

The Evening Times and Star

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BEWARE THE NEXT OFFER

It is intimated that the New Brunswick Power Company will now make a bid for the Musquash current, offering a rate not as low as the city itself can make, but very attractive in comparison with the present rates; and that a campaign will be instituted to persuade the people that this would be much better and safer than for the city to attempt to put in a distribution system and have no steam standby. There can be but one answer to these gentlemen. The city of St. John will take the Musquash power and will distribute it. To make any sort of deal by which the power company would get the current would be at once to give its securities new value, make the common stock a factor to be reckoned with, and keep the city under the company's thumb. Such a condition cannot be tolerated, and the sooner the company is made to understand the situation the better. The way to make the matter plain is to conclude the contract for the current and call for tenders for the distribution system. The city must choose freedom of bondage, and there is no doubt as to what the choice will be. The condition that makes it necessary to call for tenders is, unfortunately, but there it is, and it must be faced. A clean-up can be effected now. This never could be if the power company got the Musquash current and the financial backing it would instantly bring. It is said some people do not yet fully understand the question. It is the duty of every citizen to seek and get full information, since this is a community matter of far-reaching importance. Every effort will be made in the interest of the power company to play upon the fears of the people, and none should permit themselves to be deceived.

"SERVICE PLUS PLANT"

After the Musquash development has been paid for the only cost to users of the current, in St. John, Moncton, or elsewhere, will be the cost of upkeep of the plant. If the New Brunswick Power Company got the current there would be a different story. The people of Ontario saw the distinction and chose public ownership. The Toronto Globe puts the case thus: "After the maturity of the bond issues the people will be the owners, outright, of the properties, and from that time forward the rates will be fixed from the portion of the costs due to interest and sinking fund charges on the bonds. In other words, the people of the province of Ontario felt that if they had the choice between service at equal initial rates, through a publicly owned property or a privately owned property, it would be cheaper and more advantageous to choose the publicly owned service, because, even at equal rates they would be buying service plus plant, whereas under private ownership conditions, for the same money they would be buying only service." It is only necessary for the people of St. John to give a little thought to this presentation of the case, and they will see that in their own interests they must continue to refuse any deal that would not keep the people the sole owners of the Musquash power. We want "service plus the plant," not service with perpetual tribute to a corporation. Even if the power company offered an equal rate at the outset, the city could not afford to abandon the road to complete public ownership and distribution at cost.

The minister of public health, Hon. Dr. Roberts, is making steady progress with his progressive programme. Medical inspection of all schools, under the terms of the gift of the Rockefeller Foundation, comes into effect the first of next month, the province being divided into six districts, each with an inspector giving all his time to the work. The travelling clinic, made possible by the Red Cross, has been continuing in Kent county the excellent work recently begun at Riley Brook. A permanent dental clinic will be an important added feature of the work. There is the licensing and inspection of hotels, which has long been urged, and which will be of great benefit to the travelling public. The department of health is doing a great work and when the Health Centre is established in St. John and public health nurses are continually being trained, the conditions will be still further improved.

Halifax Chronicle: "The miners' strike is both lawless and unjustifiable because it is against the findings and decisions of repeated boards of arbitration and conciliation; it is against the fullest and most convincing statement of the mine operators as to their circumstances and limitations, and the most generous offered concessions; it is against the well known economic conditions of the times; it is against the present needs and future welfare of the whole people of Nova Scotia. It has been begun contrary to the arrangements and strong advice of their duly elected union leaders. It is a senseless revolt against all authority, including that established by the miners themselves."

PROHIBITION

The Toronto Star, referring to prohibition in Ontario, says: "The Ontario Temperance Act has wrought a wonderful change in the life of the province. Any politician attempting to restore former conditions would be given short shift by the electors." The Star contrasts present conditions with former ones when in any great holiday assemblage large numbers of men would be drunk and quarrelling, and remarks that it is well that the past should be recalled occasionally to realize the change that has come about. It quotes also a striking paragraph from a communication to the Canadian Churchman, as follows: "Men are making liquor, selling liquor, and drinking it illicitly, but they are beginning to feel loneliness in their enterprise. A few men persist to this day in their excesses, but they are pitted by their old companions as men who can't see that their habit is out of date and that they must be at inordinate pains to compass their own aims. The fact of the matter is that most men who swore to have their liquor despite all governments have reached the conclusion that it isn't worth while. Many of them have gone further and acknowledged that they were dead wrong."

The New York Evening Post has a word to say about polls taken in the United States to learn what the people think of prohibition, and remarks that while the one being taken by the Literary Digest seems to favor the "moist" party it should be remembered that it is the discontented and not the contented who vote most readily, and that in any case conclusions should be reserved so far as such votes go until the 2,000,000 women now being polled are heard from, and until the middle and far west are also polled. And the Post finally adds: "But the nation made up its mind for prohibition only after a generation of debate and state experimentation, and it is not likely to change it in a hurry. The 'wets' are anxious to keep their flag flying, but they know that while there is a bare chance of making the house Democratic this fall, there is not the ghost of a chance to make either house or senate even 'moist'."

What is true of Ontario and of the United States is true of New Brunswick, where two plebiscites declared the public will, and where public sentiment is now demanding that greater efforts be put forth to enforce the law. The city commissioners will hardly permit themselves to delay action on the contract for the Musquash current because it is suggested that the mayor would not sign. That official said he would not sign until after the plebiscite had been taken, but there is to be no plebiscite. If the council endorsed a contract and he refused to sign, it could probably be done over his head. At all events, by taking action now the council would have the way cleared for signing the contract as soon as the new mayor takes his seat. There has been quite too much delay, and the proper course to pursue now is perfectly clear.

The radical element is in control among the miners of Nova Scotia. One of the leaders has declared that the drowning of a mine or two is of no consequence. In his view the destruction of mines, which are the property of all the people of Nova Scotia, are as nothing compared with a victory for the mine workers. If that is the attitude of all the men there is serious trouble ahead. Cape Breton has become a hot bed of radicals, and the prospects of an early termination of the dispute are not bright.

So far as the city and the New Brunswick Power Company are concerned, there is nothing to arbitrate, and any suggestion of that nature can be made only in the interests of the company. St. John has decided to get power at cost, and the way to get it and at the same time protect the city's financial interests is to go ahead with its plans for a civic distribution system. If the power company has anything to sell at a price it can say so, and the city can accept or reject, but there is nothing to arbitrate.

Bangor Commercial: "We shall not be surprised if the final vote on the tariff in congress is not reached until after the state elections. There is more than a contest between two political parties in which that in the majority would be the winner. Party lines have been severed in many particulars and it is the issue between the agricultural bloc and the opponents that is standing far more prominently in the way of a settlement than the position of the members of the two major parties."

The Taschereau government candidate won in the by-election in Labelle, Quebec. The Conservatives, under their new leader, Mr. Sauve, had hoped to win, but the government forces were too less revolt against all authority, including that established by the miners themselves."

FIFTEEN MINUTES OF RADIO EACH DAY

By Edward N. Davis
Formerly Technical Electrical Expert For U. S. Government

Lesson No. 81.

THE CONTROL OF BROADCASTING.

The enormous increase, during the last few months in the number of broadcasting stations, resulting in the need for immediate action to effectively control the installation and operation of radio stations was the main reason for the recent gathering in Washington of the Department of Commerce Conference on Radio-Telephony. At the present time all broadcasting stations with the exception of a few government stations are operating on the wave-length of 300 meters, which means that the receiving set is tuned to that wave length in order to hear any one of the broadcasting stations which may be within range. If two stations happen to be operating simultaneously the receiving operator may hear them both and it is practically impossible to pick out either one.

If the recommendations of the conference are followed several stations in a certain locality may operate simultaneously without interfering with each other, and the receiving operator will merely have to shift his receiving set to the wave-length of the station he may desire to hear. The entire wave-length group from 280 to 480 meters is recommended for the use of broadcasting stations which carry on a service for entertainment purposes. Other classes of broadcasting may be conducted on wave-lengths of 300 meters. It is obvious that important services like ship or shore radio-telegraph communication should not be sacrificed for services not so essential and operating wave-lengths for coastal broadcasting stations will be selected so as to use a minimum of interference with such services.

Even the amateur will benefit by the proposed changes in the assignment of wave lengths. While the maximum wave length which he may now use is 200 meters, the conference has approved increasing this to 275 meters. This will permit the use of more efficient amateur transmitting sets since many amateurs have had great difficulty in keeping within the 200 meter limit without sacrificing the range of their equipment.

It is further recommended that the power of broadcasting stations be limited, and stations employing the same wave length be not licensed within a certain distance of each other, based upon the range of the stations. Such control of broadcasting stations would aid materially in reducing the interference between stations referred to above.

Amateur stations may be allowed to broadcast within the limits of the group of wave lengths which are recommended for their use. The various types of amateur radio transmitters will be assigned different "tunes" or wave-lengths, so that the man with the half-dollars spark set will cause the least interference with the activities of radio-telephone stations.

If the recommendations of the conference are adopted and made effective, there may be a greater possibility of attaining that much talked-of theoretical condition in radio communication where the undesired station may be readily tuned out and the desired station tuned in without interference. Occasionally this condition may be obtained in practice where the transmitting stations are on slightly different wave-lengths and far enough away to permit of selective tuning of the receiver.

The department advisory committee on governmental radio broadcasting formed at the request of Secretary of Commerce Hoover, has outlined an experimental system consisting of eight governmental "primary" stations. These eight stations at present broadcast official government news by continuous wave code telegraphy to local broadcasting stations, which in turn distribute these reports by radiophone.

The stations selected are:
Arlington, (Va.), (Nav.) 5950 meters.
Great Lakes, (Ill.), (Post Office) 4900 meters.
Washington, (D. C.), (Post Office) 1950 meters.
Omaha, (Nebr.), (Post Office) 4000 meters.
Rock Springs, (Wyo.), (Post Office) 3000 meters.
Elko, (Nev.), (Post Office) 3500 meters.
Reno, (Nev.), (Post Office) 3200 meters.

One of the purposes of the committee, of which Dr. S. R. Stratton, Director of the Bureau of Standards is chairman, is to recommend the proper material to be broadcast by these governmental agencies so that the broadcasted subjects and the schedule of operation will not conflict with information supplied by other means of communication.

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DOMINION.

I went beneath the sunny sky
When all things bode to June's de-
sire.

The peewee with its steadfast eye,
The blue shells on the lupin sprig.

The swelling fruit along the boughs,
The grass grown heavy in the rain,
Dark roses fitted for the brows
Of queens great kings have sung in

rain.

My little cat with tiger bars,
Bright flames that danced and content;
Swift birds that flashed like dashing
stars

Across the cloudy continent;

The wry-crowned felled curled
Stump-tailed upon the sunny flag;
The bees that sipped a colored world
Of treasure for their honey-bags.

And all these things seemed very glad,
The sun, the flowers, the birds on
wing.

The jolly beasts, the furry-clad
Fat bees, the fruit, and everything.

But gladder than them all was I,
Who, being man, had gained me up
The joy of all beneath the sky,
And added their treasure to my cup.

And travel every shining way,
And laugh with God in God's delight,
Create a dream for every day,
And store a dream for every night.

—J. Drinkwater.

LIGHTER VEIN.

One way to keep from eating too
hastily is to return to the table where
you first ate the walrus yesterday.

Why He Is Popular.

Blake—"Why is Jim so popular at the
club? Why, everyone knows that he
can speak."

Fiske—"Yes, and he knows it, too."

Almost Strangers.

Day Policeman (relieving night man):
"How's the missus?"

Night Policeman—"I don't know;
haven't seen her for ten years."

Day Policeman—"But you're living to-
gether, aren't ye?"

Night Policeman—"Yes, but she's a
charwoman, and I don't all day, and I'm
out all night, so we've never met since
we came back from our honeymoon."

THE PRICE OF RECKLESSNESS.

(Amherst News.)

The following report recently made
public by the Southern Pacific Railway
tells of the motor accidents that have
taken place on their Pacific system dur-
ing the 1918-1921 period:

No. Killed Inj.

Ran on track in front of
train 1,800 183 869

Ran into side of train 876 18 263

Stalled or died on track 827 7 41

Struck into side of
train 59 .. 17

Ran into crossing
gates 207 .. 18

Men crossing flag
signals 20 2 15

Miscellaneous (ran in-
to cattle-guards, warn-
ing signs, etc.) 46 1 8

Totals 2,755 208 921

From the above we see that there
were 2,755 accidents causing death to
208 people and injury to 921. All of
which bears testimony to the futility of
trying to "heat the train to it at a rail-
way crossing."

NOW CIRCULATING PETITIONS FOR THE MAYOR'S RECALL

First Copies of Forms Received From Printers Yesterday Afternoon and Workers Began Last Evening the Task of Securing Signatures.

The forms for the petitions for the recall of Mayor McLellan reached the United Organizations from the printers late yesterday afternoon and already several have been distributed and the work commenced. The final work of distributing the papers will be undertaken this morning and by nightfall the preliminary work will be well underway. These in charge of the recall proceeding are being besieged with requests from persons who are anxious to assist in the work but the committee is making sure that only responsible persons will be entrusted with the work which demands careful attention in order that no needless errors will creep in and thus cause time to be wasted. The names on the petition must be checked by the common clerk to see that the persons signing were on the civic voters' list of the last election. Members of the executive committee have discussed informally who have been suggested as suitable candidates for the vacancy to be caused by the mayor's recall, but no definite action has been taken yet.

A HALIFAX VIEW OF MINERS' STRIKE

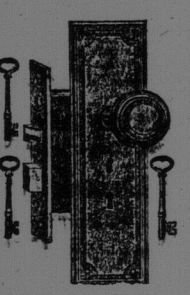
(Halifax Chronicle.)

A strike against the public interest is doomed to failure at the beginning, and then never was a strike more directly aimed at the public than the present miners' walk-out in Nova Scotia. It threatens to penalize every person in the province.

The action of the mine workers of the Glace Bay district in repudiating the agreement made by the District Board with the Coal Company's management, overruling their own officials, and forcing a walk-out in all the mines of the British Empire Steel Corporation, on the mainland as well as in Cape Breton, is deplorable in the extreme. If this reckless course is persisted in, it will paralyze industry, will cripple business, and be ruinous to all concerned. The hot-heads who precipitated this crisis in the industrial life of the province apparently have as little regard for the public rights as they had for the coalminers and judgment of their own chosen leaders.

They have not only forced a stoppage of work in the midst of great activity in the local coal trade, when the opportunity was offered for regaining our lost position in the St. Lawrence market—that would have been had enough from the standpoint of provincial prosperity; they have taken the unprecedented course of calling out the pump-men and others who man the machinery for the protection of the mines. This is nothing short of criminal recklessness. If the

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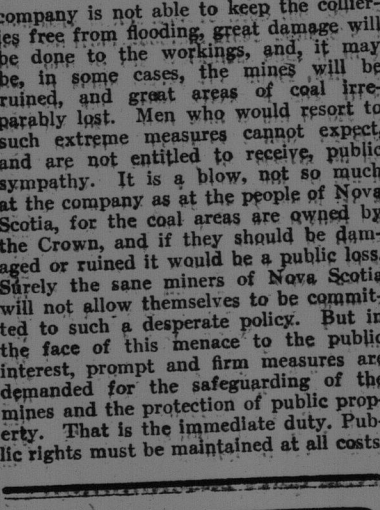
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