

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1922.

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THE KRIBS REPORT

A civic distribution system to give the people of St. John the full benefit of the hydro development at Musquash can be installed for a little less than \$600,000. This is a good deal lower than the original estimate, and is based on a complete survey by Mr. Gordon Kribb, the hydro engineer, who has had wide experience in Ontario cities. Mr. Kribb says that if it were desired to take care of only the present business of the New Brunswick Power Company the cost would be considerably less, but he has wisely provided for a system that would take care of the increasing demand for light and power during the next three or four years. It will be noted that in his report he provides for a thoroughly modern system, with whatever improvements have been made in recent years in such systems. One result of the new system would be much better street lighting, with ornamental poles in the business centre.

Two important facts are established. A civic system can be installed without interference with the poles or wires of the power company's system, and it can be done at much lower cost than was accepted by the people when they voted overwhelmingly for hydro. The next forward step is now in order. The city must close the contract for the Musquash current. Whether there is to be a new distribution system appears to hinge on whether the New Brunswick Power Company is prepared to make an offer the city can accept, and that should be known in the course of the next week. The city cannot afford delay, for the all-sufficient reason that it does not want to be doing construction work in winter weather. The New Brunswick Electric Commission has prepared the form of contract and it should now be completed. There is no reason for delay on that score. The people desire action, and now that the way is clear their wishes will of course be met by the city council. The Kribb report is eminently satisfactory. We have also the assurance of this experienced engineer that the Musquash development is all that the government has claimed for it, and that there is no doubt whatever about the available supply of hydro-electric current. What remains is simply a matter of business, in completing the contract for the current and going ahead with plans for its early distribution.

THE COAL SUPPLY.

President Harding has been asked to appoint a federal coal commission. He says it will come "in due time." The New York Evening Post contends that he should not delay for these reasons—"Even if something is done to increase soft coal production there is not the slightest chance of getting out more anthracite till the strike is over. Yet, unless both soft and hard coal mining are shortly resumed at top speed, great suffering is inescapable. Experts believe that nothing less than immediate production of ten to twelve million tons of bituminous coal a week will save the northwest from shortage; they believe that nothing less than a record production of anthracite will supply domestic users. Some action must soon be taken." Even if the commission is appointed and begins to investigate the basic disorganization in the bituminous coal industry it will not solve the present problem and produce that twelve million tons of coal per week which is now needed. There is talk of rationing coal, and if that necessity should arise it would be bad for Canada. On this point a press despatch from Washington says—"In the war period the fuel administration practically put Canada on the same basis as the United States, Canada being an ally fighting in the same cause. It is regarded as doubtful whether this policy will be followed the coming fall and winter, however, if the stress for coal in New England and northern areas of the United States becomes intense. In that event the Government will find it extremely difficult to permit coal to be diverted from the United States." Under such conditions and with the outlook as uncertain as it is at present, Canadians are justified in looking out for relief from what may become a most serious situation before the winter is over.

Montreal Gazette:—"The current strikes are regrettable. Neither strikers nor public profit by them, and the serious loss entailed will never be recovered. An end will come as with all things, and when it is reached there will be a big cost to count. Business will have been retarded, industry checked, transportation slackened, and the householder, the unfortunate victim of coal shortage, be-

compelled to pay an exorbitant price for fuel. We live in an age of radio and broadcasting, but who can broadcast the loss current labor strikes entail? There may be more bloodshed in mining centres, a much more general stoppage of railway transportation, a shortage of food and other commodities in the various markets, and a rapidly widening circle of unemployment. And what then? A settlement between employers and employees after each has sustained serious loss, while the common victim—the public—wonders what 'tis all about, and why reason has not prevented the suicidal policy, from which all have suffered."

What is fame? "The Mace," in Toronto Saturday Night, reviewing the aid given to Mr. Meighen by his supporters in parliament last session says—"John Babington Macaulay Baxter emitted a few ponderous speeches which added to the weight of Hansard." Of one incident of the session "The Mace" says—"When in the dying hours the two burly New Brunswickers, Messrs. Baxter and Caldwell, invited each other into the corridors to settle a dispute in a somewhat primitive way, Speaker Lemieux quietly ordered the sergeant at arms to see to it that there was no disorder, a suave command which snapped the tension and brought the House back to the safe ground of good humor."

Immigration into Canada in April, May and June was sixteen thousand less than in the corresponding three months last year. Since the great need of the country is more settlers on the land there is obvious need of a more aggressive immigration policy. Of course it is better to have fewer immigrants than to flood the cities or to admit undesirables, but surely there are people who want to settle on the land if the proper means of reaching them are adopted. Hon. Manning Doherty proposes to adopt such means in the case of Ontario.

Prof. Bracken, the new Manitoba premier, says he will take sufficient time in choosing his cabinet "to bring together the good men, who will be likely to give Manitoba the strongest possible administration." All estimates agree that the new premier is himself an able man, and if he can secure a group of broad-minded colleagues, the Progressive movement will not retrograde, but go forward.

A Moncton man has donated a site and the Moncton city council is making a determined bid for the amalgamated universities of the maritime provinces. Yet there are people in St. John who say we cannot afford a vocational school. And Moncton may yet have a vocational school in advance of St. John. Moncton people say nothing is too good for Moncton. They act on that principle, and they act together.

There is a steady movement in favor of prohibition in Germany. It is pointed out that food is wasted to feed the breweries and people drink when they need bread. There has been a convention of prohibitionists, and action will be taken to get a line on public sentiment regarding the whole question.

Whether those who use anthracite coal in this city are to get it next winter or not depends upon the strike in the Pennsylvania coal fields. Local dealers will book orders, but have no present guarantee of supply. It may be necessary to use much more soft coal.

There is a good prospect that a strike of railroad shovemen in Canada may be averted. Every reasonable effort to that end should be made by all concerned. With a prospect of high priced coal next winter this country would be well rid of serious labor troubles.

The Independent Labor Party of Nova Scotia says it wants to abolish capital. What it really wants to abolish is labor, and without capital there would be nothing to do. And the last state would be worse than the first.

The gate receipts at the Leonard-Tender prize fight were \$480,000. That amount would provide a lot of playgrounds for children, and give a boost to real sport.

It is reported that a decree may be issued in Prussia permitting the sale of vodka. If there is anything needed to complete the degradation of Russia it is vodka.

LEADERS ADVISE MEN TO ACCEPT

In English Engineering Trouble are Told They Should Accept a Cut and Continue Work.

London, July 28.—(Canadian Press)—At the conclusion of yesterday's meeting of all the unions concerned in the engineering trouble it was announced that the man had been advised by labor leaders to accept the wage reductions proposed by the employers and continue work.

FIFTEEN MINUTES OF RADIO EACH DAY

By Edward N. Davis

Formerly Technical Electrical Expert For U. S. Government

Lesson No. 63.

THE RADIO COMPASS.

The valuable directional properties of the coil or loop aerial are made use of in the radio compass. In its simplest form this type of aerial consists of a wooden framework approximately eight feet square on which is wound a number of turns of wire. The aerial is so supported that it may be revolved on its axis, and when used as a radio compass is provided with a scale marked in degrees and with a pointer which records its position.

When the aerial is properly connected in a receiving circuit and revolved so as to be at right angles to the incoming waves, no sound is heard in the receiving telephones. If it is turned until the plane faces the waves, signals of maximum audibility are heard. The direction of a transmitting station can therefore be determined by adjusting the loop to the radiated wave. Land compass stations use this device to furnish latitude and longitude to vessels lost in a fog. The method is as follows—The radio operator on a vessel lying off the coast in a dense fog calls the land compass station on a wavelength of 800 meters and requests the position of the vessel by transmitting QTE (request for bearings). The call is received by the central or control compass station, which in the New York district is located on the waterfront in lower New York. Land telegraph wires connect the control station to four outlying land compass stations, all of which receive the wire messages simultaneously. The stations are located as shown in the diagram and each is equipped with a loop aerial mounted on a scale which registers from zero to three hundred and sixty degrees. The operator on the vessel is requested to send his test signals, which usually consists of the ship's call letters with the dashes made extra long and repeated for a period of fifty seconds. The loop aerial of each station is focused on the direction of the signal and the aerial revolved until a position is found where the audibility of the signal is at a minimum. The reading in degrees on the scale is then reported by land telegraph wire to the control station.

The operator at the control station has before him a map on which the positions of the outlying compass stations are recorded, the stations in each case being the centre of a circle marked in degrees. From each station a string is laid out, as shown in the diagram, so that it crosses the circle at the number of degrees reported by the operator at that particular station. These strings will cross each other at a certain point which is the location of the vessel. The latitude and longitude are then calculated and the control station reports the position by wireless to the radio operator on board the vessel. The time consumed in locating the vessel and reporting on board the vessel is usually from three to five minutes. In many instances vessels lost in an impenetrable fog and close to the rocky coast have been warned of their position in time to avoid disaster by altering their course.

As explained in a previous article, the loop-aerial being less powerful than the usual type of outdoor aerial necessitates a very sensitive receiving circuit. A circuit of this type employs the vacuum tube as a detector and uses in addition two steps of amplification.

RECEIVING SET IN A PARASOL.

A novel invention by a Parisian radio enthusiast provides for the reception of radio messages by installing a receiving set in a parasol. The antenna consists of wires interlaced with the framework and the receiving instruments are of such small dimensions as to be located inside the covering near the tip of the parasol.

By simply placing the receivers on the ears and unfolding the parasol, it is possible to receive music or speech sent out by the transmitting station located in the Eiffel Tower.

Another and more practical experiment performed by French radio engineers is a series of tests for the purpose of maintaining communication between train dispatchers and moving trains, for the purpose of eliminating, as far as possible, the serious train wrecks which have been very numerous on French railways in the past few months.

THE SERMON OF THE DOG.

(By Bishop Doane.)

I am quite sure he thinks that I am God—Since he is God on whom each one depends For life, and all things that his bounty sends—My dear old dog, most constant of all friends; Not quick of mind, but quicker far than I To turn to God I know and own; His Deep brown and liquid, watches for my nod; He is more patient underneath the rod Than I, when God his wise corrections sends. He looks love at me, deep as words e'er speak; And from me never crumb or sup will take But he wags thanks with his most vocal tail; And over some crashing noise wakes all his fear, He is content and quiet if I'm near; Secure that my protection will prevail; So, faithful, mindful, thankful, trustful he Tells me what I unto my God should be.

LIGHTER VEIN.

Something in a Name.

Townley—So you've changed the name of your place. Why was that? "George"—I found that Idle Hour was too attractive to traps, so I rechristened it Woodpile Villa.—Boston Transcript.

Mixed Dates.

"Oh, George, I'm sorry I called you Jimmie. I was thinking this was Thursday!"—London Mail.

Too Much to Ask.

He—Will you love me if I give up all my bad habits? She—But, George, how could you expect me to love a perfect stranger.—London Opinion.

Element of Chance.

"How do you attain your great reputation as a student of finance?" "Mostly," said Mr. Dustin Stax in a confidential tone, "by being a lucky guesser."—Washington Star.

WILL CONSIDER IT.

Viscountess Astor Asks Lloyd George About Woman Representative at League Assembly.

London, July 28.—Viscountess Astor asked Lloyd George whether the government intended to appoint a woman as delegate, alternative delegate, or technical adviser to the assembly of the League of Nations.

The premier replied that the government had decided to appoint the Earl of Balfour and H. A. L. Fisher, president of the Board of Education, as British representatives to the next meeting. He said that he was not in a position to announce the third representative, but would consider the suggestion of the viscountess.

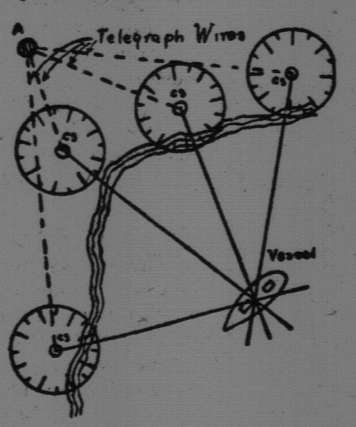
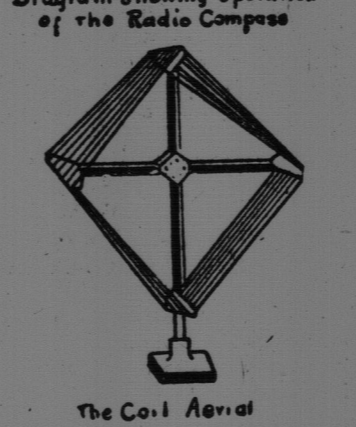


Diagram showing operation of the Radio Compass.



The Coil Aerial.

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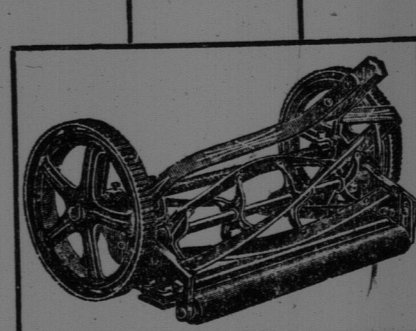
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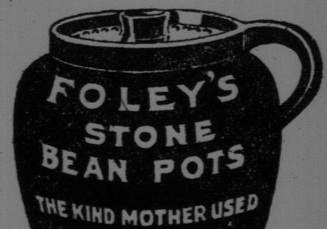
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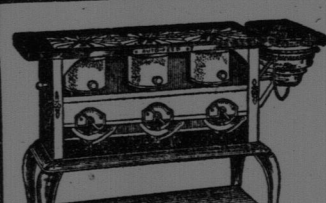
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