
Things That Go Bump In A Canadian Night

Rogers' Chocolates



by Ronald Wolf

If a successful business is old enough and lasts the passing of time, it very well may have seen great happiness and great sorrow. This happens to be true in the case of Rogers' Chocolates.

Charles "Candy" Rogers (1855-1927) was born in Petersham, Mass. and as a teenager made his way across the US working on the railroad. He came across into Canada through New Westminster, B.C. in 1881 and worked as a logger before making his way to Victoria, B.C.

When he opened his grocery store in 1885 he began to sell candy. The candy was so good that it was outselling his groceries. Rogers developed his own candy recipe and Rogers' chocolates were born.

Another birth arrived in the next decade when, in 1888 Rogers married Leah Morrison (1864-1952) and together shared great happiness when their son Frederick Morrison Rogers (1890-1905) was born. Great sorrow occurred in 1905 when Fredrick committed suicide at 15 years old.

Bodiless hand prints on the glass and a child, possibly Fredrick, can be heard laughing. When someone heard the laughter they stated it was a boy's laughter so it would make sense that it would be Fredrick, said Mark Harrison, manager.

"Only two of the staff actually heard him at different times, like months apart so it's a real happening," noted Harrison.

Over the years chocolates would be thrown at him about 8-12 times. One of the staff members saw chocolates rise three feet off the shelf and onto the floor.

"I've seen the Red Rogers boxes fall off the shelves with no tremors, no nothing; just like dominos. There were all genuine experiences in the last seven years," Harrison stated.

One time he came out of the washroom and heard sounds of someone running up and down the 106 year-old wooden floors with high heels.

"If you think I was coming out your wrong. I locked the door and I refused to come out for anybody. I stayed in there for a good five minutes," he said laughingly.

When he did come out, nobody was there.

About six months ago, a staff member approached him when he came to work asking if he was in earlier because she heard sounds of someone running upstairs with high heels on. He replied that this was the first time he came into work for the day and he doesn't wear high heels.

Things that go bump into the night might, just might have a sweet tooth after all.

<http://www.spiritofchristmas.ca/rogers-chocolates.html>

<http://tourismmall.victoria.bc.ca/secrets/rogers-chocolates.html>

<http://rogerschocolates.com/>