of which the Brantford regiment were obliged to hurry to their quarters to change an entertainment which had been arranged for them.

**Scene of the Fight.**  
The scene of the fight, which was the battlefield of Beaverdam of 100 years ago, was decidedly mussy after an all-night rain. Although the mountain was scaled no accident occurred.

**PHONE RECEIVER  
BRIDAL WREATH**

"Hello" Girl Answered All  
Calls During Her Marriage  
Ceremony.

EATON, Col.—With business too pressing at the time to permit of a church wedding, Miss Alta F. Gum, in charge of the telephone exchange here, was married to H. B. Mick, while wearing the red velvet and with the transmitter in one hand. Twice during the ceremony she stopped the officiating clergyman to answer the continually low rate of \$12 per month.

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**ALBERTA ALREADY  
HAS SINGLE TAX**

Modified Form of Henry  
George's System Obtained  
in Western Province.

**NEW LAW IS PLANNED**

By Which Uneared Incre-  
ment Will Be Subject to  
Direct Taxation.

EDMONTON, Alta., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—Direct taxation upon the unearned increments of the province is now legislation planned by Hon. Arthur L. Sifton, premier of Alberta. The bill, which has been discussed at length by members of the government at cabinet meetings here, is expected to be introduced at the present session of the provincial legislature, and it is expected the measure will receive a ready reception.

The land question in Alberta, which has a surface area of 255,288 square miles, is not yet the chief problem, but many believe the time is rapidly approaching when the government will have to adopt the attitude that some of the increment, now being transferred to private pockets by speculators, rightfully belongs to the province.

Alberta already has the single tax in modified form and some of the cities also own and operate their public utilities, in which more than \$100,000,000 of the people's money is invested.

**OIL SUPPLY FOUND  
IN NORTH ALBERTA**

Athabasca River Will Yield  
Quantities, Say Experts—  
Gasoline Runs High.

EDMONTON, Alta., Oct. 20.—George H. Craig and V. C. McElroy, who have just returned to Edmonton from Fort McMurray, Alta., report that drillers working under the direction of Homer Bradley, an expert from California, struck a large flow of oil at a depth of 800 feet on the Athabasca River, 390 miles north of here. The oil, which is heavy, was brought to the surface by pumping.

James D. Tait, who has had wide experience in Texas, California and other states, believes the lighter oils will be found by boring farther back from the river.

Several oil outfits, including one owned by the federal government, have been at work on the Athabasca River during the last three years, and frequent indications of oil have been discovered, but the flow mentioned in the foregoing is declared to be the lightest and most valuable for commercial purposes yet found in the district. Drilling tests show it contains a high percentage of gasoline.

**MOVING PICTURES  
SHOWN ON SUNDAY**

Are Legal in Alberta if Col-  
lection Plate Replaces  
Door Charge.

**SUPREME COURT RULE**

Reverses Decision by Which  
Theatre Proprietors Were  
Fined Forty Dollars.

EDMONTON, Alta., Oct. 20.—Operation of moving picture theatres on Sundays, by placing collection plates at the doors in lieu of selling regular admission tickets, was held to be admissible in the case of the Grand Theatre, indirectly, of the Lord's Act in Alberta, according to a majority judgment handed down by the supreme court of the province sitting in Edmonton.

The ruling followed certiorari proceedings in the case of Grand Theatre, an American, who with three other theatre owners in Edmonton, was fined \$40 and costs by Inspector Raven in the municipal court on the charge of opening their houses on Sunday.

The ruling touched numerous points, one being that the flat was not issued by the attorney-general of the province, and that the fine was not a penalty, but a higher court, but that another line may be adopted by the crown to enforce the law.

**GETS \$37,000 LATER FOR  
HER BISCUIT AND COFFEE**

Servant More Sympathetic Than Master  
Is Rewarded in Later Years.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Oct. 20.—A \$37,000 reward for giving a cold biscuit and cup of coffee to a man who appeared to be a tramp in 1886 has been bestowed upon Mrs. Mattie Hannum, in the final settlement of the Marshall-McMurray estate. Mrs. Hannum was paid \$37,000 in gold and received a deed to the property valued at \$10,000.

Years ago Mrs. Hannum, who lives in Vincennes, was Mattie Drain, a servant girl, 19. One day McMurray, who was a wanderer, called at a house where the Drain girl worked and asked for something to eat. The man of the house ordered McMurray away, saying he did not make a practice of feeding tramps.

Miss Drain, however, took pity on the man and fed him. This so impressed the man that he went to a nearby house and handed in a piece of paper on which he had written something, with the request that if he were given to the Drain girl, she should be given to him.

Twenty-four years later McMurray, who had become an eccentric poet and miser, was found demented in a shack on the Springfield road near this city, and died in a few days. Under the floor of his house was found gold and silver amounting to over \$50,000.

**SIX YEAR OLD BOY  
BURNED BY GASOLINE**  
Charlie Bloxon of Earls Court Had  
Clothing Afire and May  
Not Recover.

Terribly burned around the face, head, arms, and all down the left side of his body, six-year-old Charlie Bloxon of 245 Earls Court avenue was conveyed to the hospital for St. Michael's in a motor car in a serious condition yesterday afternoon. The child was standing near the stove when gasoline was poured in to keep it alight, and his clothing caught fire.

It is reported at the hospital that there is some hope for his recovery.

**YORK COUNTY ...AND...  
SUBURBS****PLAINTIFF'S HEART  
TORN TO RIBBONS**

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ant's Counsel—A. V. New-  
ton for Plaintiff.

**BEFORE JUDGE WALTON**

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Stoops to Folly and Finds  
That Men Betray."

A base trifler with feminine affections may be brought to bay tomorrow night at Aurora, in spite of T. H. Lennox, K.C., who is counsel for the defendant.

The heart of the plaintiff has been ripped to ribbons and all her tender tendencies have been trodden under foot.

There is a possibility, of course, that Mr. Lennox may win the case by sheer forensic ability, but the whole province shudders to contemplate such a vile catastrophe.

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