

HYDRO PROJECT POLICY SUGGESTED BY BOARD OF TRADE

The council of the Board of Trade held a lengthy session yesterday, discussing the various sections of the report of the Civic and Industries Committees on the hydro-electric project.

The vice-president, G. E. Barbour, presided in the absence of the president. There was a good representation of the council present.

The report, with a few slight amendments, was adopted as follows:

The Civic and Industries Committees of the St. John Board of Trade, who have been jointly considering the hydro situation, beg leave to report:

In considering the problem of hydro-electric development, as it will apply to the city of St. John, there are three parties vitally concerned, namely the city council, representing all the citizens, who have been offered the first opportunity to acquire control of the available power; the consumers, both

large and small, who are naturally anxious to benefit individually from cheaper rates for a commodity rapidly growing in importance to industry and household economy and who are also not unmindful of the great asset in attracting desirable new citizens and new industry that cheap power gives; and thirdly, the New Brunswick Power Company, back of which are not a few citizens and shareholders, whose interest may be vitally affected.

No approach to this problem can be expected to yield the best possible satisfaction and results to any one of these parties that does not fully admit that there is only one right solution, namely, the one which fully recognizes economic law and justice and thus yields the highest benefit to each party concerned, with no unfair advantage to any one. Nothing but the fullest degree of co-operation, with the elimination of prejudice, can ensure the realization of this goal.

The most brief contemplation of the alternatives would seem to make evident the desirability that a direct contract should be made between the city and the government, represented by the Power Commission, to deliver to the city a stated constant amount of power at a maximum rate per k.w.h.

The Power Company's sole right to existence up to this time rests directly upon their understanding to give three main types of public service to this community—namely, electric light and power, a street railway service and gas.

Any attempt to fulfill these obligations falls short of its responsibility that does not render the highest possible grade of service at the lowest possible cost; cost, of course, meaning every legitimate item to give fair return to real capital, capable management and conscientious labor.

It is merely a matter of accident that these three types of service happen to be combined under one management. Each one, to be healthy, should stand on its own feet.

We are concerned at the present time with but one, namely, that of electricity for light and power purposes, and but one phase of this, namely, the distribution, not the production of electric power.

In view of the fact that the equipment owned by the New Brunswick Power Company for the distribution of electric power exists for rendering that function to the citizens of this community and that it cannot be assumed that any likely growth of said community would warrant the existence of a duplicate system or justify it as other than a waste of capital, every reasonable effort should be made to continue the use of this equipment in rendering service to the community.

Distribution.

The city having acquired the electric current from the commission, a contract should be offered to the New Brunswick Power Company for the distribution of said current, based on the following conditions: Current to be furnished the New Brunswick Power Company at cost. Resale price to be definitely fixed by said contract; said resale price being arrived at by adding to:

First—Interest on present value of the actual equipment possessed by the New Brunswick Power Company necessary for the exclusive function of distributing power (not producing it), and which in the opinion of competent authorities of the city's selection, proves sufficiently modern or efficient to assure economical distribution.

Second—Interest on any improvements and additions to said distributing plant, which said authorities approve as necessary.

Third—A reasonable allowance for maintenance, depreciation, insurance and such other expense items as are common to such enterprises.

Fourth—A reasonable return for management or supervision.

Fifth—Adequate returns for salaries and wages to the staff directly engaged in this distributing phase of their business or part time as may be determined.

Sixth—Contract to be for a two year period, to be renewed or terminated at the end of that period at the city's discretion; a new contract entered upon, in the light of the two years' experience, or the city to be free on giving four months' notice previous to the expiration of the contract.

In the preparation of a contract of this nature, it would of course be kept in mind that it is the city who possesses the current and is therefore the party to fix the price, and that while due consideration would naturally be given to any

Announcement

TO THE LADIES OF ST. JOHN:

You are cordially invited to attend a series of free demonstrations of baking to be held under the auspices of the Educational Department of E. W. Gillett Co. Ltd., manufacturers of Magic Baking Powder,

Commencing Monday, March 13th.

Demonstrations will be conducted in a number of the leading stores in St. John by practical and experienced Domestic Science experts. These demonstrations are free to everyone, and all questions relative to diatetic and Domestic Science problems will be gladly answered.

See Monday's papers for list of stores.

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SAVE money and get the best results by using Alabastine for

Plain white work. Stencilling. Tinting. Opaline effects. Priming under paint. Renovating cotton signs, movie screens, etc. Window back-grounds and scenic effects.



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Alabastine
The Alabastine Co. Paris, Limited
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5-lb. Package 75c.
2 1/2-lb. Package 40c.

P & B BEVERAGES "The Quality Kind"

To the Trade.

Does it not occur to you Mr. Dealer that it always pays to handle the best in any class of merchandise? If so, for the sake of your customers and yourself we believe you should sell our Goods.

Our Fruit Drinks are made from 100% pure Concentrated Juices.

Our Ginger Ale, "Aromatic" or "Dry" is exceptionally choice as well as the other flavors we manufacture which are up to the very highest possible standard.

Our Old English Ginger Beer put up in 10 oz. Stone Bottles, Crown sealed, would be a winner with you.

Our Plant is one of the best equipped and most modern in the Country. "Cleanliness," "Quality" and "Service" are watchwords with us.

Won't you try a sample 10-Case order and see for yourself.

We can supply you with new and attractive display cards.

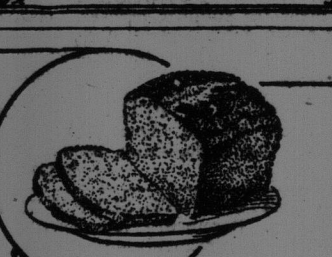
Write for our prices and particulars.

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8 Water Street. Sole Agent for St. John City

Sussex Beverage Company
Fearn & Bolton Props.
SUSSEX, N. B., CANADA

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GOLDEN LIQUOR
FRAGRANT AROMA
DELICIOUS FLAVOR



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deliciously
light
Cake

Barbour's
GOLD BRAND
BAKING POWDER
Made without Alum

representation made by the New Brunswick Power Company, the final determination of all details would be made by the city.

In the event of the N. B. Power Company refusing to accept said contract, the city would take the necessary steps to expropriate the required part of the Power Company's plant and equipment, or to proceed to install the plant necessary for the distribution of the hydro power. We believe that the citizens of St. John, having been convinced of the fairness of the offer made to the Power Company, would support the city in taking the necessary steps towards this end.

Independent Commission.

Should the city be compelled to take over the distribution of power, your committee would recommend that such distribution be carried on through the medium of an independent commission, appointed by the city council, the acts or decisions of whose members would be entirely outside the control of civic politics.

Considerable discussion has taken place regarding the necessity of a steam standard. This board does not feel competent to express any opinion regarding the engineering phases of this problem. It would seem to be a problem belonging to the government rather than to the city.

In view of the fact that the price quoted by the Power Commission is within a small fraction of a cent of the price at which many municipalities in Ontario and Quebec pay for their power, and that the rates charged to the consumers in those municipalities are considerably less than one half those that are charged here, there would seem to be justification from a business standpoint in anticipating that a material saving will be brought about. The situation should at least be viewed optimistically.

In conclusion, it is the belief of the joint committee that the city, through its mayor and council, has been justified in giving the hydro-electric problem the closest study possible, so that all facts

hearing upon the situation may be fully disclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
A. H. WETMORE,
Chairman Civic Committee.
L. W. SIMMS,
Chairman Industries Committee.

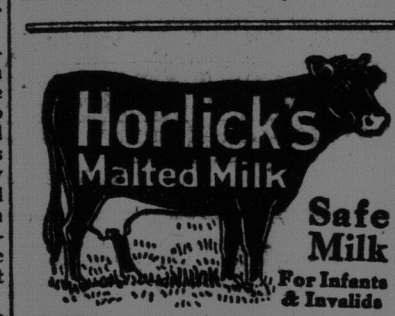
Social Night Planned.

A progress report was submitted by the programme committee on the matter of the Board's social night, which has been fixed for the last Thursday of the month.

The membership application of the Canada Brush Company, H. J. Sheehan, manager, was unanimously accepted. Several other matters that were on the agenda, including letters from the Toronto Board of Trade and from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association on the subject of a National Research Institute, had to be left until the next council meeting.

THE C. M. A. PARTY IN JAMAICA

The party of Canadian manufacturers who are touring the British West Indies for the purpose of developing trade with the islands and Canada arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, on Feb. 25 last on board their chartered steamer, the Canadian Fisher. They were met



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by the prominent men of the town. Another section of the party arrived that evening on board the Megantic from New York. Included in this latter party was W. Shives Fisher, president of the C. M. A. G. Clifford McAvity, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Davidson, of St. John, were in the Canadian Fisher party. The governor, Sir Leslie Probyn, gave an "at home" Saturday afternoon in honor of the visitors.

Minard's Liniment for Coughs and Colds.

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MUTT AND JEFF—MUTT FAILS TO FALL FOR THE "CULTURE" STUFF

By "BUD" FISHER

