$90 Per Foot

Choice Bloor Street Lot, excellent site for Doctor.

H. H. WILLIAMS & CO.,
Realty Brokers, 26 Victoria St.

The Toronto World

$50, Rosedale

North side of street, good level lot, 65x150, surroundings first-class.

H. H. WILLIAMS & CO.,
Realty Brokers, 26 Victoria St.

Senate Reading Room
29mar09- 4102

PROBS.— Westerly to northerly winds, colder, with light local snowfalls.

FOURTEEN PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING APRIL 9 1909—FOURTEEN PAGES

51 29TH YEAR

"BLACK HAND" FIRE FOLLOWS THREATS AURORA ALARMED

Residence of T. F. Cook Ignited Early Yesterday, Just as a Mysterious Blackmailer Had Declared Would Happen if Demands Were Ignored.

3 MYSTERIOUS NOTES TO EXTORT MONEY

Blackhanders, or somebody quite as dangerous, have apparently gotten in their work on T. F. Cook og Aurora, whose house was gutted by fire at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, obviously thru incendiary causes.

Nothing can persuade Cook from the belief that he has been made the victim of a money extorting plot, as an example of the extremes to which some unknown parties are ready to go if their anonymous demands for money are not immediately honored, and if any attempt is made to thwart their fiendish purpose.

The community has been thrown into a terrible state of excitement since the fire occurred, hinging as it does so directly upon two very threatening letters which Cook lately received, and coupled also with a similar letter which was recently received by Mrs. Young, a wealthy elderly widow who lives at the southern extremity of the town.

Both letters urged the immediate handing over of $200 if the recipients valued their lives or property, and both correspond precisely typographically, being written on a type writer.

Rumors were wild in the town last night that several persons besides the two mentioned had been treated to a like intimidation and the opinion was on everybody's lips that Reeve Knowles should commission two night watchmen to guard the interests and protect the homes of the 2700 citizens.

Threatened With Fire.

Cook got his first notice Wednesday, March 31, telling him that unless he paid over $200, himself and son, Thos. Frank Cook, would be burned out. He was told that if he was prepared to act sensibly he must post up a notice in the post office reading:

"Lost—Purse on Yonge-street. Suitable reward. T. F. Cook."

whereupon he would be further instructed as to where to put the money.

He promptly notified County Crown Attorney Drayton, and after consulting local Constable Petch, he posted up the notice as instructed with the hope of getting trace of the mysterious man when he called for the money.

On Monday last Mr. Cook received a second letter saying:

"You laid a trap for us. You're a d—d fool. Mrs. Young is a d—d fool, too, and we'll get both of you."

This was also forwarded to the county crown attorney with the request that he send somebody out to investigate.

Last night Cook again wrote Mr. Drayton re-stating the facts and hinting that if his letters had been acted upon promptly he might not have been minus a $3000 house.

Widow Also Threatened.

Mrs. Young received her letter Thursday, March 18. She handed it over to Constable Petch, who could not be seen last night, but as nearly as she could remember, it read thus:

You live in a beautiful home. We know that you have money. We want you to meet us at the end of the sidewalk at the south end of the town to-night between 9 and 10 o'clock, with $200 cash—not cheque.

Come alone. Tell no one, and bring no one with you. If you fail to do as we have told you your life and the lives of your relatives will be in danger, and we will also burn your buildings.

Again there was no signature; but unlike the notes sent to Mr. Cook later, it was appended by a rough pen sketch of a man's head surrounding two ugly looking clubs crossed, somewhat in imitation of the sinister skull and crossbones.

Watched, But in Vain.

Constable Petch, together with Mrs. Young's cousin, a tall, slender young man, framed up a decoy. The cousin attiring himself in Mrs. Young's clothes and hat, went to the place indicated and waited while the constable watched from a sheltered place. But no one came.

This accounts for the reference to Mrs. Young in the second letter to Mr. Cook.

The lady and her relatives have been very much wrought up over the circumstances, and since the news of the fire, which, by the way, occurred at the extreme opposite end of the town from where she lives, she has been nearly prostrate with fear. Last night the doors and windows were double locked and barred.

Signs of Incendiarism.

The building which was burned yesterday was the home of Thomas Frank Cook, son of the man who received the threats, and in its character the fire looks suspicious to say the least; besides, in looking over the situation to-day, a kerosene oil can that was unknown to the premises was found in the charred kitchen, where the blaze started.

There could be little possibility of the stove having done the damage, as the family were burning wood, and the fire box was too small to hold wood enough to burn until 4 a.m. The stove was 14 inches from the wall.

Then too, there seemed to be an explosion, which woke three persons up in three different parts of the house,

Continued on Page 7.

History of The Hot Cross Bun

"One a penny, buns,
Two a penny, buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot cross buns."

Universal custom has decreed that Good Friday should thruout the English-speaking world be the day of the hot cross bun. Scotland is the one arid spot in the bun-eating world. In the land of Burns the spicy delicacy used to be looked upon as a survival of "papistry," and doubtless still continues to be anathema, on account of the pagan history of the bun disclosed by the researches of the higher criticism.

* * *

The origin of the bun seems to date back to very ancient times in Egypt, to Cecrops and the worship of the Goddess Astarte (the Roman Diana), as Queen of Heaven, with offerings of cakes, a custom which is also found in China, ancient Mexico and many other lands. Curiously enough the modern custom is not observed on the continent of Europe.

In ancient Egypt the cakes were stamped with horns of the sacred heifer; hence they were called "bous," which in one of its cases is spelled 'boun," obviously modern 'bun." Another interesting point is that the name of the Goddess Astarte is by some philologists connected with the word "Easter."

* * *

The English custom seems to have had its origin in the Counties of Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, where, at the meeting of the old Roman roads, called Icknield-street and the Armynge-street, stood the altar of Diana of the Crossways, worshipped by the Romans with offerings of sacred cakes.

The history of the idea connects it also with the Jewish Passover cakes, and later with the cross-marked eucharistic wafers mentioned in the liturgy of St. Chrysostom.

* * *

A writer in The Athenaeum for April 4, 1857, mentions an ancient piece of sculpture in the Museo Borbonico at Rome, depicting the miracle of the five barley loaves, which is remarable, in that each of the loaves is marked with a cross. Cross-marked buns have also been exhumed from the ruins of the ancient buried City of Herculaneum, which was overwhelmed in the same eruption of Vesuvius that destroyed Pompeii in A.D. 79.

An old superstition in England is that bread baked on Good Friday and kept by the family thru the year would, grated into water, prove a specific for almost any ailment, especially diarrhoea.

* * *

Swift mentions the "rare Chelsea bun" in his "Journal to Stella" in 1712, and in the early part of the last century many people used to walk miles to get hot cross buns from "The Chelsea Bun-house," or its rival, "The Real Old Original Chelsea Bun-house." It is estimated that at least 50,000 persons were wont to gather on Good Friday at Chelsea for this purpose. A variant on the favorite street cry quoted above runs:

"One a penny, two a penny,
Hot cross buns.
If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons.
But if you have none of these merry little elves,
Then you may keep them all for yourselves."

* * *

The Toronto output of hot cross buns is variously estimated at from 50,000 to 200,000 dozen, an increase on last year. Some of the dealers are cutting them out this year, however, owing to the difficulty of handling along with other goods. The Nasmith Co. stated that their factory was working day and night on the hot cross buns alone; and they are supplied with the most up-to-date facilities, including an ingenious English rotating oven, in which a sort of ferriss wheel with eight shelves carries about 120 dozen buns to completion at a time. From dough to finished bun probably takes three-quarters of an hour. They are making only the large bun this year, retailing at 20c a dozen. Some of the other bakers handle a 10c line also.

The buns are shipped as far west as Sudbury and as far east as Vaudreuil, in addition to supplying the local trade.

HEAVY EASTER TRAFFIC

60,000 People Passed Thru Union Station Yesterday.

Enough people to populate six cities passed thru the Union Depot yesterday.

"I should judge that 60,000 people, coming and going, were in the station to-day," said Superintendent J. J. Beck last night.

The Easter traffic promises to be heavier than last year's. So far it is much heavier. All day long the officials were rushed. Foolish questions however, provided amusement for those who were in positions to be questioned.

Down on the train platform an extra checking station was established.

Ten special trains, both coming and going, were in the Union Depot during the day. All the regular trains had extra coaches attached and most of the trains were double-headers.

Montrealers Go to New York.

MONTREAL, April 8.—(Special.)—Some seven thousand Montrealers left to-day for New York carried by ten special and the ordinary trains. Railwaymen say this is the greatest number ever leaving the city at Easter and indicates better times.

MAKE NEW SCALE FOR WATER RATES

Increase in Revenue Will Be $52,000—Reduction Is Made in the Meter Rates.

Household water rates to be charged from basis of 25 cents per room and 25 cents per inmate to a flat rate of 50 cents per room. Revenue increase $55,000.

Manufacturers' rates to be increased for 5 cents per 1000 gallons to 7 cents per 1000 gallons. Revenue increase $10,000.

Changes in classification. Revenue increase $15,000.

Reduction in meter rates from 12 cents to 10 cents per 1000 gallons. Revenue decrease $28,000.

Net increase in waterworks revenue for year $52,000. Receipts last year were $560,211.

At a meeting of the special committee on the revision of the water rates yesterday afternoon recommendations involving important readjustments were made to the board of control. As those who made up the quorum were Controllers Harrison, Hocken and Ward, and Ald. McMillin, a majority of the board is pledged to support the proposals.

The alterations in the schedule are considered necessary for several reasons, the chief being that of placing the waterworks on a sound financial basis, since City Treasurer Cody says it is running about $1,250,000 behind as a result of supplying consumers with water at the cheapest rates in America. An additional revenue of $52,000 would provide a sinking fund equal to a trifle over four per cent. of the amount. Another reason is that manufacturers have been paying only five cents per 1000 gallons for water that costs 6 1-2 cents to pump; and a third is that the charges to meter users are believed to be too high proportionately.

Brewers to Pay More.

The brewers, which have been paying seven cents per 1000 gallons, will be called upon to pay 10 cents, being equivalent to the new meter rate.

It was decided that no reduction should be made in the charge for additional basins, baths, etc., in private houses, or for additional milk vats, forges, steam engines, barbers' chairs, or any other like service of water consumption. For instance, the present rate for cold water baths is 75 cents, with 50 cents for each additional bath. Under the revised schedule the charge for additional baths will be the same for all, or 75 cents, and the general principle applies to all.

At present the water rates for stables is on the basis of 75 cents for each horse and 50 cents for each additional horse. The new rate will be a flat one of $1 per horse, while for each vehicle the rate goes up from 25 cents to 50 cents.

The rate for each flat in a factory or warehouse advances from 75 cents to $1.50.

Lawn Sprinkling Goes up.

It will cost more to sprinkle lawns in future. While no change is made in the charge per season up to 2000 square feet, the rate for from 2000 to 3000 square feet advances from $1.37½ to $1.50, and instead of a uniform increase of 12 1-2 cents for each additional 1000 feet, there will be a uniform increase of 25 cents.

The committee were unanimous in deciding upon the changes.

A deputation succeeded in getting an assurance that the city hospitals will get the same water rates as are to be given the manufacturers. Alex. C. Lewis introduced the visitors, Dr. J. McCullough of the Western; Major A. G. Peuchen, Grace; Matthew O'Connor, St. Michael's, and Dr. Davidson, Sick Children's Hospital. Mr. Lewis explained that these hospitals, with the Isolation added, paid last year at the regular 12 cents meter rate, $2015, the city's profit being $951. The committee agreed that it wasn't the city's policy to make money out of the hospitals. However, as the act only allows special water rates to be given the railways and manufacturers, legislation may have to be secured.

NEW DIAMOMD FIELD

Important Discoveries From German Southwest Africa.

BERLIN, April 8.—The latest intelligence from Germon Southwest Africa says that the discoveries of diamonds at Luderitz Bay are more important than was at first supposed.

Diamonds heretofore have been picked up on the sandy desert, but attempts to bore for water led to the finding of blue earth pockets containing diamonds similar to the Kimberley and other South African stones.

HIT BY AN AUTO

While driving his auto in College-street, west of Bathurst, at 11 o'clock last night, George Gooderham, M.L.A., saw a man step out into the roadway. The electric light was out and therefore he had not seen him until he was directly in front of the machine. Mr. Gooderham swerved the machine and applied the brake, but one of his lamps, both of which were alight, struck the man. The machine was stopped, and Mr. Gooderham phoned for Dr. Ashton Fletcher, who had the man removed to the Western Hospital. His head is severely cut and he was still unconscious at a late hour last night. He is poorly dressed. He had cards of the Good Clothes Makers, 33 and 35 Mutual-street in his pocket.

His name is thought to be George Wardell, 108 Augusta-avenue.

A GUILEFUL GUIDE

WILFRID (a very amateur fisherman): It—it may be a trout as Charley says, but d'you know, I'm beginning to almost distrust Charley.

SIR WILFRID SUMMONS PUGSLEY TO OTTAWA

Indications Are That Minister of Public Works Will Resign To-Morrow.

OTTAWA, April 8.—(Special.)—Sir Wilfrid Laurier to-day telegraphed to Hon. Wm. Pugsley at Fredericton, N.B., requiring his presence at the capital forthwith. Mr Pugsley, it is understood, will be present at the cabinet council on Saturday, and the announcement of his resignation as minister of public works may be expected on Saturday afternoon.

The indictment of Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie, former premier of the New Brunswick legislature, Hon. Wm. Pugsley and Geo. McAvity, by the New Brunswick royal commission has caused considerable excitement here.

Liberal members in the city express themselves strongly regarding the position in which Mr. Pugsley has placed Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his party. They say he should have informed the premier of the exact position of affairs before he took office.

On the other hand the Conservatives regard the findings of the New Brunswick royal commission as an evidence of the necessity of a thoro inquiry into spending departments of the government. It was stated this evening that the question would probably be reopened tho in another form.

Excitement at Fredericton.

FREDERICTON, N.B., April 8.—(Special.)—About the corridors of the legislative buildings to-day there was a strong feeling on the part of members that the recommendation of the Central Railway Commission be carried out and that an accounting be demanded by the government of $134,000 found misappropriated. A sensation was created here to-night by rumors that Pugsley was likely to resign and that Tweedie's resignation as lieutenant-governor had been demanded. Pugsley arrived here at noon and went immediately to Tweedie's room. They remained closeted all afternoon.

Pugsley at St. John.

ST. JOHN'S, N.B., April 9.—(Special).—Hon. Dr. Pugsley arrived in St. John's at 1 o'clock this morning, his train having been delayed a couple of hours. When approached by a reporter for The Standard (Conservative) in reference to the report of the Central Railway Commissioners, he coolly said: "I have nothing to say, except that the finding was not based on the evidence."

Dr. Pugsley then informed the reporters from the Liberal morning papers that he desired to see them at his house in half an hour.

FLOOD DANGER AT MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 8.—(Special.)—There appears to be danger of a flood, the ice is jammed at Longue Pointe.

The water is now 12 inches from the top of the high level wharf.

Bishop Reeve at St. James'.

Easter services will be held in St. James' Cathedral this morning at 11 o'clock, at which Bishop Reeve will preach. To-night at 8 o'clock a lantern service will be held illustrating the "Passion."

King Edward Lunches in a Spanish Field

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, April 8.—King Edward VII. traveled for many hours this morning and knocked in vain at the door of a Sapish inn before he found a place to eat luncheon. When he did find one it was an open field, where his majesty and his suite had an al fresco meal under the blue sky.

The King and a small suite started on an automobile trip to the little Basque Town of Zarauz, where they arrived shortly before noon. Their appetites sharpened by the run in the brisk air the royal party went straight to the only hotel in the place. Knocking at the door brought no response, however, and finally a villager proffered the information that the place was not yet opened. The travelers decided to continue as far as Zumaya.

When they had covered half the distance, however, a landslide blocked the way and made the road impassable. The King thereupon decided that they would go no further. His majesty and suite went into a neighboring field, where the viands were spread out on the grass, and they partook of their meal in picnic fashion.

BAUM NOT ANXIOUS TO BECOME WITNESS

Suspects Theatrical Offer in Hamilton is a Scheme on the Part of the Crown.

PORTSMOUTH, Va., April 8.—(Special.)—"Jimmie" Baum of the Orpheum Theatre, has received a flattering offer to play at Bennett's Theatre, Hamilton, Ont., for the week beginning April 19, but all the same Baum is a little shy of accepting it. He fears that there may be a string tied to the offer, and he doesn't like that kind of a string.

Baum is wanted as a witness in the Kinrade murder case. He has not been subpoenaed, but he has been requested to testify at the inquest, which takes place during the week he would play in Hamilton, and he wants a guarantee from the crown attorney there that he will not be called upon to testify if he goes to Hamilton.

This is the one objection, so far as Baum is concerned. He has been offered $250 per week for his Canada engagements and this is good to him, but he is not anxious to figure in the most-talked-of murder case in Canada.

Baum played at the Orpheum Theatre with Miss Florence Kinrade, sister of the murdered girl.

TRIBUTE TO DENISON.

LONDON, April 8.—(C.A.P.)—The Standard devotes an editorial to Col. Denison's struggle for imperial unity and says a more illuminating revelation of the inner side of politics has rarely been presented to the British public and the empire.

Cipriano Castro has taken quarters at Forte De France, Martinique.

ASSAULT WITH HATCHET BY REJECTED SUITOR

Young Woman Badly Hurt and Alf Baker Arrested For Attempted Murder.

Because she ceased to smile upon his suit, Alfred Baker, an Englishman, but a short time in the country, at 10 o'clock last night made a savage attack upon his sweetheart, Bertha Augustine, at her home, 388 Brock-avenue.

Baker had been paying attention to the girl, but had recently fallen from her favor. Purchasing a hatchet he went to her home and when the girl came to the door forced it open.

Terrified, she fled to her room, and he followed. There he assailed her with the weapon, striking her over the head, shoulders, arms and hands. Her screams alarmed the other occupants of the house and Policeman Ferguson was called. He arrested Baker, charging him with attempted murder.

Dr. W. S. Fawns was called and the girl was removed to his office where he closed a dozen ugly gashes. She was then removed to the General Hospital where she is in a critical condition. It is not yet known whether her skull is fractured.

Baker waited in the house making no effort to escape. He was perfectly sober.

NEW DAILY FOR VANCOUVER

Duncan Ross, Ex-M.P., Hopes to Establish One.

MONTREAL, April 8.—(Special.) Mr. Duncan Ross, ex-M.P. for the federal district of Kootenay, who was in Ottawa last week, came down to Montreal to-day, his object being to establish a new daily in the City of Vancouver with a capital of $200,000.

Mr. Ross says that in ten years Vancouver will have left Winnipeg in the rear and become the second city of the Dominion.

To Succeed Judge Piche.

MONTREAL, April 8.—(Special.)—Mr. Husmer Lanctot, district magistrate at St. John's may be appointed judge of sessions in this city, replacing the late Judge Piche.

HIGH CLASS EASTER EDITION.

There is only one meaning to the rapid increase in the circulation of The Toronto Sunday World. To have sold a week ago several thousand copies over the regular edition and then to be confronted with a demand for several thousand more, shows that the people appreciate The Toronto Sunday World.

And why should they not appreciate it? It is Canada's best Sunday newspaper, with a splendidly illustrated supplement. Every week new features are being added, and special attention is being given to sports and pastimes.

The beautiful Easter edition will be undoubtedly the handsomest ever published by The Toronto Sunday World or any other Canadian newspaper. The illustrated supplement is in two colors and contains the most striking reproductions appropriate to Easter. The news sections, too, and the comic section are also in colors. And the whole thirty-six pages are filled with features that appeal to all and can be read by every member of the home. Easter Sunday will be a happier day if you have a copy of The Toronto Sunday World.

THE LEGISLATORS FINISH THEIR LABORS

House Will Prorogue on Tuesday—Discussion of Resolution to Take Over the Telephone Trunk Lines.

After clearing off the order paper and passing the important law reform and railway bills, the legislature adjourned at 6.30 yesterday evening.

After submitting a resolution to meet next Tuesday at three o'clock for prorogation, Sir James Whitney paid a graceful tribute to the work of Hon. A. G. MacKay, leader of the opposition.

"I would not be doing my duty if I did not state that in my twenty-one years of legislative experience, I have not known anyone who has been more careful or industrious, or paid closer attention to the subjects which came up for discussion than the present leader of the opposition," said the premier.

The applause which followed showed that Sir James had voiced the sentiments of the house.

An important amendment was made to the T. & N. O. Railway act to extend the line from Charlton to Gowganda. "This is being done," said the premier, "so that the government can build as far as Gowganda if conditions justify it within the next few month. In view of many circumstances which have arisen it would not be surprising if we asked power to extend the road right on to Sudbury." Provision was also made for a land department in connection with the T. & N. O. to administer town site in northern Ontario.

Ownership of Phone Lines.

In moving a resolution asking the Dominion Government to give the province power to expropriate the property of telephone companies in order to have governmental control of trunk lines and branch extensions to be operated by municipalities, I. N. Lucas (Centre Grey) deprecated that the matter should have come up so late.

The ordinary telephone company was under the jurisdiction of this government, but the Bell Telephone Company, as the result of legal decision, was under Dominion control. Under present conditions the Dominion Government had passed legislation placing the Bell Telephone Company under control of the board of railway commissioners, and they might impose the conditions upon which independent companies may have connection with the Bell, but anyone knew that connection with the Bell Telephone Company was not always satisfactory.

He read a resolution passed by the municipalities in western Ontario which called for the ultimate control by the provincial government of trunk lines, and municipal operation of local lines. Independent telephone companies with a Bell connection were detrimental to the whole idea of telephone construction, and there would not be a successful development of rural companies until the trunk lines were owned by the provincial government.

That policy would prevent the duplication of systems and would facilitate the organization of local companies.

He had nothing to say against the Bell Company. It might be a model business concern. The example, however, had been set in the west, and the Dominion parliament had said by resolution that if we wanted governmental control we would have to follow the example of the western provinces. There was a strong public opinion behind the question from all the municipal organizations in the Province of Ontario.

He was quite willing that control should remain with the Dominion government, but if the Bell Company could not agree with independent companies regarding connection, then the province should have power to step in and operate the trunk lines as a provincial concern. This was probably more important to the agricultural community than the agricultural college at Guelph.

Finds Support.

T. R. Mayberry (South Oxford) thought it would prove an inestimable boon to the farmers.

Hon. A. G. MacKay appreciated the value of the motion. At the same time he felt that the railway commissioners would protect the interests of the public.

W. K. McNaught (North Toronto) said there was a strong public sentiment behind the proposal. The City of Toronto favored it.

Sir James Whitney did not think the Dominion parliament was likely to divest itself of any power it now had, and in all probability such a request coming from the province would be met with a counter proposal.

Concluding, Mr. Lucas, said he had not been able to submit the constitutional aspect to the house, but so far had based his remarks on the action of the Dominion parliament in referring the matter to the provinces. He felt, however, that the Dominion government would be generous in response to the unanimous expression from the legislature, when that expression came as a suggestion only.

Amendments to C.N.R. Grant.

The opposition exercised its privilege of moving amendments to the land grant to the Canadian Northern. On the third reading of the bill, three separat amendments were submitted negativing the principle of the government's proposal, each being lost on the division of Tuesday night by a majority of 52.

The first amendment, moved by Mr. MacKay, declared that no lands should be granted to assist in railway construction, but should be reserved for the settlers.

The second amendment, moved by J.

Continued on Page 9