WELLS HILL RESIDENCE—Corner house. Nicely wooded lot. 10 rooms, tiled bathroom and vestibule. Hand painted decorations. Centre hall plan. Extra well built. Price $1512.
TANNER & GATES, Realty Brokers, Tanner-Gates Building, 26-28 Adelaide Street West. Main 5893

The Toronto World

LAND SPECIAL—Corner of Small Street and Bowmore Road, 100x100. $30 per foot. $500 Cash. All improvements going in.
TANNER & GATES, Realty Brokers, Tanner-Gates Building, 26-28 Adelaide Street West. Main 5893

PROBS— Northerly winds; fair and cold, but some local snowflurries.

FOURTEEN PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING MARCH 20 1914—FOURTEEN PAGES

VOL. XXXIV.—No. 12,182

Senate Reading Rooms

WOODBINE HOTEL WAS NOT FIREPROOF AND WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE

Fifty Drowned — Crisis in Ulster — Bostock Leads Senate — Mexican Negotiations—Provincial Finances

BOWMAN CHARGES THAT SYSTEM IS POOR

Liberal Whip in Legislature Claimed That Finances Were Not Being Handled Honestly or Fairly, But His Motion Was Defeated by Forty-Three.

A flash of personalities again stirred the legislature into excitement yesterday afternoon, and spirits were keyed up to a high pitch for a few moments in the expectation of a hard-fought duel across the floor. A charge coming from C. M. Bowman, the Liberal whip, to the effect that the provincial finances were not being honestly or fairly handled by the provincial treasurer laid the fuse. In a carefully laid out address he made the allegation that the government of Ontario was not following the rules of administration which any business management demanded. The statements laid before the members in character resembled those which would render the holder of a public trust liable for criminal action. To this the provincial treasurer responded in vehement fashion. With outstretched finger and ringing tones he called the attention of the house to the character of the man who had criticized. Who was this man with such a record behind him, both in and out of the house, and with notorious relations with parties at Ottawa, who would come out to castigate a government on a matter of honesty? The minister would challenge any man to hint that money had ever come into his own pocket illegitimately thru his connection with the government.

The debate was then taken up, and after vigorous speeches by Mr. Rowell and Hon. W. H. Hearst, dragged its weary length along into the evening session. On the calling of the yeas and nays Mr. Bowman's motion was lost with the figures standing at 59 to 16.

(Continued on Page 3, Column 4.)

STILL THEY COME.

Another big shipment of spring hats for men arrived in the city yesterday for the Dineen Company and contained the very latest designs by all the big makers, including those of Christy & Co., London, Eng., and the princely blocks of Henry Heath of the same place. Get a good hat if you buy one at all. They cost no more than the one with an unknown label on the band. See the window display. W. & D. Dineen Co., 140 Yonge street, corner Temperance.

Bostock Is Chosen Leader Of Liberals in the Senate

Party Caucus Names Wealthy British Columbia Rancher as Successor to Late Sir George Ross—Came to Canada From England as a Young Barrister.

(By a Staff Reporter).

OTTAWA, March 19.—Hon. Hewitt Bostock was elected Liberal leader of the senate at a caucus of Liberal senators today. He succeeds the late Sir George Ross.

Senator Bostock is an Englishman, a graduate of Cambridge, and a Lincoln's Inn barrister, who came to Canada in 1893, settling in British Columbia as a rancher and fruit grower. He is 49 years of age and is possessed of considerable means.

He was only three years in the country when he was elected to parliament in 1896 for Yale-Caribou in the Liberal interest. He was appointed to the senate in 1904. He resides on his ranch at Monte Creek, B.C.

TORPEDO BOAT SUNK STEAMER FIFTY PERSONS WERE DROWNED

Many Women and Children Perished in Disaster in Lagoon of Venice — Passenger Boat Sank Almost Immediately When Stern Was Ripped.

Canadian Press Despatch.

VENICE, March 19.—A torpedo boat today cut down a small passenger steamer which plies between Venice and Lido, a chain of sandy islands separating the Lagoon of Venice from the Adriatic, and 50 persons were drowned. The sharp nose of the torpedo boat went thru the stern of the steamer, which sank almost immediately. The victims included many women and children.

Fifteen persons who were on deck at the time were saved by the crew of the torpedo boat. The others were caught in the cabin and were carried down with the wreck. The Italian sailors dived many times in an effort to rescue those who sank with the steamer, but without avail.

Intense excitement prevails here, not only because of the extent of the disaster, but because the names of the victims are not yet known.

PETERBORO MAN WAS AMONG THREE DETROIT FIRE VICTIMS

Canadian Press Despatch.

DETROIT, Mich., March 19.—Two bodies have been recovered and a third body is believed to be in the ruins of a five-storey brick building at 55-57 Woodbridge street, which was swept by fire this afternoon. Two men were injured and two score of employes, including a number of young women, escaped from the burning building. The property loss was estimated at $100,000.

The known dead are:

Walter Libbey, Peterboro, Ont.

John Law, Newark, N.J.

Both men were employed by Wilson and Sharp, who operated a machine shop on the fifth floor. Both bodies were badly burned. A man named Todd, who worked for the same company, is missing.

The cause of the fire has not been determined.

THE SQUIRE'S BLUFF

ULSTER UPRISING IS REPORTED IMMINENT

British Government Said to Be Preparing for Military Occupation — Carson Hurried to Belfast Last Night in Effort to Hold Followers in Check.

Canadian Press Despatch.

LONDON, March 20.—Grave events are impending in Ulster, according to the Unionist newspapers, and a rumor is current that the government is preparing for the military occupation of the province. There are various indications that a crisis has been reached.

The vote of censure on the British Government, which was moved in the house of commons yesterday by Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition, was rejected by 345 to 252. Arthur J. Balfour, summoned by Mr. Bonar Law, made a hurried return from the Riviera, and arrived in time to participate in the division.

There were reports also of the threatened arrest of Sir Edward Carson and other leaders of the Ulster Unionists, but it was officially declared that there was no truth in the statement that warrants had been signed for such arrests. Sir Edward Carson, however, made a dramatic exit from the house before the debate was concluded to catch a train for Belfast.

Outbreak is Imminent.

Austen Chamberlain declared last night that Sir Edward had been called away in response to sudden developments in Ireland. Other Unionists asserted that the Ulstermen can no longer be restrained from an outbreak, and that Sir Edward's mission is to endeavor to hold them in check.

The Daily Telegraph's lobbyist says: "Unless all omens are false, blood will be spilt in Ulster before the house of commons sees Sir Edward Carson again."

The Marquis of Londonderry and other prominent Ulsterites are now on their way to Belfast, and their action is regarded as a challenge to the government, if, as asserted, any intention exists to issue warrants for their arrest.

The view of both Liberal and Unionist morning papers is that after yesterday's debate all chances of settlement by consent are ended, and the home rule bill will be passed in its original form.

It is said that the government has assured the Nationalist leaders that Mr. Bonar Law's referendum offer will not be accepted.

AN EMERGENCY COUNCIL.

BELFAST, March 19.—An emergency force of picked men from the Ulster Volunteers was hastily summoned to headquarters tonight. The motive for the sudden call has been kept secret, but rumors persist of military action on the part of the government and projected arrests.

CANADA'S TRADE FORGING AHEAD

Well Over Billion Mark for Eleven Months Despite "Hard Times" Talk.

By a Staff Reporter.

OTTAWA, March 19.—Despite the cry of hard times, the returns of Canadian trade for the 11 months of the fiscal year ending Feb. 28 last, show that Canada is in a very prosperous condition. The total Canadian trade for that period topped the billion mark; the exact figures being $1,019,883,000. For the corresponding period of the last fiscal year the total Canadian trade was $962,511,000.

This was the principal feature of the statement issued by the Hon. J. D. Reid, minister of customs. Exports of domestic goods for the 11 months of the present fiscal year were $404,887,000, and the imports for the corresponding period were $565,227,000. For the month of February, just closed, Canadian exports totaled $26,554,000. Of this $4,674,000 was manufactured goods, compared with $2,950,000 for February of last year.

The exports of agricultural products were $5,058,000, compared with $7,545,000 for the month of February, 1913. Animals and their produce exports for February last were $3,427,000 compared with $2,861,000 for February, 1913. Domestic exports for the 11 months of 1913 were $320,879,000, compared with $404,887,000 for that term of the present fiscal year, which is a very substantial increase.

Youngest of Frohman's Stars.

Julia Sanderson, who will be seen here next week at the Princess Theatre in the successful musical comedy, "The Sunshine Girl," is the youngest and most beautiful of the galaxy of stars under the management of Charles Frohman.

WOODBINE HOTEL NOT FIREPROOF AND HAD ONLY TWO FIRE ESCAPES NO ROPES IN ANY OF THE ROOMS

City Architect's Department Knew of No Certificate Being Issued by License Commission, Altho Inspector Burrows Went Over the Building Permit Issued Two Months After New Bylaw Was Passed by City Council

PATENTED FIREPROOFING MATERIAL BURNED WHEN MATCH WAS APPLIED

At the re-opened city architect's investigation last night it was very plain that fire protection at the Woodbine Hotel was not as it should have been. There were not the proper facilities for guests to escape from the fire, and the building was far from fire-proof.

Here are some of the disclosures given in evidence:

Fire escapes—There were only two fire escapes in the hotel, one on King street and one above the lane to the west of the annex. Only two rooms on each floor opened onto the latter. There were no fire ropes in the other rooms as regulations demand in hotels.

BUILDING WAS NOT FIREPROOF.

The present city bylaw requires all such buildings above 35 feet in height to be fireproof. This came into force on April 1, 1913. Application for construction of the Woodbine annex was made on June 5, and a permit granted Oct. 16, 1913. The building was at least 42 feet in height. Still further, it was admitted the building was not fireproof, and i was not intended to be.

Neither the builders, Merrs. Horne and Herbrt, or Mr. Pric, city architect, could swear that when the application went before the board of control more confirmation with the health department's regulations was mentioned and ordered. They could not remember if fire regulations were mentioned.

The Ontario act governing such buildings demands an inspection of the hotels by the license commission and issuance of a certificate. Nothing was known of such a certificate being given the Woodbine. Inspector Burrows had gone over the hotel, but there was no evidence that he had given a certificate.

JUDGE DENTON WILL SAY SOMETHING.

At the conclusion of this submission of this and other evidence by Eric Armour, Judge Denton gave utterance to these significant statements: "I have already formed my opinion of this whole transaction so far as the architect's department is concerned and I will express myself at the proper time. For the present, of course, I will say nothing."

During the investigation last night the judge's attitude seemed on very averse to the action of the architect's department.

City Architect Price, on the stand, said the only technical matter taken up when he went before the board of control was that of bathrooms without outside windows. This came up because of the medical health department's objections to the first plans. Replying to Mr. Armour's question, "What class of construction was the Woodbine annex?" he said it was of substantial brick walls with wood joist, lath and plaster, and in some cases the city architect required placing of steel beams. The bedrooms were divided by wooden two by four inch studding. The building had a cross fire wall thru the centre from north to south from roof to basement. There were no fireproof walls between the bedrooms. The joists were covered with lath and plaster and with a patented wall covering. Mr. Armour had some wall covering taken from the front part of the hotel. Some one told him the material was fireproof, but in court he touched a match to it and it burned easily.

Fire Escapes.

Mr. Armour: "Were there any fire escapes at the rear, the Pearl street end?"

Mr. Horn: "No, because of the elevator there. There was an escape into the lane to the west and one into King street. To reach the lane escape you would have to go thru a bedroom. There was an exit light above the door."

Judge Denton: "And since that room was used an ordinary man would have the door locked."

Mr. Horn: "It would be quite easy to force it. It was practically impossible to have more."

Mr. Armour: "But you could have had one on Pearl street?"

Mr. Horn: "The fire chief wouldn't let us. We asked the underwriters to recommend us the best protection."

Mr. Armour: "Were there fire escape ropes in each room?" Would you call it a fireproof building?"

Mr. Horne: "No, there was no attempt at that. Fire Chief Thompson went over the building and there were stand pipes and fire hose. The building was inspected every hour each night."

Fred Herbert, architect for the annex, was called.

Wooden Construction.

Mr. Armour: "What construction was the building?"

Mr. Herbert: "It was partly of mill construction. The brick work was solid and thick and the posts and beams heavy. All were wood and the floors were to carry two hundred pounds per square foot."

"It had a fire before this?

"I believe so."

Mr. Herbert stated the building was not what was termed first-class construction by the bylaw. This building would be first-class under the old bylaw, previous to April 1, 1913.

Mr. Armour pointed out a first-class building was the same under the old and new bylaw, except regarding height. The new law said buildings over 35 feet high must be fireproof. This was 42 feet high at least.

Herbert said, in asking for a permit fireproofing was not mentioned. "The department couldn't make us have it so."

Quoted the Bylaw.

Then Mr. Armour quoted from the 1913 bylaw, now in force, to show the annex should have been fireproof. From section 3, under the head "Requirements as to Style of Building": "All buildings exceeding 35 feet in height, and intended to be used as an apartment house, tenement, lodging house, hotel, college dormitory, hospital or asylum, or an institution for the care or treatment of persons, and all

(Continued on Page 7, Column 5.)

OPENING HIGH PARK GATES

The Duke of Connaught delivering an address at the opening of the Howard memorial gates yesterday afternoon.

WILSON WOULD AID RAILROADS

President Willing to Extend Legitimate Assistance — Rate Increase is Big Factor.

Canadian Press Despatch.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—President Wilson today manifested his deep interest in the financial condition of the railroads of the country, expressing a desire to help in every legitimate way to bring them relief. The president had been asked by callers if he had heard any particular complaints from the railroads about their financial condition, and remarked that he had heard what everybody was discussing—the uncertainty of their position. He let it be known that the government was giving consideration to the general facts of the continued increase in operating expenses with the decrease in net revenues.

The president made it clear that the question of proposed increase in freight rates was "the big thing" in the situation, but did not express any opinion on the merits of the increase. No legislative action to afford relief to the railroads had been suggested to the president, according to his talks with callers.

MARTIN'S SLAYER TOLD OF CRIME

Toronto Man Strangled Accidentally, Said Schaeffer, Who Prefers Electrocution to Jail.

Canadian Press Despatch.

NEW YORK, March 19.—"I would rather go to the electric chair than spend twenty years in prison," said 19-year-old Harry Schaeffer to his parents in the supreme court today when they urged him to plead guilty in the second degree at his trial on the charge of first degree murder for the killing of William G. Martin, a Toronto, Ont., milliner, last August. Taking the stand in his own defence, Schaeffer told how he and another man wrapped a towel around Martin's neck so tightly that death resulted after Martin had been lured to a west side flat.

Schaeffer said he and his companion, who is a fugitive, had not intended to kill Martin, but merely to quiet him until they could rob him.

The case will go to the jury tomorrow.

HUERTA INVITED TO NEGOTIATE FOR TERMS

United States Will Welcome Overtures From Either Faction in Mexico, is Intimation Given Out Informally by President Wilson in the Cause of Peace.

Canadian Press Despatch.

WASHINGTON, March 19. — The United States Government will welcome a reopening of negotiations with the Huerta Government or the constitutionalists and will be glad to consider any proposal that will tend to draw the various factions together into a plan for the restoration of peace in Mexico.

This is the attitude of President Wilson as it was revealed today after reports reached here saying Senor Portillo y Rojas, minister for foreign affairs in the Huerta cabinet, had gone to meet John Lind. Mr. Wilson's personal representative, to seek a resumption of the peace parleys. Senor Rojas has been mentioned as the man who would succeed Huerta if he retired, and the object of the visit to Mr. Lind, it has been reported, was to acquaint the president's envoy with his personality. Incidentally, the president in talking with callers today, while remarking that he had no official report of any new parleys, spoke in complimentary terms of the Mexican minister of foreign affairs as a man of high character.

CANADIAN WOMEN IN "WHITE SLAVE" CASES

Wingham, Toronto and Hamilton Girls Mentioned in Detroit Indictments

Canadian Press Despatch.

DETROIT, March 19.—Among 39 indictments returned by the United States grand jury which concluded a week's session here today are three Canadian white slave cases. Robert S. McKirdy is charged with bringing Margaret Louise Lockridge from Wingham, Ont., George Turcott is said to have come from Toronto with Henrietta Foley, and Joseph Dice is alleged to have brought Minnie Cross from Hamilton.

Three Canadian women, Margaret Rankin, Jennie Beatty and Anna Neubauer, were indicted for returning to the United States after having been deported as undesirables, and George La Tour, John R. Rodgers and Lee Foy of Windsor, were indicted for smuggling Chinese across the border.