FERRY COMPANY TO CREATE A FINE NEW POINT AT ONCE

Will Spend $500,000, Perhaps a Million, on Structures That Will Not Burn—The Great Amusement Resort to Be Ready for Next May.

"Well, I’ll tell you this much," said Mr. Lawrence Solman of the Toronto Ferry Company to The Star reporter this morning. "We are going to build the finest amusement park we know how. We are going to start in work just as soon as we can this year, and we’ll be ready for business when May comes around again. I am going across to the city now to see Mr. E. B. Osler, the president of the company, and while we will give the work to a local architect, yet we will secure the services of a New York architect to consult with the local man in the drawing-up of the plans. I am leaving for New York on Sunday night to get a man."

"How much are you going to spend?"

"Oh, I can’t say that off-hand, but it will be between $500,000 and a million. No wood for us! Concrete and steel and everything of the finest will be the rule for the new construction. We will put up a grand stand that will seat 20,000."

A Strong Company.

While Mr. Solman is the managing head of the Toronto Ferry Company that corporation contains some other influential names on its directorate. With Mr. E. B. Osler as president, Mr. R. A. Smith of Osler and Hammond, as vice-president, and Sir William Var Horne, Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, and Mr. R. B. Angus of the C. P. R., the directors with Mr. Solman as managing director, its personnel is somewhat above the ordinary for a ferry company. Mr. Solman besides owning a very large part of the stock of the company, is the lessee of the grounds and himself owns vessels that are included in the Ferry Company’s fleet. Mr. H. S. Marriott is the company’s secretary. Its capitalization is $2,500,000.

The Building By-Laws.

"The only building regulations applying to Hanlan’s Point are those concerning the strength of the structures erected," said Acting City Architect Price to The Star to-day.

"It would be quite legal for frame buildings to be erected again on the site of the burned structures, he went on. "It is out of any limit, just as the Beaches are."

"But would the building by-law allow a moving picture theater to be built of boards and canvas as the Gam Theater was?"

"I think so, but it is a question whether it could get a license again."

Mr. Price thinks it would be practically-impossible to build a brick or concrete grand stand on the Island.

"The winter weather would be its test," he said. "when the water froze up and got under the foundation, it would heave the structure and make it unsafe."

Wood, he thinks, is the only material for the grand stand.