

TRACKLESS TROLLEY

Has Proved Success in Bradford, Eng.—May Possibly be Used in Toronto Suburbs

(Toronto Telegram.)

While the Transportation Commission has practically decided that the motor bus will not have more than a small part in Toronto's transportation system, it is thought that the trackless trolley, electrically operated, will be introduced in the suburban sections of the city.

While the trackless trolley, if the commission decides to use them in Toronto, will be somewhat of an innovation in Canada, they have been used very successfully in other countries. Whether winter climatic conditions in Toronto will have any effect on their operation is yet to be seen.

The trackless trolley was first introduced in Bradford, England, it is claimed. They have proved a success in that city for the past fifteen years, and are still in operation. This type of trolley is closely related to the motor bus, except that it is operated by electricity instead of gasoline. They are run on the same principle as the electric street car, the current for the motors being derived from an overhead trolley wire.

The present street cars derive their power from the circuit that is made by the connection of the trolley pole on the overhead wire with the alternating current that runs through the tracks. This has been overcome on the trackless trolley by the use of a dual overhead wire, the positive and negative wires running overhead within a few inches of each other. The circuit is in this manner closed and the danger of a premature short-circuit prevented by special arms that prevent the contact of the two wires while hanging over the street.

The chief feature of the trackless trolley is the fact that it is able to operate through heavy traffic. It does not have to follow any specific route; moving at will from one side of the street to the other. The operating radius is obtained through the use of a slack overhead wire which has sufficient play to allow the car to reach the sidewalk on either side of the street. The trolley pole itself is of a flexible nature, being built of spiral tubing such as is used for the manufacture of all metal hose.

Power Cheaper Than Gas.

The fact that Hydro power is a much cheaper fuel than gasoline, which is used to drive the ordinary type of motor bus, is one of the trackless trolley's big advantages. In addition to the saving in this way, many other advantages are said to exist. Some of them are: No high steps to climb; no stoppage of other traffic while passengers are boarding or alighting.

The trackless trolley of modern construction, it is claimed, allows speed, ease, cleanliness, ventilation and lighting. The car will accommodate about 75 people with ease, and weighs about four tons, which does not call for unusually heavy road building. They are also said to be easy on roadways.

Ald. Brook Sykes, who has had some experience with this type of car in Bradford, is of the opinion that they would greatly assist in cleaning up the transportation situation in the outlying sections of the city not served by street cars. He outlined the general method of operation, which is given above. Express packages, and parcel post are also carried on them in England. This too, stated an informant today, has proved very successful.

A special feature of the system in Bradford, England, is one that greatly impresses tourists and visitors to that city. It is the parcel post and express delivery service that is operated by the

Trackless Trolley Co. The express system in itself is complete—anything from a four-ounce package to a heavy tourist trunk is carried and delivered with ease by this very mobile system.

Special cars, with express compartments, look after this end of the delivery system. A parcel may be left at any depot on the line for delivery to any point on the route. A trunk, if it has

to be delivered some distance from the nearest depot, would be carried to its final destination by a light motor truck or wagon in the service of the traction company. Owing to the surprisingly light overhead costs in this connection, a rapid express service is given at moderate rates.

Should the Toronto Transportation Commission decide to introduce the

trackless trolley to Toronto, it will no doubt take up this phase of the service and provide a cheap method of express transportation from one section of the city to the other.

The engineers of the Transportation Commission are going into the merits of the trackless trolley and so far, it is said, are very favorably inclined to their adoption for use in the suburbs.

THE GATES OF GOLD

(Robert Louis Stevenson)

It's forth across the roaring foam, and on toward the West,
It's many a lonely league from home, o'er many a mountain crest,
From where the dogs of Scotland call the sheep around the fold,
To where the flags are flying beside the Gates of Gold.

Where all the deep-sea galleons ride that come to bring the corn,
Where falls the fog at eventide and blows the breeze at morn;
It's there that I was sick and sad, alone and poor and cold,
In yon distressful city beside the Gates of Gold.

I slept as one that nothing knows; but far along my way
Before the Morning God arose and planned the coming day;

Afar before me forth he went, as through the sands of old,
And chose the friends to help me beside the Gates of Gold.

I have been near, I have been far, my back's been at the wall,
Yet aye and ever shone the star to guide me through it all;
The love of God, the help of man, they both shall make me bold
Against the gates of darkness as beside the Gates of Gold.

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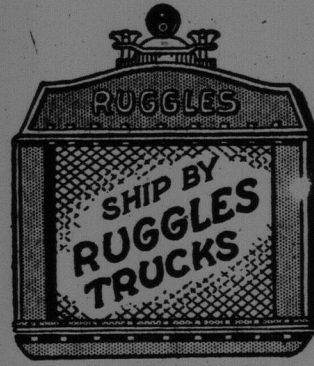
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