

STREET CAR CO. TO CUT WAGES IF OLD FARES RETURN

COMPANY STATES LESS PAY FOR MEN IF FARES REDUCED

Proposal To Cancel Right To Levy Present Fare To Come Before Legislature.

DECISION IS AWAITED

Retrenchment all along the line, with a probable reduction of wages for their employees, is predicted by street railway authorities in the event that they are forced back to seven and nine tickets for 25 cents, a proposal now said to be waiting the consideration of the Ontario legislature.

The company insists that it will have to reduce expenses in every direction if their right to levy a 5-cent fare, granted by the late Drury administration, is cancelled. They state that the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board was created to enable the company to administer the road under similar circumstances a few years back.

It will be the people and the street railway employees who will suffer to the larger degree, not the company itself, the authorities stress. The company would be forced to retrench with the inevitable result.

In addition to this, the city's payment program for 1924 would be dangerously imperilled if the legislature adopts the attitude ascribed and if the city council's plan to recognize their famous 10-year payment resolution of last year is denied.

If the legislature says that the company may not spread the payment of its share of the Richmond street and other paving jobs over a ten-year period but in a lump sum immediately, the company will find itself in a more difficult position than ever, the latter authorities add.

Another reason for retrenchment. Just when the city's proposal will come before the legislature is problematical. The city of London has been talking about it for weeks before it receives the consideration of the House.

In the meanwhile the city council cannot detail its outline of its paving program for the approaching spring in view of the fact that the street railway company operates on the majority of the streets scheduled for paving. And if the company loses the chances for paving co-operation will be automatically reduced to the absolute minimum, if not wiped out altogether.

ELECTIVE COMMISSION IS STILL MAYOR'S PLAN

Wenige Will Not Be Halted in Efforts Because of Attorney-General's Opposition.

Attorney-General Nickle's disapproval of the elective form of police commission is not ample to halt Mayor Wenige. He is still determined, he stated, to call a convention in this city to consider this departure, to which will be invited all communities favorably disposed or interested.

The mayor is under the impression, he explains, that the attorney-general has "changed" his mind. "What would do that," he asks, "added power as a member of the government. I was under the impression that he favored a change of some description, if not actually an elective commission."

PARENTS WILL MEET.

The London East Parents' Association will meet Wednesday night at the Rectory Street School, when it is more than likely that a new colleague for the section of the city will form the center of discussion.

20 Years Ago

In The Advertiser.

Russia expects to win the war with the armies clash. Port Arthur proved for a siege.

Delectives Nickle and Egeiton had a "hot" fight with two desperadoes. One of the desperadoes was killed and the other wounded. They were burglar.

The City Whist League champion ship was won by the Orient Club last night from the East End club by 14 points.

A despatch from Detroit states that the extent to which Windsor has been a victim of the "Gretna Green" is evidenced by the fact that 724 divorces commenced in Wayne County, Mich., 102, or one-seventh, are the result of marriages performed in Windsor.

25 Years Ago

In The Advertiser.

Private lessons in dancing. Come and learn the new dances. The Boston schottische and the society cake-walk taught by experts. (Advertisement.)

Fire Chief Roe, in his annual report, suggests that a horse and buggy be purchased for the department. He stated that the men could build the buggy if the city purchased the material.

In consequence of the scarcity of coal, local dealers have advanced the price 50 cents per ton, making it \$8 per ton.

These were taking the electric Turkish baths last week: Silas Pelley, Dawson; Joseph Connors, London; England; J. L. Forsyth, Battle Creek, Mich.; Mr. Yeo, London, England.

Mission Worker Declares Mah Jong Has Become Real Curse Among the Chinese

W. A. Minshaw States It Is Not

Fan Tan That Takes Popular Fancy.

GAMBLE EVERYTHING

Keeps Lower Classes From Saving Money or Making Progress.

"The curse of China."

That's what W. A. Minshaw, missionary, says of Mah Jong. Mr. Minshaw was a man of 18 years' experience in the Orient and he spoke to the Advertiser with an air of conviction.

This white-haired, cultured, mission worker, with his wife, stayed at the Tecumseh House Sunday. He comes from Pittsburgh and is in Montreal today to take a boat to England.

"It is not Fan Tan that takes the Chinese popular fancy," Mr. Minshaw declared. "It is Mah Jong. Opium is not half the menace to Chinese progress as this amusing pastime which only recently took the imagination of America. They'll gamble their last cash, and even their cloths playing the game," he added.

Mr. Minshaw says the correct pronunciation of the name is phonetically, Mah Jong. It is spelled variously—Mah Jong, Mar Jong and Mah Jong.

Mah Jong is the Chinese national game. Rickshaw men squat on the ground to play. They play on the street and in the alleys and while waiting a call to service play intensely with dirty decks. The "tiles" of bone and bamboo blocks are used.

Mr. Minshaw, who lived in Shanghai for two years, said he never saw Chinese women playing Mah Jong. Engaged in outside labor, working on the street and in the alleys, and the same unskilled employment, they have little time to rest, much less to gamble. But for the men who play the losses, although infinitesimal when compared with those of this country, are really heavier and more disastrous because they earn anywhere from 25 cents to 50 cents a day in the treaty ports of the East.

Mr. Minshaw said he has been extraordinary. A man can buy at most any retail shop of the better class in the European quarters of Shanghai, which is the center of the Chinese trade in Mah Jong, a set for \$4, which would retail here for \$20 or \$40.

An Oriental, as the saying goes, would gamble his shirt. "As a rule," the missionary said, "the poorer the wealthier classes play with sets. The others use cards. Sets are really unnecessary but they add a certain amount of the bizarre to the game."

"The reason Mah Jong is a curse is that it keeps the lower classes from saving money. They work very hard for their money and to lose it a week sometimes represents four days' pay."

Mr. Minshaw expressed the conviction that gambling in the Orient should be made an offence. Only harsh measures would stamp it out, he said.

SCRIPTURE ONLY BASIS TO DETERMINE POSITION

Rev. H. A. Koehler Declares Public Opinion No Criterion To Judge Standing.

"The orthodox standing of any denomination cannot be measured by the opinion of any particular denomination, the numerical strength or its popularity," declared Rev. H. A. Koehler, Sunday afternoon. "Public opinion is also no criterion. It is fickle and unreliable as the wind that blows. If this is a logical course to pursue then the dominant religion of Russia could successfully cry out against the one in Germany. Prevalence of religion in Great Britain could stigmatize the one that prevails in Rome."

"When Cromwell entered into London on his triumphant march, he was accosted by people on all sides who acclaimed him their saviour. When no signs of recognition were manifested by Cromwell, one of his aides approached him saying: 'See, Cromwell, hundreds bid you welcome into London.'"

"Yes," replied Cromwell, "while hundreds bid me welcome, there are thousands who would rather see me hanged." Let the subsequent history of that man prove the unreliability of public opinion. Take the life of Jesus, our Lord, which was crucified upon the bar of public opinion. Scripture is the only sound basis to determine the orthodox standing of any religious organization. Divided Christianity is not a true orthodox condition. If anything it portends heresy. It is apparent that someone, sometime has slipped. The concern of Latter Day Saintism is not to bring division as some would suppose, but to be a spiritual factor in arriving at Bible orthodoxy, the orthodoxy of Paul, Peter, and the Christ."

WENIGE FAVORS SALE OF REGISTRY OFFICE

The sale of the old registry office to the public utilities commission for use as a hydro sub-station meets with the favor of Mayor Wenige and some of the members of the council. It is gathered, however, that tenor will be sought when the council proposes to sell, and a 10 per cent deposit required, as recommended by the city treasurer.

PASTOR DECLARES PARENAGE IS GREATEST ASSET

Rev. J. A. Agnew Outlines "A Young Woman's Greatest Assets."

DEPLORES MODERN LIFE

Following up his theme of the previous Sunday evening, "A Young Man's Greatest Assets," Rev. J. A. Agnew spoke last evening on "A Young Woman's Greatest Assets." The interest occasioned by this subject was evident in the congregation which filled the church to capacity. During the service Mr. Agnew was assisted by Miss Rosty Ashby and Miss Rhoda Proctor, leaders of the Ridout street C. G. I. T. groups, and the ushers were several young ladies, among whom were Miss House, Miss Taylor, Miss Herbert and Miss Shoenbottom.

The assets which Mr. Agnew commended on the part of a young woman were those which fitted her for the home in which she lived. He found her greatest sphere and her most important business.

"Most young women," he said, "look forward to having a home of their own. It is a duty and an obligation on their part to fit themselves for it. They learn to know the value of the dollar, and what it has cost to produce that dollar. They should know how to make it go as far as possible. The number of apartments there are in the city, and the increase of restaurants on our city streets are indications that some women are neglecting their homes, and losing interest in them. They have no longer any interest in baking and mending and patching."

Mr. Agnew gave vent to his dislike to one phase of modern life, that which trained a great many women to be independent commercially and financially. It was this condition, he said, which trained women to take the burden on their own shoulders, if anything happened to the bread-winner, and to know how to make a wise investment of their money.

"Every woman," he said, "should know the difference between 'government' and 'industrial' bonds."

There were certain features of modern life, however, which Mr. Agnew did not praise. Among these were the present extravagant styles of dress and the tendency to over-emphasize athletics for women.

"Basketball, hockey, scientifically played, are fine things for girls up to the age of 15 or 16 years. After that, in my opinion, in great many instances, the tendency to develop the purely masculine in a young woman, rather than the feminine. Women are not meant to be masculine, any more than a man is meant to be feminine."

"With regard to dress, I think many women adopt the extreme fashions in order to attract attention, careless of the fact that any attention attracted in this way is not of the proper sort. A winning personality and attractiveness will do more in this direction than any extravagance of dress."

Among those qualities which Mr. Agnew listed as a girl's greatest assets were good posture, a well-balanced recreation, rest and sleep were the important contributions. He commended also intelligence, modesty, common sense and well-balanced judgment, a well-modulated voice, a quietness and dignity of manner, and courtesy, all of which, he said, might be summed up in the phrase "poise and consideration of others."

Foremost, however, he placed a virtuous life, and in this connection he pointed out the need for increasing the prevalence of dance halls and automobiles.

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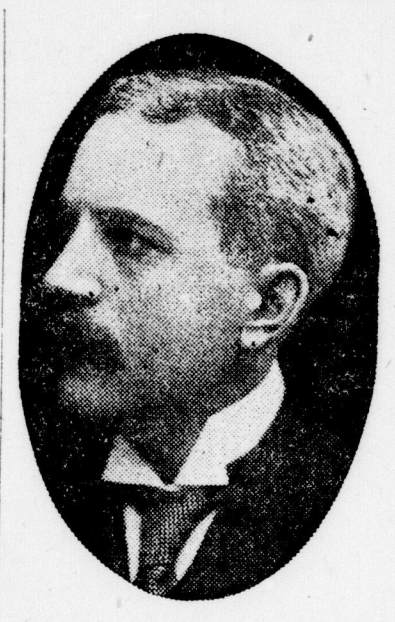
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J. P. MOORE,

London and Port Stanley Railway commissioner, and well-known barrister, who underwent an operation last night at Victoria Hospital, is reported to be "doing very well" this afternoon.

\$14,000 EXCESS COST OF RELIEF

City Engineer Says This Is the Extra Price of Sewer to City.

City Engineer Near places \$14,000 as the estimated excess cost incurred by the city in undertaking, as an employment relief measure, the construction of the Wellington-High street sewer job, a \$200,000 proposition. This sum includes the entire work, however, from its inception until April 1 next.

The engineer considers this a very reasonable showing, however, all things considered, about 14 per cent. The "excess cost" for labor ranged at about 53 per cent, but this was counteracted by the fact that all the early work undertaken north of the river was done without any increased cost of any consequence.

"The city council" asked the provincial and federal governments to share this \$14,000 burden, as was done upon previous occasions. The federal authorities declined to renew their contribution, and the province told The Advertiser not long since that the council's request, while considered, was waiting definite action.

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LIBRARY BOARD STRESSES NEED OF NEW BUILDING

Estimates Will Be Considered at Meeting This Afternoon.

KEEP EXPENSE DOWN

Public Library estimates for 1924, aggregating \$29,580, will be considered at a special meeting of the board this afternoon, according to an announcement from Librarian Crouch. While no formal request for a new public library building will be entered to the city council, the librarian states that the need for this will be stressed by his tentative statement. The customary regular salary increases will be included in the report, however.

The amount submitted is but \$800 in excess of amount expended by the board during 1923 and as a matter of fact is even \$1,000 short, roughly, of the amount which should be sought and secured by the city council by reason of provincial legislation which allows the right to assess 50 cents per head of population.

It is not the intention of the board, however, to make any unusual demands upon the public exchequer in view of the clarification of the city hall for a new tax rate.

Certain needs will be stressed, but not forced.

DOUGLASS SEEKS VOTE ON NURSE QUESTION

Chairman of Finance Committee Urges Control by Board of Health.

A vote of the people next municipal election to settle whether school nurses shall be placed under the direct control of the board of health is sought by Ald. L. H. Douglass, member of that body and chairman of the finance committee of the city council.

Ald. Douglass adopts this attitude in view of the fact that the present regulations of the provincial department of education will not permit of the change as advocated at the last session of the local health board.

The people of Toronto, by popular vote at a municipal election, approved of a similar plan, now in that city.

The people of London may also exercise their opinion