

BIG JOB AHEAD FOR COUNCIL TWO FRANCHISES IN THE AIR TELEPHONE CO. AND L. & P. R.

Independent Telephone People, It Is Alleged, Have Practically Abandoned the London Field—Pere Marquette Will Likely Seek Extension of the Lease of the London and Port Stanley Railway.

Franchises will attract the attention of the council as soon as the holidays are over. The Bell Telephone Company's franchise expires at the end of the year. The Independents have practically abandoned the field here, it is learned, and terms will likely be made with the Bell people.

\$4,000 A YEAR.

Under the present agreement the city receives \$4,000 annually from the company. There are certain restrictions, but they are somewhat limited. The new contract will contain some new clauses, it is expected, the most important one being with reference to long-distance equipment. Some of the aldermen are in favor of cutting down the price of long-distance telephones. It is thought in some quarters that the price is too expensive.

Will Meet the Company.

"I expect that within a short time the Bell Telephone Company will meet us and talk over a renewal of the franchise," said Mayor Stevely. "As soon as the holiday season is over, no doubt the district manager will take the matter up with us. I am awaiting word from him."

The L. and P. S. R.

The L. and P. S. R. lease of the L. and P. S. R. may also come up this year. The present lease to the Pere Marquette expires on Jan. 1, 1914, but it is well known that the company would prefer to have a longer lease, and it is possible that negotiations will be opened this autumn with the company for an extension of the present agreement for either five or ten years—possibly more.

Talking Improvements.

The reasons advanced for the desire to have the road for a longer period is that certain improvements and changes are needed, which would be made if the company had more than a five-year contract. They will not make them under the present lease, as the improvements in mind would require a considerable sum of money, and it would not be good business to incur this expenditure under a short term.

If a longer lease were granted, heavier rails would be laid down and better equipment generally.

The Revenue.

The city has secured as high as \$20,000 a year from the London and Port Stanley Railway. Last year, however, the percentage was smaller than usual, only the sum of \$3,500 being received from the Pere Marquette.

This year owing to improved conditions, the percentage will run much higher, probably \$5,000.

Opposition Expected.

It is likely, however, that a long lease to the P. M. will be opposed by certain people, in fact, probably by a large section.

The desire to electrify the London and Port Stanley road is taking definite shape in the minds of many people, and they are hopeful that within the time between now and the expiration of the lease, or a further extension of five years at the most, the city of London will be in a position to electrify the line between the city and Port Stanley and operate it.

While this would involve the expenditure of a large sum of money, it is not thought impossible of accomplishment, as the city would reap a large revenue from the road.

NEW RADIUM FIELD

Large Ledge of Wonderful Mineral Found in California.

Kennett, Cal., Aug. 19.—According to a story told by Dr. S. Wilkins, who arrived yesterday, enough pitch blende has been discovered on the McCloud River, north of here, to supply the world with radium for all time. Dr. Wilkins had in his possession fine specimens of the precious stuff and so impressed were some businessmen with his story that they sent an expert to visit the newly-discovered ledge which only the Arkansas River, but almost the confluence of that stream with the Pitt River.

DIZZY DASHES

Great Crowd Sees Opening of Indianapolis Auto Speedway.

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 19.—The \$400,000 Indianapolis speedway was formally opened today with five automobile races, a 250-mile grind ending the day's sport.

The big grandstand was comfortably filled with automobile enthusiasts from all parts of the country, while hundreds of automobiles were massed in the immense parking space just a little way from the finish line down the stretch. It was here the real contests were expected, as the mile straightaway offered many temptations for tremendous speed.

Experts predict that the records for practically all the standard distances will be broken before the three days of the dizzy dashes around the big track are finished.

HORTON ST. WELLS AGAIN WORKING

Plenty of Water in the Reservoir and City in Good Position Once More.

WEATHER DOES GOOD

Gives the Springs a Chance to Pick Up—Engineer Moore Is Well Satisfied.

The artesian wells on Horton street are again in commission, the air compressor of the McGregor wells being installed and now in operation.

They are not pumping as much as under the old compressor, as it has not the capacity. According to Engineer Moore there are 2½ inches of water going over the weir. This is a little over 550,000 gallons of water a day.

The break occurred on Sunday evening, and the new compressor was at work on Tuesday afternoon, and since then has been working steadily.

As a result the reservoir is now filled, and there is little or no danger of a water famine so long as the compressor continues to work satisfactorily.

Good Shape Again.

"We are in good shape again," said Engineer Moore. "The new compressor does not possess the capacity of the one broken, and there are 2½ inches of water going over the weir. When the old machine was at work there were 4½ inches going over the weir, so we are not receiving much more than half the former quantity of water."

With the advent of cooler weather we are in a better position, the reservoir now being about full.

Effects of Cool Weather.

"It is really remarkable how much difference cool weather makes in the consumption. On Monday, with only Springbank to depend on, we gained a foot in the reservoir, so great was the decrease in consumption. We are looking for a larger compressor, but we may not have to use it, as the demand may not be so great from this time on."

The springs at Springbank are yielding about 4,000,000 gallons a day, their normal flow this time of year.

EMPLOYMENT FOR LONDON WORKERS

Will Be Furnished Just When Needed by Power and Water Plant Construction.

WIRES UNDERGROUND

If This Is Done It Will Mean an Expenditure of \$70,000 This Fall and Winter for Local Distribution.

With the commencement of construction on the hydro-electric distribution plant, and the artesian well plant, much work will be furnished the workmen of London.

Building throughout the city has been very brisk, and as a rule there has been plenty of work for the laborer.

A majority of the factories and manufacturing plants are running full time, with a regular complement of men, giving work to practically all of the workers in the city.

As a result there are few men out of a position, and there has been little complaint of lack of work.

In Good Time.

However, the erection of the poles, and other work will come at a time when other kinds of labor are slackening off, and it is more than likely that large numbers of men will be employed on the work.

Several thousands of dollars will be spent in this sort of labor, probably \$25,000 for the goods now on order, to be increased considerably later on. It now depends upon whether or not the council will order underground work as to the amount of money to be spent.

Wires Underground.

The estimated cost of placing the downtown wires underground is \$70,000, the major portion of which must be spent for labor.

The erection of the plant will mean plenty of work for the laborer just when it will be most appreciated.

FAST TRAIN ENGINE EXPLODES RAILWAY WRECK IN MICHIGAN

Marquette Flyer for Grand Rapids Ditched by Peculiar Accident Which Causes the Death of Fireman, But the Passengers Escape Unhurt.

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 19.—The west-bound Pere Marquette passenger train which left Detroit at 9 p.m. with Cincinnati and Detroit sleepers for Grand Rapids and Petoskey was wrecked last night two miles east of Grand Ledge.

The first report reaching Pere Marquette officials here from the conductor of the wrecked train, who reached a telephone in a farmhouse, failed to explain the cause of the wreck, but newspaper reports say that the locomotive boiler exploded.

Automobiles were sent from Lansing, carrying physicians to the aid of the injured, a wrecking train was dispatched from Grand Rapids, and another train, carrying officials of the road, was sent to the scene of the wreck from Detroit.

The wrecked train was made up of a baggage car, coach and two sleepers. Word reached the railroad offices here indicated that the last sleeper was not derailed, and that the first one was not badly damaged. The locomotive, baggage car and coach stood the test of the shock, and on an ordinary night few passengers are carried in the coach of this train.

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 19.—Engineer William Bradley and Fireman Fred L. Graves were killed about midnight when the boiler of a west-bound Pere Marquette passenger train exploded two miles east of Grand Ledge, wrecking the train. The coach was overturned and one of the two sleeping cars was derailed, but no passengers were seriously injured.

OTTAWA BY-ELECTION NOT IN OCTOBER

Understood Premier Will Sit for Quebec East, His Old Seat.

(Special to The Advertiser.) Ottawa, Aug. 19.—There will be no federal by-election for Ottawa in October, as anticipated, and there will be none until after the House opens. It is understood that Sir Wilfrid will resign his Ottawa seat and sit for Quebec East, which he has represented so long. However, under the law there would be difficulty during recess, resigning one seat without resigning both. He will, therefore, wait until the House meets, and announce his decision to sit for Quebec and the Ottawa by-election will follow.

OUT OF THE WHIRL

The Astor Wilks Take a Quiet Suite at Newport.

Newport, Aug. 19.—Society has again been disappointed in its hope that Mrs. Hetty Green and her daughter, Mrs. Matthew Astor Wilks, would cast themselves and the entertaining power of their millions into the social whirl. Mr. and Mrs. Wilks are in Newport for the remainder of the summer, but all the rumors that they would take a costly cottage and enter conspicuously into the life of the summer colony have been silenced. They have taken a small and modest suite in the Riggs' cottage, on Catherine street. Mrs. Green is expected to join them soon for a long visit. The visits of Mrs. Green to her close friend, the Countess Anne Leary, at her summer home here have given rise to the recurring report that the woman financier intended to lease one of Newport's finest villas. And when her daughter Sylvia married the eminently eligible relative of the Astor society was convinced that an important acquisition to the fashionable Newport set was imminent.

HAMILTON WANTS GROCERS' PICNIC

Suggestion to Hold in Alternate Years in London, Brantford and Ambitious City.

PRESIDENT RYAN SPEAKS

Thinks It Would Be a Good Move to Bring the Grocers to the Forest City—Hamilton Man's Idea.

The Hamilton Herald says: "In view of the large number of visitors who came from distant points to attend the iron molders' picnic last Saturday, John Hoodless, president of the Greater Hamilton Association, is out with a suggestion which is sure to meet with favor in many quarters."

"It is in connection with the annual picnic of the grocers of Hamilton, Brantford and London, which has been held for some years at Niagara Falls. So far as Hamilton is concerned, it is the big picnic of the year, and from 5,000 to 7,000 persons take it in every year. It is stated that about 6,000 went from Hamilton this year to take in the trip, and almost one-third as many from the other two cities. On a basis of \$2 for each person from this city, for transportation, meals and articles bought, about \$12,000 was taken out of the city. Nearly all of the excursionists go for the good time promised by the grocers—not for the sight-seeing."

A Suggestion.

"President Hoodless' suggestion is that the picnic be held in each of the three cities alternately—one year in Brantford, one year in London and one year in Hamilton. By this arrangement the large amount of money which now goes outside of the district, never to return, would be spent near home, and every third year at home. Mr. Hoodless intends to confer with the Grocers' Association in this and of other matters pertaining to the welfare of the city in the near future."

A Good Idea.

"The idea is a good one, and meets with my approval," said Ed. J. Ryan, president of the Retail Grocers' Association. "I will certainly agree to a proposition that will bring such a number of visitors to the city once in three years. We will do our part if the others will do theirs. I will get in touch with the promoter, and then I will bring it before the association. I think the idea is all right."

City of 25,000 Fast

SLIPPING INTO RIVER

Buildings Swept Away by Water Daily—The Fate of Derba Ghazi Khan Sealed.

Bombay, Aug. 18.—The fate of the prosperous Punjabi city of Derba Ghazi Khan, which for months past has been gradually slipping into the River Indus, is now regarded as definitely sealed. Nothing can be done to prevent the encroachment of the water. The process of erosion is going on very rapidly.

From 50 to 100 feet of the river front is being swept away every day, and one by one mosques, mansions and hovels are disappearing in the swift stream. Many efforts of competent engineers to devise a way to protect the city has been futile. Derba Ghazi Khan has a population of 25,000.

SIGN THE CONTRACTS WITHIN A FEW DAYS

Water Commissioners and Hon. Mr. Beck Have Almost Completed the Agreement.

The agreement between Hon. Adam Beck and the water commissioners regarding the wells and pumping plant has been approved by the board and Mr. Beck, and is in the hands of the solicitors of the parties concerned, to be completed.

This will not take much time, and it is anticipated that within a few days it will be signed.

The present time is going ahead on the plans for the new station. Engineer Sifton was summoned to Toronto today to confer with Mr. Glavin regarding the plans for the joint station, and the plans will be sent to the city for final ratification in a short time.

The contracts for machinery are now being considered, and the pumping apparatus will be hurried to London as rapidly as possible.

LONDON THISTLES BEAT QUEEN CITY

(Special to The Advertiser.) Toronto, Aug. 19.—At the Dominion bowling tournament, sixth round, for the Ontario cup today, the London Thistles defeated the Queen City. The score: Queen City, London Thistles, 13 to 12. Dr. Scott, 13 to 12.

GRANTIES.

Brown, a bye.

Grannies, Parkdale, 13 to 12.

Hargrave, 13 to 12.

SUGAR ADVANCES.

New York, Aug. 19.—All grades of refined sugar were advanced 10 cents per 100 pounds today, making standard granulated \$5.05.

NEW PITCHER.

Akron, Ohio, Aug. 19.—A deal was closed today whereby Richard Carroll, pitcher of the local team of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Baseball League, will join the New York Americans on Sept. 1. It is said \$2,500 was paid for Carroll's release. Carroll has a record of winning 25 games out of 31 this season.

SWEET FROM CAR PLATFORM WHEN CATTLE GUARD CAUGHT FEET

Well-Known Inwood Young Man Meets With Peculiar Accident While on Excursion—Succumbs to Hospital to Injuries Received.

(Special to The Advertiser.) St. Thomas, Aug. 19.—Austin Taylor, of Inwood, died in Amasa Wood Hospital here this morning as the result of an accident that happened east of Courtright last evening. He was badly bruised and cut, and there was no hope of his recovery when he was brought in.

Yesterday the Inwood public library board ran an excursion to Detroit over the M. C. R. from Courtright. Taylor was with the party, and when returning in the evening was sitting on the railing at the rear of the last coach dangling his feet over the side.

When a couple of miles this side of Courtright his foot caught in a cattle guard, and he was dragged off the train.

Mrs. J. E. Fowler, of Watford, is an aunt, and Miss E. Hume, of Inwood, is a cousin.

POLICE NOT TO BLAME IN MATTER

Some Misapprehension in regard to Drowning Accident in the Thames.

POSITION OF FIRE CHIEF

Could Not Spare Men to Drag the River and the Chief Acted as He Thought Best.

The Advertiser has received the following letter in regard to the recent drowning accident on the Thames:

It is at times interesting to draw comparisons. Last winter many emigrants living in and about the city of Toronto, most of them outside the limits, were clothed, warmed and fed by the citizens of that city, thousands of dollars worth of material being donated for the purpose, the work of relief and distribution being carried on in an orderly way under organized leadership. These people had absolutely no claim—except the claim of common humanity—upon Toronto. They were not and never had been fellow-citizens, and very few were even fellow-countrymen. This week two little children, daughters of citizens of London were lost, and because their parents were summering outside the city, the London police would render no assistance to the searching parties, which went out in all directions to hunt for them. When the search proved fruitless, and it was deemed advisable to drag the bodies of the girls and relatives were obliged to go out in boats and fish with rakes and spiked poles to recover the bodies, because it was outside the limits. Truly, London has reason to pride itself on its humanity.

A TORONTO GIRL.

Chief Williams' Reply.

From the above letter it is evident that some people are of the opinion that the police authorities will not take cognizance of anything that happens outside their immediate jurisdiction.

When Chief Williams was spoken to this morning, he remarked that if anyone had any complaint to make against the police department of the city it would be well for them to make it direct to him.

"The police department were intrusted with the preservation of law and order within the jurisdiction of the city," he said, "and naturally they would not presume to exercise authority outside those bounds. If, however, a request for help in case of such accidents as that mentioned were to come from outside sources, the department would certainly do their best to lend every assistance in their power. In the case of Springfield, however, it was different, as the city shared with the county responsibility for it."

FINEST BREDS HERE

Englishmen Buy Ontario Southdowns For Old Country Flocks.

Hamilton, Aug. 19.—William Martin, a wealthy English sheep breeder, bought a Southdown ram in Barton Township yesterday afternoon for the purpose of introducing new blood into his extensive flocks. He paid \$100 for the ram. The English sheep dealers have been purchasing Southdowns from this district for the same purpose for some time, and claim the local breed is the best they have yet found.

TAFT'S COUSIN KILLED BY BOLT

Trinidad, Colo., Aug. 18.—Charles Taft, a cousin of President Taft, was killed at Pryor, Colo., today by lightning.

GUIDE FOUND \$1,000 NOBODY CLAIMS IT

Montreal, Aug. 19.—A brief telegram received at the C. P. R. office today announces that a pocketbook containing a thousand dollars was picked up on the peak known as the Glacier, near Field, B. C. No owner could be found for the pocketbook, and it was turned in to the company by the guide who found it.

FLIGHT POSTPONED.

Minneapolis, N. Y., Aug. 19.—The attempt of C. Foster Willard to win a cup offered for the longest flight of an aeroplane announced for today was postponed till tomorrow to give Mr. Willard an opportunity to make more thorough preparation for his long flight.

JUAREZ INTERFERES.

Paris, Aug. 19.—M. Juarez, the Socialist leader, has announced his intention of interpellating the Government regarding the proposal to give American speculative stocks, notably the common stock of the United States Steel Corporation, officially in France.