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### ELECTRIC WIRES IN BAD SHAPE

Evidence of dangerous condition of the electric wiring in the Gladstone Avenue Rink, Ottawa, just prior to the fire which destroyed it, on the 5th instant was given at the opening of the enquiry before Fire Marshal Heaton last week.

Mr. N. E. Bell, district Inspector of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, in giving his evidence, produced a copy of a letter which had been sent to both Poy Brothers and Mr. J. A. Christin, proprietor of the roller rink plant, notifying them that the electric wiring was in bad condition, and must be repaired at once to conform with the law. Mr. Bell stated that the circuits carrying the original lighting of the rink were overloaded, wires were not insulated, and, in some instances, were hanging loose, there was open fusing and some unprotected switches. He furthermore declared that the wires leading to the three main switches were in a disordered condition.

#### Had Five Day Warning

This letter was sent to both parties on August 30, just five days prior to the fire. He had a reply from Mr. Christin's solicitor repudiating responsibility for the condition of the wiring, but adding that he (Mr. Christin) would undertake to put the circuits leading to the lights over the skating surface in condition.

Charles Harman, caretaker of the rink, in his evidence, however, declared that he had cut off the switches after the rink had closed on the night preceding fire.

There was no evidence that the conflagration started in the Producers' Dairy stables, just west of the rink, which were also destroyed, several of the witnesses stating that the rink building was a mass of flames before the stables caught fire.

WHEN a diplomat says No, he means maybe. If he says Maybe, he means yes; if he says Yes, he is no diplomat. Or, in case a lady is asked for a kiss, if she says No, she means maybe; if she says Maybe, she means yes, if she says Yes, she is no lady. Again, take the case of a prospect asked to take a life insurance policy. If he says No, he means maybe, if he says Maybe, he means yes; if he says yes, he has a heart murmur!

—T. A. Buckner, New York Life.