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Papers to be read before the
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APPLICATION OF STANDARD CODE OF TRAIN RULES ON
ELECTRIC INTERURBAN RAILWAYS.

By Allan Purvis, Manager Interurban Lines British Columbia Electric Ry. Co.

The adoption of uniform code of train rules on interurban railways has been the subject of committee reports and discussions at various conventions of the American Electric Railway Association, but without any definite conclusion having been arrived at. It has been stated that local conditions must govern in this respect, because many interurban lines operate what might be termed "suburban service" on a very much closer headway than the main line and the placing into effect of rules which would be applicable to the latter could not be properly carried out on the former.

A code of rules based on the principles of the Standard Code, adopted by the American Railway Association, would effect a more uniform knowledge of train service, thereby training men to one general idea or system. At a later period, men of this type find employment with other companies. Their experience and training would prove a source of revenue and not a handicap, as under the present methods, which lead to rule violations, and a rule, no matter how insignificant, cannot be easily violated, it sooner or later will result in disaster. I mean by this that interurban railways should always be manned by men of experience, and it is the general practice in hiring men for train service, that they should have had some knowledge in train rules. If such men are obtainable, they have worked on other railways, the system of train rules with previous companies may be altogether different from the train rules in force on the