OUTLOOK SERIOUS FOR NATURAL GAS

Report of Provincial Commissioner Far From Being Reassuring.

The natural gas situation in Ontario is in anything but a satisfactory condition, according to the report issued yesterday by E. S. Estlin, commissioner of natural gas for the province. In the first place there is a decided shortage, due to the decline of the gas fields and the small area of new producing territory explored. Added to this is the increasing demand, and the result is, the commissioner declares, serious.

Mr. Estlin, in the course of his investigations during the past year, held several inquiries under oath, and he sums up the situation as follows:

"The natural gas situation as it stands today is brought out in the following summary of the evidence taken at recent hearings, the general trend of which indicates that:

"1.—There are two recognized areas of production, commonly known as the eastern and western gas fields, the former having been drawn upon for about thirty years and the latter for about fourteen. Some of the conditions affecting the life of the two fields differ, and they are separately mentioned, where possible, in the evidence.

"2.—There is a shortage of natural gas for home use in cold weather, at a time when it is most required.

Consumption Too Great.

"3.—The shortage is caused primarily by a field depletion common in the history of all gas areas, but this depletion was accelerated by excessive consumption during the war period.

"4.—This depletion is not being offset by development work because of prohibitive costs, and for this reason will become more acute each year.

"5.—Gas enterprises no longer hold out hope of financial gain under present conditions, and do not attract further capital, which is necessary for the development of new gas-bearing territory.

Needs Readjusting.

"6.—If a general readjustment in the whole situation does not take place immediately the business will pass into decline, and this valuable fuel supply will be lost to about fifteen per cent. of the population of the province.

"7.—The need of seeking for new sources of natural gas at greater depth is apparent; this not only brings greatly increased costs, but also multiplies the risks, and the production end of the natural gas business is a miner's risk not lightly undertaken.

"8.—The commercial end of the enterprise is hedged in with contractual obligations assumed when the fields were young and the wells flush, and the whole situation under prevailing conditions holds out no promise of improvement."

TO ENFORCE O.T.A.

Fifteen Additional Officers Appointed to Work Under Ontario License Board.

Referring to Premier Drury's speech in the riding of Brant on Wednesday, when the premier stated that the O.T.A. would be enforced by strengthening the provincial police, A. B. Dingman, vice-chairamn of the Ontario License Board, stated that during the last two weeks fifteen licence officers had been added to the law enforcement branch of his department. Mr. Dingman would not say where these men were distributed, but he added "they are getting in some good licks and they have justified their appointment."

TRUST COMPANY CLAIM WILL BE PREFERRED

In an application by the Equitable Trust Company at Osgoode Hall yesterday for leave to bring action against the Dominion Shipbuilding & Repair Co. for $15,893.76 claimed on advances, and claiming to be entitled to the unused materials bought with the unused money under their guarantee, Justice Orde directed that the liquidator of the shipbuilding company should keep a record of the material used in completing ships under construction, and that the Trust Company's position should not be prejudiced by the fact that the plates were worked into ships. The Trust Company's claim will be preferred in the winding-up instead of an action being brought.

MINIMUM WAGE BOARD.

The minister of labor, Hon. W. R. Rollo, said yesterday he had asked the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to suggest general names of people who would be suitable to sit on the proposed minimum wage board. It had all along been expected that the board, which is to consist of two women and three men, would have been appointed long before this.

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION, TORONTO.

During the Canadian National Exhibition, August 30 to Sept. 11 inclusive, Grand Trunk train leaving Toronto 11.40 p.m. will stop at Aurora, Newmarket and Bradford to let off passengers. For further particulars apply to Grand Trunk agents.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS.

Both Parkdale and West Toronto G.A.U.V. meet this evening to discuss important matters relating to policy, the former branch meeting at Moose Hall, the latter branch at Parkdale Assembly Hall, Northcote and Queen streets.

DOG OWNERS FINED.

The county authorities are after those who fail to procure dog licenses for their canines. For failing to comply with this regulation the following paid $1 yesterday: John Davies, John J. Kent, J. W. Stewart, Allan N. Price, R. Coe, Herbert Colley and H. Feast. The Toronto Taxi, Ltd., paid $9.25 for speeding.

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ASSESSMENT GROWS

Ward Four Shows Increase of Over Six Million Dollars—More Population.

The new assessment roll for Ward Four shows an increase of assessment of $6,238,058 and an increase of population of 681. Following are the figures compared with the old roll:

	1921.	1920.
Land	$47,875,072	$45,991,719
Buildings	36,971,815	35,288,605
Income	9,180,451	6,941,453
Business	9,333,341	8,400,874
Total	$102,860,709	$96,622,651
Exemptions	$21,803,915	$21,404,416
Population	68,671	67,990

The Increases.

The increases are: Land, $1,383,353; buildings, $1,683,210; business, $932,467; income, $2,239,028; total, $6,238,058; exemptions, $399,499; population, 681.

The rolls for seven wards are now in and only the Ward Three rolls are still incomplete. The increase of assessment for the seven wards has been about $43,000,000, totaling $686,331,625. The new population figures are 512,465.

DELAY TERAULAY STREET EXTENSION

New Thorofare May Not Be Open to Public for Years.

Altho council has resolved to widen and extend Teraulay street from College street to Davenport road, and the bylaw to authorize the purchase of the balance of the right-of-way will be before council at its next session, Assessment Commissioner Forman said yesterday that the new street will not be open for the public for at least two years from the present, and he thought three years would be a closer guess.

Notices will be sent out early next week to the 800 property owners immediately benefited, who will be asked to pay 25 per cent. of the cost, and they will be given an opportunity to express any objections they may have, at the next meeting of council on September 27th. A two-thirds vote of the entire council can carry the authorization bylaw in spite of any objections.

The residents, however, if they persist in their objections, may appeal to the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, providing the appeal is supported by a majority of the property owners concerned. As 75 per cent. of the cost is being borne by the city at large and only 25 per cent. by the properties adjoining, there is not likely to be serious objection from the 800 property owners.

Mr. Forman said to the World yesterday that considerable time would be taken up with the negotiations for the purchase of the land needed, and all cases in which settlements could not be reached would have to be taken to the board of arbitration. This would take up many more months.

MAY LOCATE PLANT

General Manager of English Engineering Company Here Looking Over Situation.

Walter E. Walker, director and general manager of the Vulcan Motor & Engineering Co., Southport, England, who is going to exhibit Vulcan motor trucks at the Canadian National Exhibition, said at the King Edward last night that his visit here was part of an organized campaign to introduce the Vulcan truck into Canada. If subsequent business justifies it, the Vulcan company will eventually establish a Canadian plant for the manufacture of the vehicles.

Mr. Walker stated that motor trucks were coming more and more into use in England for transportation of freight. Up to distances of a hundred miles, he said, motor transportation was less expensive than shipping by railway freight in England. Steam trucks, he said, were increasing in number in England. These vehicles burn coke or coal as fuel, and when equipped with a trailer can carry from ten to fourteen tons.

Mr. Walker thought that substitutes for gasolene, such as benzol and alcohol, would be increasingly used as motor fuels.

PERCENTAGES OVERDUE

Board of Control Will Make Recommendations to Council—Amount Growing.

R. J. Fleming, manager of the Toronto Railway Company, called on Corporation Counsel Geary again yesterday and had a further discussion regarding the application of the company to be allowed to retain the city's percentages of the street car earnings until the end of the franchise term.

It is understood the legal representatives of the city and the company have been in conference, and that the board of control will be prepared to make a recommendation to council, disposing of the matter, next Wednesday.

The percentages for June and July are overdue, amounting to about $137,000, and the August percentage will be due on Sept. 9.

VETERANS FOR PARADE

All Asked to Turn Out in Honor of V.C.'s—Dental Treatment Offered.

Henry Franklin, secretary of Maccabeus Post, G.A.U.V., has written specially asking every member to turn out at the Zion Institute, Cecil and Beverley streets, at 11.30 a.m. tomorrow, the parade being held to Exhibition Park in honor of the V.C. heroes of the Dominion.

BIG EXPENDITURES FOR GOOD ROADS

Provincial Program Calls for Over Thirteen Million Dollars.

W. A. McLean, deputy minister of highways, gave out some interesting information yesterday regarding Ontario's good roads program. This year about $13,500,000 are being spent by the province for roads. Of this amount $2,500,000 is being spent in accordance with legislation passed last session providing that the government pay 20 per cent. of the cost of road work done by the township; seven millions is being spent on county roads; and fuur million is being spent on the 1,800 miles of provincial roads planned.

"Of this latter system, 600 miles are now actually under construction," said Mr. McLean. Altogether there are some 3,000 men now being employed directly by the department on road construction work. Nine hundred miles of county roads are under construction.

Construction work actually under way is located on the roads from Ottawa to Windsor, and Hamilton to Queenston. For the most part this is prelimniary work, grading, culvert and bridge construction, with special attention to drainage.

"Our policy has been misunderstood in some particulars," said Mr. McLean. "It has been incorrectly inferred that we are not doing any permanent construction work; but this will follow. We are proceeding just now, having in mind immediate traffic demands. Over the 1,200 miles of provincial highways on which construction is not yet started, we are now extending our organization. Most of this has been already graded and macadamized under county and municipal supervision."

BUILDING PERMITS

New Banks and Schools Among Biggest Items—Synagogue on Henry Street.

Permits were issued for over $250,000 worth of new buildings by the city architect yesterday, new banks and schools being the largest items. Application was also made for a permit to erect a synagogue on Henry street for the Congregation Beth Jacob.

Following were some of the permits issued:

Board of education, addition to school, west side of Gledhill avenue, near Danforth, $6800.

Board of education, addition to school on Erskine avenue, near Yonge street, $72,000.

Bank of Montreal, addition to bank, northeast corner of Yonge and Queen streets, $53,000.

Dominion Bank, one storey brick bank, northeast corner Cherry and Commissioner streets, $20,000.

J. A. Harrison Coal Company, coal chute, of reinforced concrete, on Brock avenue, $25,000.

W. J. White, dwelling, east side of Indian Grove, near Humberside avenue, $4000.

FOR CHURCH UNION

Methodists Now Stated to Be Awaiting Action of Presbyterians.

Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, general superintendent of the Methodist Church, has communicated with Rev. J. H. Edmison, home mission board of the Presbyterian Church, with regard to the church union situation in western Canada. Dr. Chown reviews the conditions as they exist, pointing out that the union churches are springing up everywhere, and the movement is strong.

The Methodist Church is waiting for action on the part of the Presbyterian Church regarding amalgamation. If an indication is given on behalf of the Presbyterians for immediate action, a special meeting of the Methodist church will be summoned.

FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SANDY BILL

Dominion Alliance Sends Out Call for Meeting of General Executive.

Rev. Ben. H. Spence, secretary of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance, has sent out a call for a meeting of the general executive to be held on September 8. Among the important matters to be considered will be the Sandy bill, and action to bring it into force. A special session of the legislature would be required to have this law put into effect.

Rev. Dr. Andrew S. Grant, vice-chairman and secretary of the Ontario Referendum Committee, announces that the prohibitionists are now ready for the issuance of the provincial voters' lists. Each polling sub-division thruout the province has been organized, and as the government list is published the temperance forces will check each one to see that every qualified voter is registered.

"We intend to get a full vote," stated Dr. Grant yesterday. "We are not concerned as to how a person will vote. We intend to see that everybody who is entitled to cast a ballot has a chance to do so."

TO ASSIST VISITORS.

Superintendent A. L. Smith of the Union Station is making special arrangements for the handling of traffic during Exhibition time. An extra squad of police will be on the job day and night to assist the visitors. Special instructions will be issued to the baggage and express companies regarding the handling of trucks on the station platforms.

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EATON'S DAILY STORE NEWS

STORE CLOSED ALL DAY SATURDAY DURING JULY AND AUGUST

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DR. LARGE DEAD

Was Graduate of Toronto University and Victoria College—Work Among Indians.

Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, general superintendent of the Methodist Church, has received a telegram from Prince Rupert announcing the death of Rev. R. W. Large, M.D., medical superintendent of the Methodist Port Simpson, B.C., hospital. He had been ill for some time.

Dr. Large was a graduate of Toronto University and Victoria College, and was a son of the late Rev. Richard Large, a member of the Toronto conference. When the call came twenty-two years ago Dr. Large went to British Columbia, working among the Indians.

"No better man could have been secured for this work," said Dr. Chown.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS

The heirs to the $15,987 estate left by the deceased Archibald J. Smith, who died intestate, are his widow, who receives $1,000 and one-third of the residue, the remainder going to the deceased's three brothers and three sisters.

Three children of the deceased Frederick Witney and Emily Witney divide the $4,350 estate left by them. Mr. Witney left a will under which his widow was sole beneficiary, but she died before the will was probated. She died intestate.

After providing that $100 be paid for masses, the deceased Mrs. Mary C. Doyle, who left estate valued at $2,570, directed that her two children should inherit the balance in equal shares.

A sister, four brothers, four nieces and four nephews succeed equally to the estate of the deceased Mary S. Callicott, who did intestate leaving estate valued at $2,075.

Mrs. Annie M. Sanderson inherits the $1,649 estate left by her father, Stephen Roblin Percy, who died intestate.

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Soap, Ointment, Talcum, 25c. each. Sold everywhere. Can. Depot: Lymans, Limited, St. Paul St., Montreal.

SPORTS STIMULATE RIVALRY IN LABOR

Men in Training for Big Events to Be Decided at Exhibition.

The Labor Day sports at the Exhibition are declared to have been successful this year in stirring up to an unusual degree a spirit of friendly rivalry among the unions. The Printers' and Electrical Workers' Unions are reported to be training teams with a view to taking the honors in inter-union events, while the Painters' and Decorators' express equal confidence in the ability of their unorganized athletes to give all comers a real contest. The announcement of the police force as possible contenders has failed to produce the impression which the appearance of that body usually excites, altho it is admitted that some excellent athletes are numbered among the uniformed men. Chairman Walter Brown of the Labor Day sports committee states that the prize list is valued at well over $600.

"Gad" Martindale, of Rochester, international vice-president of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, will be in town on Monday next and will address the regular meeting of the Toronto local.

The carpenters of the Toronto Railway Company are the most recent to accept the award given in connection with the wage dispute of the Toronto Railway Company, The Toronto Power Company and the Toronto and Niagara Power Company.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners reports in its journal for the month of August the payment during July of benefits totaling over $43,000.

Substantial increases in the wages of union officials are suggested in copies received locally of the amendments to the general constitution which are to be brought before the convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, commencing on September 20, next, in Indianapolis. An amendment from Niagara Falls, Ontario, favors a uniform increase of 40 per cent., and one from New York city specifies a salary of $10 per day for organizers, $7,500 per year for the president, $6,000 per year for the vice-president, and $60 per week for the members of executive boards in each division.

Business Agent Walter Brown of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union expresses the hope that the present slackness of trade will be to some extent alleviated after Exhibition. He has received word from the States, he declares, that factories which have been closed for the past twelve and fifteen weeks are resuming operations, altho on a somewhat curtailed scale.

The Street Railway Men's Union paid over $46,000 in death benefits during the month of July, according to the statement of its monthly publication.

FIXING THEIR TEETH.

J. V. Marsh, general organizer for the G.A.U.V. in Ontario, in an interview with Captain Burton, Dental Corps, Canadian Militia, Toronto, learned that those veterans applying to Colonel Thompson, O.C. the Dental Corps, on or before September 1st, will receive treatment for dental troubles, no matter what they may be. They are advised to apply by letter, but applications made in person will be honored.

CITY MUST ISSUE PERMIT.

At Osgoode Hall yesterday Justice Orde issued a mandamus order directed to the city architect requiring him to issue a permit for an extension of the building belonging to Peter Shaver at 90 Annette street, where he carries on a dairy business. Objection was taken that the proposed extension would project beyond the building line fixed by law.

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