

POOR DOCUMENT M C 2 0 3 5

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1921

HYDRO MATTER IS AGAIN DISCUSSED

Proposition to Take Over the New Brunswick
Power Company Brought Up at Representative
Meeting Yesterday—Many Prominent Speak-
ers Take Part—Power Ready in Early Spring.

An important conference in regard to hydro-electric distribution and other matters pertaining to the development of Musquash was held yesterday afternoon in the Board of Trade rooms, with Mayor Schofield presiding. After Premier Foster, Hon. Dr. E. A. Smith, chairman of the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission, and K. H. Smith, of Halifax, had spoken, the meeting was thrown open for general discussion, which finally culminated in Premier Foster making a statement relative to the feasibility of taking over the New Brunswick Power Company. The premier stated that he understood that he was not advocating the plan. Another meeting will be held within a short time. Those present at the conference included Premier Foster, Hon. Dr. E. A. Smith, K. H. Smith, Commissioner Bullock, Frank Thornton and Jones, Councillors W. Murray Campbell and W. Golding, R. E. Armstrong, Frank Parsons, Senator N. M. Jones, J. King Kelley, K. C. J. Hunter White, W. Frank Hatheway, C. W. Brown, Councillor J. F. Mosher, G. H. Hare, Barry Wilson, H. R. McEllan, F. A. Campbell, M. E. Agar, W. F. Burditt, A. H. Wetmore and others.

Mayor Schofield took the chair and explained the purpose of the meeting. It had been called to discuss the hydro-electric development and the distribution of the power to be obtained from Musquash. The power commission was obliged by statute to offer the power to the municipality first, the mayor said. In round figures, the situation at present was that the commission would be ready to deliver power by next spring, and the estimated price the municipality will have to pay as a carrying charge was about \$200,000 per annum. That figure was an approximate amount of power of 8,000 to 10,000 horsepower. On the same basis of figuring it was costing the New Brunswick Power Company about \$225,000 to develop 6,000 horsepower by coal and steam, so there was a saving on the face of it of about \$25,000. Then there was conservation of coal and the extra 3,000 horsepower as well. The \$200,000 figure was power delivered at the switchboard at Fairville. The big question was: "How to get it to the consumer?"

There was a proposition to let the power company handle the distribution. If the city must shoulder that job and go into competition with the power company, then it was estimated that it would entail an initial layout of from \$200,000 to \$250,000. It would mean the bankruptcy of the company.

Ready By Spring
Hon. Dr. Smith said that the opinion of eminent engineers had been obtained before the work at Musquash had been commenced. Several local engineers, the Mitchell firm, Henry Holgate, and others of international repute, had advised on the project and all had been unanimous that a capacity of from 6,000 to 10,000 horsepower lay in the Musquash development. Both dams are practically finished now and it had been hoped to furnish current by the end of this year, but the slowness of the electrical firms to deliver plant had caused delay and it would not be until early spring that the power would be ready for commercial use. There was not a particle of profit to be made by the commission in this matter, Dr. Smith declared. The government believed that the natural resources should be developed for the good of all the people in the province.

In answer to a question, Dr. Smith said he had never heard of any guarantee by the commission of 8,000 horsepower.

K. H. Smith
The federal engineer, K. H. Smith, who is also engineer to the Nova Scotia Waterways Commission, said that what assistance he could give the meeting would be of a technical nature. He told of the development of hydro at St. Margaret's Bay in relation to Halifax, and this development was analogous to that of Musquash and St. John. The great problem was the distribution to the consumer. Halifax city council had solved this question to a degree in that the city council had definitely decided that it would take a certain portion of the output and there was strong reason to believe that an amicable settlement would be reached with the Nova Scotia Tramway and Power Company for the distribution of the current.

The reason the commission could give no guarantee about the output was purely a physical reason, as some seasons were dryer than others. In regard to cost, Mr. Smith said that there was a market in St. John for from 10,000 to 12,000 horsepower. He would say that \$35 would be a maximum cost per horsepower in St. John, and at present manufacturers were paying as high as \$100 per horsepower per year to the power company. Mr. Smith said that Niagara was not the only system in use in Ontario. There were at least ten other systems. Toronto paid \$18 per horsepower per year, Windsor paid \$38 per horsepower over a transmission of 200 miles. Sarnia paid \$36. Mr. Smith said that maximum capacity of the water wheels at St. Margaret's was 10,700. At Musquash it was 11,100. The speaker said he could well understand the scepticism in the maritime provinces in regard to hydro, but if the people could only see the remarkable use to which the Ontario rivers were being put, their doubts would vanish.

Premier Foster.
Premier Foster said that his vision was along broad lines. He knew little of the technical side of the case but having seen the splendid progress made by cities that had taken up hydro, he had come to the conclusion that if we were going to get anywhere down here we would begin something of this nature at once.

When he became premier he had made

up his mind to formulate a broad policy in this direction. An investigation had been undertaken at Musquash and as a result, a large sum of money had been voted for development. The obstructionists had got together and the sceptics were crying the project down. He was convinced, however, that it was all right because he had faith in the eminent engineers who had made surveys. He was satisfied that the market was here in St. John for the current, at a price lower than can be obtained by coal. There is a saving in cost, outside of the interest on the power company's plant. In addition, there was three or four thousand extra h. p. to sell. This, the premier said, simply justified the government's expenditure.

The power company had said that it would distribute the power, a delicate situation would be created. But the power would soon be here and it was up to the municipality to absorb it. When he spoke of the municipality, the premier said, he meant the city of St. John, but the surrounding towns as well. St. John could not take it all and he was going to see that the suburbs got a fair share.

Other Views.
W. F. Burditt, president of the Board of Trade, said his organization realized the difficulty of distribution as between the public, the power company and other matters. He thought the city should retain some form of control over the distribution even if it were handed over to the power company, with the company agreeing to distribute at cost, allowing the city to install its own auditor.

Senator N. M. Jones said that the pulp mill at the reversing falls was using 1200 h. p., which was generated by use of coal. His firm was ready at any time to negotiate with the commission for power to replace their present system.

F. A. Campbell, president of the Trades and Labor Council, said his organization felt the distribution should be government controlled. He did not think that public monies should be used to develop natural resources that are then handed over to some private corporation. It was being handled by the government in Ontario and he saw no reason why the same plan should not be followed here. He would be pleased to act on a committee to consider the matter.

H. R. McEllan said there was no doubt that cheaper power was needed. The government had made its best effort but he did not think that the public money should be expended for the benefit of any private corporation. The people had had enough of handing over of public rights to private companies.

He appealed for co-operation in the matter among all the citizens. He had personally expended \$1,000 for an opinion from an eminent engineer regarding the Musquash development and the engineer had told him that about 700 h. p. was the limit.

Commissioner Prink said that the majority of the citizens entertained the belief that cheaper lighting would result. The Kensing report had said "No." He wanted to know what Mr. Smith had to say about this.

C. W. Brown said that the present lighting rates were excessive and somewhat of a relief should be done to reduce them. Councillor W. Murray Campbell, of Lancaster parish, said that the matter was of vital interest, not only to the city, but to the suburban districts as well. As far as the west side went, it was a question of dollars and cents and this should be a matter for the experts to decide.

Mr. Smith took the platform again and briefly answered several questions. There was no steam reserve for continuity of service in Ontario, Mr. Smith said. All figures he had made were based on cost to the receiving station and not to the consumer. The engineer said the whole secret of the affair was in co-operation. In answer to Mr. McEllan, Mr. Smith said that Mr. McEllan's engineer had made a survey of only one of the rivers. Two were under development and this accounted for the discrepancy. In answer to Mr. Prink, he said that if each department were made to shoulder its own burdens, there would be a reduction in the cost of lighting.

Power Company Status.
Premier Foster then brought up the matter in relation to the N. B. Power Company. He said that a reduction in lighting costs would depend on the system of distribution. Concerning municipal ownership, he was not in favor of it in many things, but there were some things where it was necessary. A lighting was a public necessity, he favored municipal ownership in this direction. Taking over the property of the N. B. Power Company would be a good thing, the premier said, provided the citizens could get it at a reasonable price. As a citizen and taxpayer he would never stand for an exorbitant price being paid. He wanted it understood that he was not, by putting this forward, advocating the plan, but merely as food for discussion in committee. The premier said the present capitalization

FRESH
Tea—to be good—must be fresh
"SALADA"
TEA
Is always fresh and possesses that unique flavour of 'goodness' that has justly made it famous.

of the company and the annual interest now paid on it was as follows:
\$1,750,000 5 p. c. bonds.....\$ 87,500
\$1,000,000 1st Pfd 7 p. c. stock. 70,000
330,000 2nd Pfd. 7 p. c. stock. 24,200
\$3,100,000 Total interest.....\$182,000
If the city could purchase the foregoing securities at the following prices the result would be as follows, city to assume interest:
Int. 6 p. c.
\$1,750,000 bonds at.....\$ 87,500
\$1,000,000 1st pfd. at.....80
80.....800,000 46,000
\$330,000 2nd pfd. at.....60
60.....210,000 12,600
\$2,760,000 \$146,100

In addition there is \$200,000 of common stock outstanding, represented in part by the water powers of the Le-preaux and Maguadavic rivers. What this stock could be purchased for from the holders is problematical, but assuming they would be willing to take \$20 per share it would be \$400,000 which, at 6 per cent would be \$24,000. Add to this the interest charges on the proposed new securities and it would make a total of \$172,000 against \$182,000 now paid, or a saving of \$10,000 per annum.

The purchase as above, would bring

Infants—Mothers
Thousands testify
Horlick's
The Original
Malted Milk.
Upbuilds and sustains the body
No Cooking or Milk required
Used for 1/3 of a Century.
Substitutes Cost YOU Same Price.

(the water powers under the control of the city, and if it desired to do so, it would probably find a sale for them to the provincial government, or should it desire to retain control the power commission, he had no doubt, would consider the leasing of them on a royalty basis. The amount received from the sale of water powers to the provincial government, or the leasing of them, would further reduce the interest charges. The sale of hydro-electric power for the service as at present constituted would further reduce the operating charges, say from \$30,000 to \$20,000, and in addition the city would

have 3,000 or 4,000 horse-power available to sell to manufacturers, and which would bring an additional revenue very conservatively estimated at \$100,000. To sum it up, the following saving will be effected to the public:
Difference in interest, payable on capitalization.....\$ 10,000
Interest on sale of water power to Hydro-Electric Commission, or on royalty basis, say.....10,000
Sale of three or four thousand horse-power to manufacturers 100,000
Difference between what Power Company is allowed to earn—namely eight per cent. on \$3,100,000, equal to \$248,000, and the interest on securities to be issued under new capitalization as above, \$145,000.....100,000
Total saving to city.....\$203,000

The difference between private ownership and municipal ownership certainly should not absorb this sum, but should produce decreased rates in lighting and street car fares.
A. H. Wetmore, W. F. Burditt and H. R. McEllan then spoke briefly, thanking the premier for his valuable suggestions. F. A. Campbell said that P. W. Thomson, general manager of the power company, had told him that the power house made a net profit of \$470 daily and even on this basis, it was a good proposition to take over the company. Commissioner Bullock wanted to know why the power company did not approach the city with an offer to sell out. To bring matters to an issue he was in favor of talking competition.

After Mayor Schofield had requested that each organization interested in the matter furnish him with the name of a representative, so that when another meeting he called they could be present, the meeting adjourned.

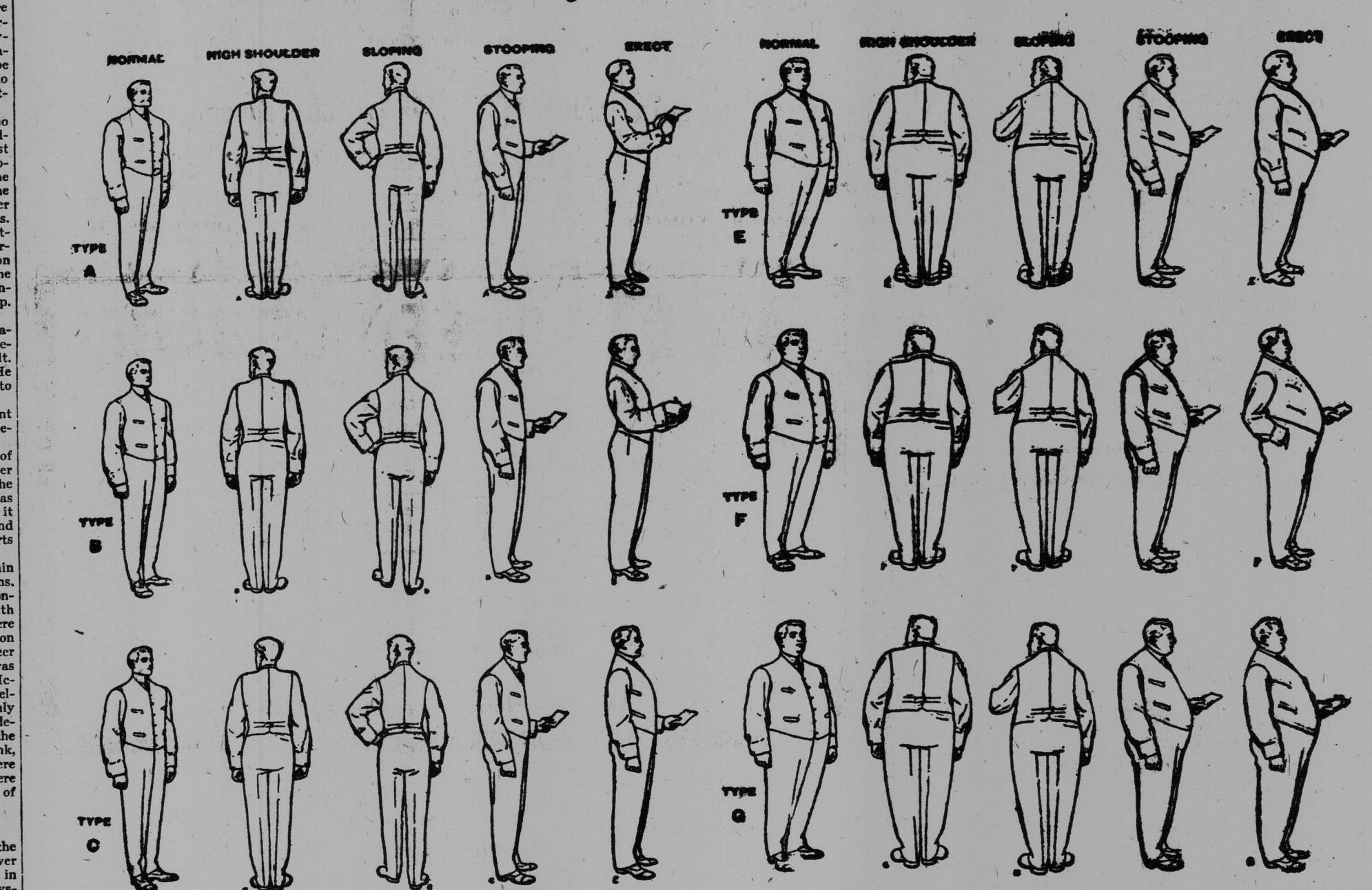
BROWN FOR MONCTON
Halifax, Oct. 19—A special despatch from Ottawa to the Mail says that it has been definitely arranged that L. S. Brown, now assistant-general manager of the Canadian National Railways, with headquarters at Montreal, will be placed in charge of the International unit of the Canadian National group, with headquarters at Moncton.

Snowflake
THE FULL STRENGTH
Ammonia
Softens Water.
One to two tablespoonsful makes the bath delightfully refreshing.

STANDARDIZE
On Imperial Premier Winter Gasoline. It will give you abundant power, More miles per gallon at the lowest mileage cost and a prompt, easy start.
IMPERIAL PREMIER WINTER GASOLINE
A straight-distilled all-refinery gasoline. Manufactured in our five Canadian refining plants especially for cold weather motoring.
You cannot buy better gasoline at any price.

Henri Bourassa announced yesterday (Tuesday) of Labelle county. He explained that he will not be a candidate in the coming federal elections for the constituency of Labelle county. He explained that he is not in physical condition to stand the strain of a campaign.

Founded on the Physique Type System: Semi-ready Tailored Clothes



WHEN Semi-ready Tailoring system was developed a quarter century ago, ready-made clothes had no standing.

A "ready-made" suit was derided—and deservedly so. Small retail tailor shops then flourished in every block. An average of 10 or 20 suits a week means a big overhead expense; and a good suit was costly, while a "ready-made" was a sorry affair.

A man with any pretensions to neat dress would not twenty-five years ago think of going into a ready-made shop for his apparel.

The struggle then was all for cheapness. Manufacturers vied with each other to see how cheaply they could turn out a suit for a retailer to sell at \$9.98 and still make a handsome profit on each sale. The inevitable trend was the sacrifice of quality and durability. The cheapest, tawdriest materials were used, and where

ever any part of the work could be omitted without the buyer discovering the trick, the omission was considered quite in the game.

It was the idea that men were willing to pay a fair price for quality and good workmanship that was the basis of the Semi-ready policy.

The conception of the physique type system, which meant that every shape of man could have his own suit, shapely designed to fit him, was, of course, the main idea. But this alone would not bring success to a new venture.

That shoes of the best leather were made in large factories and made better in style and in fitting quality than the ordinary bench shoemaker could make them had been proven. Then why not suits and overcoats?

Within a decade of the conception of the Semi-ready idea Canadians were considered the best dressed men in the civilized world. And they are today.

That men will pay a better price for what they know and feel to be a better article is true today and always. Intelligent men know that a good workman is worth more because his product is substantial and lasting.

The physique type system assures a well-fitting suit or outer garment. It is based on a physiological study of mankind—allowing for the physical shapes caused by occupation and environment. There are:

- Semi-ready Suits designed for short or slight men.
- Semi-ready Suits for short, stout men.
- Suits for the average man who keeps his weight right for his stature.
- Suits for tall men.
- Suits for tall stout men.
- Suits for fat men.
- Suits for cheery men, and others for men of large girth at the waist.
- Naturally the designer has to make patterns to fit each variation of

type—the Erect, the Sloping, the Sloping and the High Shoulder.

And when the suits are tailored to the try-on stage he must leave outlets for alterations to fit any variation from the type for which the garment is designed.

A suit designed for a coal miner, whose burly shoulders are abnormally developed, could not be made to fit an office man, or a man whose work has developed his hips rather than his shoulders.

It was quickly found that the most expensive wools, the finest and purest wool cloths, could be made up into suits by the tailor in the Semi-ready Shops without any risk. They would find an admiring buyer.

No man who thinks wisely or who has taste and discrimination in clothes can but admit that the Semi-ready Shop can fulfil his most particular need.

The good clothes shop is on a higher plane.

The Semi-ready Store
George Creary
87 Charlotte Street

RHEUMATIC PAIN
Rub it right out—Try this!
Rheumatism is "pain only." Not one case in fifty requires internal treatment. Stop drugging! Rub the misery right away! Rub soothing, entraining "St. Jacob's Oil" directly to the sore, stiff joints and muscles and relief comes instantly. "St. Jacob's Oil" conquers pain. It is a harmless rheumatism remedy which never disappears and does not blister. Linger up! Quit complaining! Get a small trial bottle of old-time "St. Jacob's Oil" at any drug store and in just a moment you'll be free from rheumatic pain, numbness and stiffness. Don't suffer! Relief awaits you. Get it! "St. Jacob's Oil" is just as good for sciatica, neuralgia, lumbago, backache, sprains and swellings.