

Electrification of Truck Fleet, P.U.C. Aim :: To Import Trained Boys for Harvest

ELECTRIC TRUCK'S ECONOMY SHOWN

P. U. C. Manager Urges Purchase of Second Machine—Future To See Change.

UPKEEP LAW

Some interesting information as to the operation and maintenance costs of automobile trucks owned by the public utilities commission was tabled at the regular meeting of that body yesterday afternoon.

The report was presented by Manager E. V. Buchanan in connection with his recommendation that a 1½-ton electric truck be purchased from the G. D. Peters Company, Montreal, for the sum of \$4,200.

The commission operates nine one-ton trucks, in addition to five 1½-ton trucks and one electric truck.

The operation and depreciation costs on each of the light trucks last year was shown by Mr. Buchanan to be \$750.91, and on each of the heavier tonnage trucks to have been \$1,054.

The same costs in connection with the electric truck, which has been rented by the commission during the past 15 months at the rate of \$75 per month, amounted to \$334. This sum is made up of depreciation costs of \$300 and \$400 on the chassis and battery, respectively, \$34 for charging the battery during the year, and \$100 for miscellaneous repairs.

The manager mentioned the fact that the commission had not had to spend one cent on repairs during the 15-month period in which the truck had travelled 6,445 miles in the commission's service.

From these figures, Mr. Buchanan pointed out that the electric truck could be operated at the rate of \$220 less per annum than the same type of heavier truck, while a lighter electric truck could be operated at a cost of \$250 per annum, as compared with \$750 for the light trucks.

Mr. Buchanan also drew attention to the fact that, since the battery of the electric truck was charged by the commission during off-peak hours, it really cost the commission nothing for the charging, thus eliminating that item from the total operating costs.

In deciding to purchase the electric truck the commission expressed the opinion that its policy in future would be to buy electric trucks only.

Postmistress Routs Thug

Would-Be Bandit's Plans Are Foiled by Plucky Lancashire Woman.

Associated Press Despatch. London, March 6.—"Hands up" was the order given a couple of assistants in the Stanley road postoffice, Liverpool, by a man who entered the postoffice today and presented a revolver at them. The assistants duly complied.

The postmistress, a sturdy built, middle-aged Lancashire woman, came from the rear of the office and said to the would-be bandit:

"If you don't put that in your

pocket I'll take it away from you."

The man turned tail and fled, pursued by a gathering crowd. Finding his chances of escape growing momentarily less, he turned on the crowd and again presented his revolver. But the crowd, undaunted, kept right on and captured the bold bandit. They found the "revolver" was a toy pistol.

YOUNGER PITT WAS NO DUNCE WHEN IT CAME TO TAXES

Twenty-Six Die In Gas Blast

Associated Press Despatch.

Leningrad, March 6.—

Twenty-six persons were killed and an unknown number injured by an explosion of oxygen tanks in a building in the center of Leningrad today. The explosion caused a panic and scattered debris and parts of human bodies in every direction.

Most of the victims were women and children.

HOME-MADE RADIO SET GIRDLES THE CONTINENT

Dick Webb, Weston Street, Claims Record For Receiving in Single Night.

Dick Webb of 3 Weston street, claims that he has made a record in radio receiving which has been exceeded by few.

On Tuesday night he seated himself beside his home-made four tube set as he has done since he made it, but owing to the distinctly heard music, he decided to find out how many stations could be "picked up" in an evening.

All around the American continent and hearing twelve stations from as far east as Montreal, as far west as Seattle, Los Angeles and Alberta and as far south as Miami Beach, Florida, Atlanta, Georgia, Fort Worth, Texas and Dallas, Texas was the result.

The twelve stations in order that were distinctly heard by Mr. Webb were: station CKAC, Montreal; W. H. N. New York; WSB, Atlanta, Georgia; WMBE Miami, Florida; WBAF, Fort Worth; WFAA, Dallas, Texas; KHL, KFI and KNX, Los Angeles, California; CKR, Seattle; WMT, Washington and CKY, Alberta.

All these radio stations were heard between the hours of 11:30 and 2 a.m. with a four bulb set and only the detector and one stage of audio used. Mr. Webb is justly proud of his achievement.

The loud speaker was used in hearing all the stations.

Hospital Rush Expected Now

40 Cases of Ale Supplied Two City Institutions.

Patients in Victoria and St. Joseph's hospitals who need "building up" and "appetizers" will be well looked after during the next few days through the generosity of the provincial license authorities who this afternoon forwarded 40 quart bottles of ale to each hospital.

The ale is an accumulation of seizures made recently by License Inspector Walter Bolton and Provincial Constable Lloyd Mennie and was conveyed to the hospitals this afternoon by the officers.

MIDDLESEX LAWYERS PROTEST INVESTMENT TAX

The Middlesex Bar Association has approved the recommendation of the Hamilton law association requesting legislation to repeal section 15 of the Ontario Assessment Act which has reference to income on investments in Ontario and owned by persons living outside the province.

The local association also approved of a memo sent to Attorney-General Nicks and Mr. Justice Middleton by the Hamilton association regarding an amendment re deed to "Uses."

MAN AND 14-YEAR-OLD GIRL ARE TAKEN BACK TO SARNIA

Medro Dick of Sarnia and a 14-year-old Sarnia girl, who were arrested here yesterday by local detectives as they stepped off a train, were taken back to Sarnia last night by Detective Byerly of the Sarnia police department.

The couple faced Magistrate Graydon in the local police court yesterday morning and were remanded. The Sarnia officials, when notified of the case, asked that they be allowed to take the couple back to Sarnia.

LEVIS MAYOR RE-ELECTED.

Quebec, March 6.—Mayor Demers of Levis was yesterday afternoon elected by acclamation for a third term.

GO-GETTER SMITH IS GOT BY POLICE

Gun Is Confiscated Despite Appeal of Innocence From Ernest.

Ernest Smith, colored resident of London, might have done some damage, according to Chief of Police Robert Birrell, had not his actions been nipped in the proverbial bud by the police. He had a revolver in his possession, a big ugly weapon of high calibre, and threatened to "get" a neighbor the chief charged.

Police knew Smith carried the pistol, and they arrived in time before the neighbor was "got." They got Mr. Smith.

"I bought it from a friend at the C. N. R. station last night," Smith said.

"How is it that the police department were supplied with information that you had it two weeks ago?" the chief asked.

"No," I bought it last night," Smith maintained.

"At any rate you had no right to have the weapon," Magistrate Graydon said in settling the discussion.

"Ten dollars and costs, and the gun will be confiscated."

Smith paid his fine. The pistol was unloaded and placed in Chief Birrell's museum of weapons alongside hundreds of other revolvers and ugly instruments of death.

Jack and Jill.

Jack Johnston and his wife were present in court this morning. He's not the Jack Johnston of pugilistic fame, although he is colored, too. He's just J. Johnston, now known to the police as having an O. T. A. conviction registered against him.

Jack's wife, Louise, was arrested in London several days ago for vagrancy. She came here from Sarnia and told the court that she was to have met her husband in London. He called for her and obtained her release. Six hours later they were arrested under a charge of vagrancy.

A brand new unopened bottle of whiskey was found by constables in Sarnia. Jack was charged with having liquor in a place other than a private dwelling by claiming that the bottle was a gift from his wife. He admitted he was drunk, however, and a fine of \$10 and costs was imposed. Louise was dismissed. Jack paid his fine, and the happy couple left on the noon train for points west—Sarnia.

Leaves City Wigwag.

Billy Nicholls, a 16-year-old Indian boy, who has been spending the past week in jail on a vagrancy charge, had his day out for him this morning. Pop fixed things up with the police and promised to keep an eagle eye on the boy's activities in future. He explained that a bicycle his son had bought was bought for 25 cents actually belonged to Billy. Billy was tickled to death to get out of jail today, and joyfully returned to his family on the Muncey reserve.

Inspector Shows 'Em.

End Lucas, inspector of London police, in competition with twenty of his subordinates and their wives, was declared champion euchre player of the whole police force last night. In an enjoyable game at Police Constable William Thomson's home, 2 Surrey avenue, the inspector and Mrs. William McCullough finished the evening with the highest scores.

Sergeant Hoy Monthly was bought for a prize-winner. He was presented with a miniature hand organ. According to Inspector of Detectives Thomas Nickolls, the referee in the games, Sergeant Monthly obtained the highest score below the zero line, and won the booby prize after a keenly-fought battle.

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COLES BRINGS ACTION AGAINST JOHN BRIDGE

Defendant in Statement Denies Any Misrepresentation on His Part.

The supreme court action of Col. W. G. Coles to recover \$4,257.52 from John Bridge is slated second on the list of cases to be tried before Mr. Justice Lennox at the spring sessions opening at the court house on March 16.

Col. Coles, who was a shareholder to the extent of \$10,000 in the Ruggles Truck Co. of Canada, claims that he tendered Mr. Bridge a check for \$1,000 and three promissory notes for \$1,000 each on the understanding that they were not to be used by the company unless \$100,000 was subscribed by the shareholders to keep the company in operation.

The plaintiff claims that only \$42,000 was promised and that therefore Mr. Bridge had no right to convert the notes.

Mr. Bridge in his statement of defence claims that he received no benefit from the money subscribed by the plaintiff and denied any misrepresentation on his part.

Gibbons, Harper and Braden are acting for Col. Coles, and Ivey, Elliott and Gillanders for Mr. Bridge.

Although motorists in the vicinity of London are having little difficulty in traversing the roads, Lucas is still out off from motor traffic by huge drifts.

A farmer moving some stock by wagon yesterday afternoon upset the load in an eight-foot drift at Fins McLeod's hill, north of the 16th concession of London township. Cows, chickens and pigs gained their freedom for over an hour, when the farmer was thrown more or less gracefully into the ditch. Neighbors answered an S. O. S. call, the squealing porkers being the most difficult to round up.

"Say It With Billiards" Is Slogan of Londoner

*Billiards is a game for kings and gentlemen, and pool is the game of bums, that's why my place is going to be a billiard room from now on," quoth a London poolroom proprietor.

He had been reading a pile of newspapers and he had worked all the items in which poolrooms had been raided by the police of various cities from San Francisco to Montreal.

"Look at that," he stormed, "all the places they went after were poolrooms. There's no mention of a billiard-room being pinched. Why? Simply because places where aristocratic resorts are never pinched. That's why I closed my poolroom today and opened a billiard-room."

He went outside to see that the workmen he has hired were making hay with the job of changing the title



SENATOR P. C. MURPHY.

member of the upper house from Tlaxcala, P.E.I., whose death occurred suddenly at his home there this morning.

PROTEST REVISION OF SUCCESSION ACT

Hamilton C. of C. Objects to Bill Making Government Bonds Taxable.

Hamilton chapter of commerce objects strongly to the bill introduced by the Ontario government to amend the Succession Duty Act, and submits that the bill creates a bad precedent and disregards the rights of the investor. The bill will be considered by the directors of the London C. of C. at their next meeting.

The amendment proposed that Ontario government bonds which have been exempt from taxation, shall not be exempt from succession duties when filed as part of an estate.

The bill is very adequately and reasonably equipped by means of a pumper with a capacity of 500 gallons per minute manufactured by the Goldie-McCulloch company of Galt, and mounted on an automobile truck at a cost of approximately \$4,000.

While quite inclined to agree with Mr. Pocock in his contention that it would be a mistake for the council to buy a second pumper of the \$15,000 La France type, the commission was loath to forward any recommendation to the council, fearing for the cordiality with which it might be received by the council. Finding himself, as he said, "hopelessly outvoted," Mr. Pocock was forced to drop his suggestion.

The purpose, of course, of the pumbers is to provide extra pressure in a rainy season, when the waterworks system is very adequate. This is clearly shown by the following excerpts from Manager E. V. Buchanan's annual report for last year:

"A waterworks system is installed for two purposes; first, for domestic, industrial and sanitary use, and second, for fire protection. It is just department to provide an adequate supply of water for the second of these purposes as it is to maintain the supply for the first."

It is emphatically not the duty of the ordinary waterworks department to put the water on the fire, simply because it is a physical impossibility to maintain the pressure in the waterworks at the highest and most remote buildings. Further, the maintenance of high pressure causes destruction to plumbing and even endangers the mains.

"To make the fire-fighting facilities complete from a water supply point of view, the fire department should be equipped with more pumping engines. The use of these engines would insure water to the top of the highest buildings, save the mains and plumbing from damage, and conserve water during a fire, which is wasted by the present system of increasing the pressure in the mains."

Mr. Kendall spoke for 45 minutes on God's word to Adam, "Adam, where art thou?" She said that the Lord had been waiting for him to find himself from God. He should step forward to conversion, to the acceptance of Christianity.

The story of the garden of Eden was re-told. People who sinned hid their sins or tried to hide them from God. It was one error to sin. It was still another not to confess it to the Maker.

At an afternoon meeting yesterday, Mrs. Kendall spoke to a large gathering of women.

Mrs. Adjutant Smith spoke on "The Christian Life." Mrs. W. Lamperd sang.

At the spring sessions here, will be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the Middlesex Law Association being held in the Tecumseh hotel at 7 o'clock on the evening of March 16.

U. A. Buchner, who has charge of the banquet, is securing an out-of-town barrister as one of the speakers. Mr. E. R. Perrin, president of the Middlesex association, will preside at the banquet. It is expected that every one of the sixty-five members of the association will be present.

CITY LAWYERS TO FETE JUDGE LENNOX MARCH 16

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ITALIAN WITH GIRL, 14, WILL FACE ABDUCTION

Medro Dick Taken Back to Sarnia to Stand Trial.

Medro Dick, 28 years old, an Italian, arrested in London yesterday soon after he stepped off a train in company with a 14-year-old girl, was returned to Sarnia last night, where a charge of abduction has been laid against him.

Dick was caught by Sergeant of Detectives Harry Down following information received from railway officials. According to the local police, the girl has been with Dick for the past two weeks, ever since she was first reported to be missing from her home in Sarnia. The girl said she had been in hiding at the border city.

Both appeared in police court yesterday and were remanded on charges of vagrancy by Magistrate Graydon. The girl admitted she had run away from home.

BOY IS SERIOUSLY INJURED WHEN HE EXPLODES 'BOMB'

Niagara Falls, N. Y., March 6.—Four-year-old boy, 4 years old in St. Mary's hospital with both eyeballs injured and cuts about his body as the result of an experiment performed by him Wednesday night with an alleged bomb and a dry battery.

The boy found what he said appeared to be a bomb with wires attached. He touched the wires to the terminals of a dry cell.

\$15,000 PUMPER HIT BY POCOCK

P. U. C. Commissioner Sees Fire Dept. Need, But Would Cut Cost.

Philip Pocock is strongly opposed to the city council purchasing a second La France pumper at a cost of \$15,000 for fire-fighting purposes. Not that he does not feel that additional pumping apparatus should be secured for the city fire system, but that other types of pumbers than the expensive La France machine should be bought.

It is understood that Chief John Aitken is anxious that the city secure a second large pumper, similar to the La France pumper, with a capacity of 800 gallons per minute, added to the system about two years ago, and that the question is to be taken up by the council in the near future.

Mr. Pocock is of the opinion that the commission is at least indirectly interested in the problems of the fire system, in so far as they are concerned with the waterworks system of the city. He also feels that if the commission can assist the council by giving advice in the matter the advice should be given by the commission and accepted by the council in the proper spirit of co-operation on behalf of the best interests of the city.

Accordingly, Mr. Pocock brought up the subject at the regular meeting of the commission yesterday afternoon and went so far as to suggest that a simple letter be written to the council advising against the purchase of a La France pumper.

It was Mr. Pocock's intention also to point out in the letter that the La France system is very adequately and reasonably equipped by means of a pumper with a capacity of 500 gallons per minute manufactured by the Goldie-McCulloch company of Galt, and mounted on an automobile truck at a cost of approximately \$4,000.

While quite inclined to agree with Mr. Pocock in his contention that it would be a mistake for the council to buy a second pumper of the \$15,000 La France type, the commission was loath to forward any recommendation to the council, fearing for the cordiality with which it might be received by the council. Finding himself, as he said, "hopelessly outvoted," Mr. Pocock was forced to drop his suggestion.

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150 NOVA SCOTIA LADS WILL BE BROUGHT HERE

County Harvesting To Be Aided by Students of Farm School.

ALL HOME BOYS

Move Hailed by John Farrell as Solution of Help Problem.

Harvesting in Middlesex county this year will be augmented by the presence of 150 boys from the Nova Scotia training school at Windsor, N. S. John Farrell of the immigration department states.

The boys are all husky lads from the British Isles, and can wield hay forks with much skill. Mr. Farrell declares. There is always a shortage of help in Ontario at harvest time, due to the fact that many Ontario young men are lured to the west by the high wages that prevail there for harvest help.

"The boys from Nova Scotia will be of great assistance in pitching hay and oats," said Mr. Farrell. "If they live up to advance notices there is no reason why they should not be brought here every year."

Twenty men have been placed on farms this week by Mr. Farrell as suitable wages and more are expected shortly.

A Toronto man has asked Mr. Farrell to secure a job for a 16-year-old boy on a poultry farm in this district. The lad is anxious to learn the business.

It can get him \$10 a month and his board," continued Mr. Farrell, "if he thinks that is enough for a start."

Acting for the attorney-general, Paul Lanetot has laid information before Judge Enright charging six men with having directly or indirectly caused to be alienated, shares in the Quebec Industrial Alcohol Company Limited "without first having transmitted to the provincial secretary the necessary documents which are a condition precedent to such sale."

The summonses were signed by Judge Enright this morning and will be immediately served by officers of the provincial police.