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C. H. ROBERTS
Canada Life Building, Toronto.

FIFTEENTH YEAR

WAR ON THE LIGHT.

Grave Charges Against Six of the Aldermen.

ACCUSED OF BIDDING FOR BRIBES

In Connection With the Electric Light Franchise.

The Mayor Decides That a Thorough Investigation Shall Take Place Before the Tender for Lighting is Awarded.

The Manager of the Toronto Electric Lighting Co., the People Alleged to Have Been Approached, Declines to Either Admit or Deny the Rumor.

Down at the City Hall yesterday there was most unusual excitement, for grave charges against the honesty of certain members of the City Council floated in the air, charges that, if true, will create one of the greatest scandals that has ever occurred in the municipal history of the city of Toronto.

These charges have reference to the tenders for the electric lighting of the city. Had they concerned anything else it is safe to say that every individual person would have instantly dismissed them as unfounded.

Not so with the electric lighting business. In connection with the receiving and opening of the tenders, certain things have occurred which have raised doubts in the minds of those interested in municipal affairs as to whether the proceedings were being conducted with the proper light-heartedness that is imperative in matters that pertain to public property.

That the charges are not entirely credited the attitude of the highest dignitaries in demanding an investigation before any action is taken in regard to the lighting, is sufficient evidence.

SIX ALDERMEN ACCUSED.

Six aldermen, whose names have not yet leaked out are accused of having approached the Toronto Electric Lighting Company prior to the sending of the street lighting tenders and offered to sell their influence in the council for the sum of \$12,000.

The following gentlemen were named: Robert Jeffrey, William McCabe, Hon. Mr. A. J. St. Lawrence, Mr. J. J. Wright, manager of the Toronto Electric Lighting Company, was interviewed by a reporter regarding the charges but he refused to either deny or confirm the statements. The press representative understood from him, however, that a special meeting of the Board of Directors would be held on Friday afternoon to consider the question, and that at 8 in the evening the newspapers might expect to receive a definite statement.

Manager Wright is Non-Committal.

In view of this a bunch of reporters were on hand at the Toronto Electric Lighting Company at the look of Scott-street at the time mentioned. They saw Mr. Wright, but he did not deign to inform them they were the victims of a mistake. That no meeting of the Board of Directors was being held, and that he had nothing to say on the subject at all.

"You refuse to either deny or confirm these charges?" queried the World reporter.

"If you ask me no question," replied Mr. Wright, "I will tell you no lies. I am not here to be cross-examined by you."

"Must Be An Investigation," Says the Mayor.

Ald. Hallam was at the City Hall yesterday and an investigation was called for by Mayor Kennedy. Both he and the mayor are of the opinion that nothing whatever should be done in the matter of the electric lighting until an investigation has been held.

Ald. Hallam announced his intention of moving a resolution at the next meeting of the City Council calling for an inquiry into the whole subject before the City Judge, who would be able to take a sworn evidence.

Some of the aldermen seem to think that the charges are a bluff on the part of the Toronto Electric Lighting Company to obtain the sympathy of the council and thus secure for themselves the franchise. Others, however, who think an investigation is necessary in order to clear the aldermanic body from the stain which has been cast upon them, are in the majority.

The Feeling of Distrust.

There is an all-around feeling of distrust in regard to the electric lighting tenders. In the first place the postponement of the opening of the tenders from Friday to Monday, and the fact that altogether straight, and in the second place the fact that the Toronto Electric Lighting Company's terms was only one-half cent per lamp per night below the offer of the Toronto Railway Company thought peculiar.

At the meeting of the Fire and Light committee yesterday afternoon, Ald. Hubbard read the accusation that was printed in an evening paper. It was a matter, he said, that could not be passed over. If the charges were true they should be exposed at the earliest possible moment, if they were not they should be withdrawn. If the article was from the Toronto Electric Lighting Company should come forward and give the name of the person or persons who approached them.

Chairman Stewart. This, I think, is a matter for the council to deal with.

Al. Foster said that was the first he had heard of the charges. So far as he was concerned he had never come in contact with nor been approached by any person interested in electric lighting.

Chairman Stewart said he had not been approached in any way in the matter of the tenders.

Ald. McCulloch Let us proceed to business; this does not worry me at all.

The ordinary business of the meeting was then gone on with.

Doubt the Truth of the Charges.

Ald. Sheppard, when seen last night, was inclined to doubt the truth of the charges. He advised that a thorough investigation, and urged that the names of the aldermen referred to should be made public. "I cannot believe," said he, "that any alderman would so stuff himself. I heard nothing of the matter until today."

Oct. 2, 1894.

We received today 35 30-lb packages of choice dairy butter. Just rise for family use, which is sold by our Telephone 2298, St. Mary's Dairy Co., 291-293 King-st. west. 246

Arlington Hotel.

This elegant, comfortable hotel offers every inducement to those desiring permanent winter accommodation.

CABINET CALLED IN HASTE.

Special Council of Great Britain's Ministry of War and Home Affairs.

London, Oct. 2.—A special Cabinet council has been called for Thursday next and the members of the Ministry who are absent from the city have been hurriedly summoned to return.

Telegrams have been sent to Sir William Vernon Harcourt, who started yesterday for Italy, and others of the Ministers who are in the country. Sudden new developments regarding the relations between Great Britain and France are without doubt the reason for the hastily summoning of the Ministers.

The Daily News in an editorial referring to the special meeting of the British Cabinet called for Thursday, says: "It is not always wrong when it deals with the cases of cabinet meetings. We are not, indeed, sure that the only reasonable assumption at present is that the Anglo-French negotiations require the attention of the Cabinet."

The Standard says that nobody whose opinion has any value, believes for a moment that the Government has arisen that could not be amicably arranged by patient and temperate discussion. It deprecates the extreme opinions adopted in the few weeks by certain Paris newspapers.

The Daily Chronicle alludes to the occasion for summoning the Cabinet as a grave and serious matter. It deprecates the fact that the condition of both the civilized and uncivilized world gives only too good reason for the call.

The Standard expresses the opinion that Egypt will be the test question, and advocates a European conference with the object of completely neutralizing Egypt.

It regards the imminence of Japanese coup in Pekin as a far more serious matter, and adds that should the defeat of the Chinese be followed by a revolution and a massacre of Europeans, there would arise an eastern crisis the result of which it is impossible to forecast.

To Wed an English Princess.

London, Oct. 2.—The Daily News reports that the Prince of Naples, Crown Prince of Italy, has been betrothed to an English Princess.

RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION.

Elect Officers and Discuss the Georgian Bay Canal Scheme.

The Ratepayers' Association met last night in St. George's Hall, and elected the following officers: President, Dr. J. H. Bond; Secretary, R. L. Fraser; Treasurer, J. H. Bond; and members of the executive committee, J. H. Bond, R. L. Fraser, J. H. Bond, J. H. Bond, J. H. Bond.

The following gentlemen were named: J. H. Bond, R. L. Fraser, J. H. Bond, J. H. Bond, J. H. Bond.

They were among those who took part in the discussion. Messrs. Deane and Carlyle were the chief speakers. The former is in the interest of the boomers. Mr. Deane expressed the opinion that the city taking over the railway would be a mistake. Mr. Carlyle said that a special meeting of the Board of Directors would be held on Friday afternoon to consider the question, and that at 8 in the evening the newspapers might expect to receive a definite statement.

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CHINA'S RULER TOTTERING.

High School Trustees Discuss Monopolies and Other Matters—Secretary Redmond's Resignation Accepted.

An unusually and protracted wrangle disturbed the customary meeting of the High School Board at their meeting last night. The dispute arose over an alleged failure on the part of H. H. Spence, who holds the contract for the supply of coal used by the board, to fulfill his agreement, in consequence of which he was notified by Secretary Hagerman that the contract was cancelled.

The Property Committee endorsed the action of the secretary, and called for new tenders. The report of this committee contained this clause:

1. That the contractor for the supply of coal used by the board, H. H. Spence, was notified by the Property Committee of its decision to cancel the contract, and that he refused to do so.

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Trustee Laxton made a plea for Mr. Spence, who was said, was being persecuted by a monopoly.

Trustee Green accepted this as an opening, and intimated Mr. Laxton with a representative of the Gas Company, and the board was adjourned.

More than an hour was spent in cross-examination, when an amendment by Trustee Laxton that the clause be struck out was passed.

Mr. Riddell Will Receive the Balance.

A romance was recalled by a clause in the Finance Committee's report recommending the payment of the sum of \$100 in full settlement of claim against the estate of Miss F. H. Riddell, who died on Oct. 21, 1893.

Mr. Riddell was formerly in the employ of the board as a teacher in Parkdale Institute, but becoming involved in a breach-of-promise suit took an indefinite holiday. The young lady in the case, Miss F. H. Riddell, was married in Texas, and induced him to carry out his promise of marriage, which he returned to Toronto and Mr. Riddell put in a claim for the balance due him by the board.

The resignation of Mr. W. C. Beddome as secretary-treasurer of the board was accepted by the board, and a permanent successor was referred to the Finance Committee.

A union clause was inserted in all contracts given by the board and sent to the Property Committee.

The Finance Committee presented a statement of receipts and disbursements from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, showing a surplus for the year of \$48,478.88 and the balance forward of \$12,051.39. The Finance Committee presented a statement of receipts and disbursements from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, showing a surplus for the year of \$48,478.88 and the balance forward of \$12,051.39.

BE A MAJORITY OF TWO.

Mr. Joseph Renais is Elected Lord Mayor of London.

London, Oct. 2.—A poll of the guild electors of London was taken yesterday to decide who should be the next Lord Mayor. The poll was held at the Guildhall, and Mr. Joseph Renais, a member of the House of Commons, was elected by a majority of two.

France at the Head of the List of Prize-Winners.

Antwerp, Oct. 2.—The World's Exhibition which was opened here on May 5, by the King and Queen of the Belgians, was formally closed yesterday with the display of the medals. A large number of members of the Cabinet attended the closing ceremonies and the city was thronged with prize-winners.

The awards to go to Great Britain, Canada, and other British Colonies make a total number of 14 grand prizes.

Miss Alexander's Recital.

An audience numbering nearly 3000 was present at Miss Jessie Alexander's recital at the Grand Opera House last night. The popular pianist gave a highly successful program of new fall music. Her playing was of the highest quality, and she was enthusiastically received by the audience.

The Grand Repertory.

Messrs. Silver & Smith's combination sales yesterday was a great success. The sale was held at the Grand Opera House, and the proceeds were donated to the Grand Repertory.

Spelled the Detective's Name.

Bronville, Oct. 2.—William Prosser of Kempsville, charged with placing obstructions on the Canadian Pacific Railway track, was acquitted yesterday. The jury found in favor of the defendant.

Lord Hawke's Cricketers.

Not to be familiar with such new phases as bowling crease, long leg, popping crease, square leg and on-stumps and balls will be considered a positive crime by the British sportsmen who will all wear yellow jackets, peacock feathers and red caps, and will be equipped with two-inch wickets. The English stock tie, Imperial and Colosse, although a little worn, are still in the ring of fashion.

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STREET LIGHTING CONTRACT.

TORONTO ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.'S CONTRACT RECOMMENDED.

According to the Engineer's Estimate the Cost of Constructing a Municipal System Would Be \$9,248 Per Light and Electric Power \$110,000.

The Fire and Light Committee decided at the meeting yesterday to recommend the council to accept the tender of the Toronto Electric Light Co. for lighting the streets, at the rate of \$74.82 1-2 per light per annum.

Chairman Stewart announced that according to tenders received and the estimate of the City Engineer, the cost of a municipal electric lighting plant would be as follows: Engines, \$75,720; dynamo, \$2,700; lamps, \$25,000; poles, \$15,000; wire, \$18,277; construction, \$10,000; buildings, \$42,000; belting, \$8,500; interest, \$14,800. Total, \$233,007.

The Chairman's Analysis.

"Allowing four per cent," said the chairman, "for interest, and per cent for depreciation, which amounts to \$26,800, and putting the running and maintenance expense down at \$15,000 the annual cost to the city would be \$100,500."

"Counting 1500 lights, the cost of each light per year would come to \$77.37, or \$2,550 per light more than the tender of the Toronto Electric Light Co. adding up to an annual difference of \$8315."

"In making his estimate the City Engineer has taken into consideration the advantages from windstorms and other emergencies. I consider it is in the best interest of the city to accept the tender of the Toronto Electric Light Co."

Indivisible to Purchase a Plant.

Ald. McMurich thought that concerning electricity was as yet in its infancy, it would be very unwise for the city to purchase a plant at present, but that it would be possible for the city to run a plant as economically as a private corporation.

Ald. Foster stated that originally he was in favor of a municipal plant, but that when he saw the figures which the city engineer had submitted to Chairman Stewart were too high. He had received particulars from the United