

LONDON ELECTRIC WOULD SELL THEIR ENTIRE PLANT TO CITY AND ELIMINATE COMPETITION

New Move Is Likely To Be Made to Have the City Buy the Concern and Use It For Auxiliary Purposes—Matter Discussed by the Board of Directors.

There is a movement on foot to sell the plant of the London Electric Company to the city, to be used as a reserve steam plant for Niagara power. It is not known from which quarter negotiations will be commenced, but it is said that at the meeting of the directors of the company held in Toronto yesterday the question was taken up, and they all expressed themselves as willing to discuss the proposition with the city, although they claim the first move must come from London.

Have Discussed It.
"We had a conversation on foot to sell the plant of the London Electric Company to the city, to be used as a reserve steam plant for Niagara power. It is not known from which quarter negotiations will be commenced, but it is said that at the meeting of the directors of the company held in Toronto yesterday the question was taken up, and they all expressed themselves as willing to discuss the proposition with the city, although they claim the first move must come from London."

Situation in Toronto.
In connection with this matter, it must be mentioned that in Toronto the citizens are discussing an auxiliary steam plant for their Niagara power station. As a matter of fact, a large number of capitalists in touch with the General Electric Company are agitating for a steam plant, and their end is being followed.

It looks as if a competition for steam plants is being undertaken in every municipality where the Canadian General Electric Company have works in

which Niagara power will enter into competition. It is known that the General Electric Company have a steam plant in Toronto in connection with their Niagara power station.

The Peak Load.
Mr. J. J. Wright, the manager, in a report to the Toronto papers, made the statement that it was necessary to reduce the peak load in the winter from 4:30 o'clock to 6:30 o'clock for 40 days. He declares in the same interview that Toronto will have to do the same for the civic institution.

Some Favor It.
Some of the aldermen are still in favor of the city buying the London Electric, to be used as an auxiliary, in case of a breakdown, or to be used in case of the peak load in winter. With the willingness of the electric company to negotiate, it is probable that the utilities commission will within a short time be considering this proposition.

Will Oppose It.
The hydro-electric commission will oppose the move, however. It is understood that they have made a report to the effect that a steam plant will be useless in London or any other city where power is used. As a matter of fact, they are not enamored of the London Electric Company's outfit for such a purpose.

It would not be surprising if an offer were received from the London Electric Company for the sale of their plant within a short time.

BROKEN RAIL DISCOVERED

A broken rail was discovered on the east bound main line of the Grand Trunk near Wabunco yesterday afternoon just after a freight had passed. The conductor of the train happened to notice it as he was standing on the caboose, and he at once reported it. A section gang was sent out and it was found that there was a large crack in the rail. It was replaced at once, and traffic was not delayed for any length of time.

NEW SCHEME TO REDUCE COST OF POWER TO CONSUMERS

Municipalities To Be Given Power to Forego the Sinking Fund and Pay Only Interest on the Niagara Power Debentures—Would Reduce Power in London Almost \$5 a Horse Power.

At the next session of the Legislature legislation will be passed, it is rumored, that will make competition for the Niagara power practically impossible in this city, or any other city in the power zone.

The law will provide that the municipalities are free to allow the sinking fund to elapse until such a time as the power business is on a paying basis, when the city can then pay off the debentures.

In other words, the law will provide that the municipalities pay only the interest on the money invested, and they may pay off the principle, when in a position to do so. The province, of course, will guarantee the payment of the money.

A Sweeping Effect.
This legislation will have a sweeping effect on competition, it was stated. For instance, the city has to provide each year for the Niagara power distribution plant only the sum of \$14,427.01. Of this sum \$10,575 is for interest in 1909, and the remainder is for sinking fund. Of course, the interest decreases each year, while the sinking fund increases by the scheme of payment.

For instance, the interest as mentioned above for 1909 is \$10,575. For 1910 it is \$10,491.66; for 1911, \$10,408.22; for 1912, \$10,324.77; for 1913, \$10,241.32; for 1914, \$10,157.87.

LONDON ELECTRIC SIGNS AGREEMENT
Mr. Judd Puts in Letter Which the Mayor Says Has No Effect.

THE CITY ALSO SIGNS IT
His Lordship Declares There Is Nothing in the Bylaw Which Will Prejudice City's Interest.

The London Electric Company agreement with the city to furnish street lighting for the next year has been sealed, signed and delivered.

It stands exactly as it passed the council at the special meeting, and contains no rider to the effect that the agreement applies only to the removal of poles used exclusively for street lighting purposes, the cause of all the objection.

The document came back from Toronto last night, and was presented to the mayor at noon today.

Accompanying it was a letter from Mr. J. C. Judd, K. C., solicitor of the company, in which he referred to the removal of poles used only to those used for street lighting.

What Is This?
However, there is no such clause defining the agreement inserted in the agreement proper, and his lordship has no hesitation in signing the agreement.

"The letter is of no effect," said Mayor Stevely. "The agreement is what we are governed by, not a letter on my part in signing it. The agreement is just as we wanted it, and that settles it."

The removal of poles is a matter to be settled later, when the agreement expires. Then it is probable that the courts will define what it means.

BROODS OVER MURDER ENDS WITH SUICIDE
Fifteen-Year-Old Toronto Boy Attempts to Slay Mother and Takes Own Life.

[Special to The Advertiser].
Toronto, Dec. 9.—James McMath, adopted son of Hugh McMath, who attempted to shoot his foster mother, the victim of reading sensational murder stories, brooding over them and madly jealous physically at an abnormal rate. When the policeman found him shot dead in a public lavatory he reported that it was a man about 25 years old. McMath was actually 15, but he stood five foot seven inches in height, and had been shaving for had last two years. His favorite reading was the Kluge and Thaw murder cases, which he had read over and over.

He was an adopted child, but did not know who his real parents were. McMath knew but would not tell him. It was also said that McMath had brooded a lot over the fact that he was an adopted son. Yesterday he returned from a trip out of town, and following his mother to the kitchen fired at her with a revolver. He then went to the public lavatory at King and Adelaide streets, and blew out his brains.

COLDER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY

Keep an Eye on the Water Pipes and Avoid the Plumber and His Bill.

LAST NIGHT WAS COLD

Mercury Fell to 7.5 Above Zero—Went Up Today, But Weather Man Says Worst Is Yet to Come.

The lowest point reached by the mercury during the night at the local observatory was 7.5 above zero. At 8 o'clock this morning it had risen to 14, and through the day it went up several more degrees.

The piercing wind last night and today drove the cold right in, and made it seem much colder than it really was.

Plumbers who did not look after plumbing in the night last night and left it in any way exposed, found this morning that John Frost had taken full advantage of his opportunity, and had frozen it.

Storm Is Coming.
Reports from the local observatory show that the barometer has fallen rapidly, and the indications are that a storm is coming this way. So far, however, the weather is calm, and the snowfall that has visited many of the districts of the west, but if the barometer is correct, it will not be long before London is visited by a storm.

The pros say very cold.

ZELAYA TO STEP OUT BY UNCLE SAM'S ORDERS

The Nicaraguan President's Resignation Is Demanded by Washington.

London, Dec. 9.—The United States Government has demanded formally the resignation of President Zelaya of Nicaragua, according to a cablegram from Nicaragua received by a business house here today. The message adds that this information was communicated by Zelaya himself, who said that his resignation from the presidency would take effect probably at the end of December.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS SHOW AN INCREASE

Eighty-Two During November at an Assessed Value of \$95,327.

During the month of November there were 82 real estate transfers at an assessed value of \$95,327; consideration, \$136,038, the assessment being 70 per cent of the consideration.

This is an increase over the same month last year, when there were 78 transfers, assessed value \$69,182; consideration, \$101,890; percentage being 67.9.

There is a good increase over the first eleven months of last year. So far there have been 948 transfers; assessed value, \$927,876; consideration, \$1,076,859.

FIRE AT KALAMAZOO

Kalamazoo, Mich., Dec. 9.—One life was probably lost, many firemen were overcome by smoke, 300 hotel guests were driven, scantily attired, into the streets, and a five-story hotel, the Burdick house, a fine four-story hotel and store building, covering more than half a city block and burning out a dozen stores and offices on Main street, while the flames were raging in the hotel, a man suddenly appeared at an upper window and cried for help. Before a ladder could be put in position to rescue him, he had disappeared, and it is believed he perished in the fire. To the low pressure in the water mains the great extent of the fire can possibly be attributed. The Battle Creek firemen appeared on the scene at 2 a.m., but owing to lack of water were of little service.

The Grand Rapids firemen arrived at 6 o'clock and joined in the attack. The temperature was about 10 degrees above zero and the fire-fighters suffered severely from exposure.

PRETTY WEDDING OF A POPULAR COUPLE

Miss Sarah Josephine Hiscox Becomes Bride of Mr. Charles S. Srearton.

One of the prettiest weddings of the season took place this afternoon at the residence of Mr. George T. Hiscox, No. 199 Queen's avenue, when his second eldest daughter, Miss Sarah Josephine, was married to Mr. Charles S. Srearton, of Toronto, formerly of London.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Canon Dunn, of St. Paul's Cathedral, and only the immediate relatives were present. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked very handsome in a dress of cream net over silk, with baby Irish insertion, and carried a bridal bouquet of white roses. She was attended by her sister, Miss Libby Hiscox, who wore pink gown and carried pink carnations. Mr. Jack Dillon was best man. Following the ceremony a dainty wedding breakfast was served, after which Mr. and Mrs. Srearton left for Toronto, where they will take up their residence at 59 Geoffrey street.

"DEATH TO AMERICANS"

New Orleans, Dec. 9.—A cable to the Pleayune from Panama says "Death to Americans" is the order issued to the army by President Zelaya. Positive information was received here today that more than a month ago Zelaya issued instructions to his military commanders to shoot every American caught fighting in the army of the Revolutionists. Some of Zelaya's military officers protested against this order and warned him that trouble with the United States would result. These are now four American warships in the Corinto harbor.

The Vicksburg will probably come from Corinto to Panama to replenish her fuel supplies.

FAKED RECORDS FOR COOK A NOTED MARINER SWEARS

Says He Was to Receive \$4,000 For Preparing Data to Send to Copenhagen Scientists and Exposes Him Because He Received Only \$260.

New York, Dec. 8.—The New York Times presents today the remarkable narratives of two men, made under oath, declaring that they were employed by Dr. Frederick A. Cook, to fabricate astronomical and other observations for submission to the University of Copenhagen, which is about to pass upon Dr. Cook's assertion that he discovered the North Pole on April 21, 1908.

These men are George H. Dunkle, an insurance broker, of 31 Nassau street, New York, and Capt. August Wedel Loose, a sea captain, of 437 Thirtieth street, Brooklyn. The two laborers were to have received jointly from Dr. Cook \$4,000, with an additional bonus of \$500 to Captain Loose upon the acceptance of the records by the University of Copenhagen. They say that Dr. Cook had paid them only \$260 when he disappeared on the eve of the dispatch of his "records" to Copenhagen, two weeks ago, and his failure to pay the sum remaining due them they freely acknowledge to be their motive for coming forward with the story.

Accompanying these narratives in the Times will appear copies of the affidavits of Capt. Loose and Mr. Dunkle affirming their accuracy, a facsimile of Dr. Cook's instructions to Capt. Loose, in Cook's handwriting, in possession of the Times, and the affidavit of Capt. Loose swearing to the accuracy of the same.

IMPORTANT CLAUSE HAS BEEN OMITTED

Nothing in the Street Railway Agreement Regarding Power For Springbank Park.

THE THEATRE PROGRAM
Building Will Belong to the City in 1911 But the City Is Giving It Back to the Company.

The agreement with the London Street Railway for the amusement privileges at Springbank Park and creating not a little interest about the city hall.

If there is no clause to the effect that the company shall take power from the city in case they have not enough power themselves to run the amusement devices or anything else that power may be used for.

Commissioner Darch asked for that clause to be inserted, but the company through Mr. King, refused to agree to it.

At the last meeting between the interested parties no mention was made of this, and it has become one of the most interesting points discussed by the people.

Proposed to Company.
"The matter was proposed to the company," said Mayor Stevely. "They tacitly agreed to take power from the city in case they needed it, and also provided that they could purchase electricity cheaper than anywhere else. They did not want anything in the agreement to that effect, however, and it was not inserted."

Some Objection.
There is some objection to the agreement on that score, many thinking that power should be taken from the city to run these amusements. They point out that the difference in fares amounts to about half a cent, or approximately \$2,000 a year according to the figures of Mr. Darch. For this the company gets the amusement privileges at Springbank, and also the theatre, which, under the old agreement, will become the property of the city in 1911, if no new agreement is made.

Not Considered.
As a matter of fact, the petitions of the London Health Association and the By-law Amendment Association, considered at yesterday's meeting, and it is quite likely that their request for improved service will not be taken up in the committee. "The city also will have applications, we hope, from all the teachers, and we will be able to appoint the staff."

Will Make Appointments.
"When these applications come in, we will call a special meeting of the board, and make the appointments. We want everything to be in running order when the first session is held after the holidays. With 22 teachers we expect to give kindergarten instruction to the outlying districts where now there is none. This will be sufficient for the purpose, I think."

Those present were: Mr. G. N. Weekes, chairman; J. W. Westervelt, J. T. A. Hunt, Inspector Edwards and Miss Jean R. Laidlaw.

"DEATH TO AMERICANS"

Zelaya Gave Orders To Kill All Found in Rebel Army.

New Orleans, Dec. 9.—A cable to the Pleayune from Panama says "Death to Americans" is the order issued to the army by President Zelaya. Positive information was received here today that more than a month ago Zelaya issued instructions to his military commanders to shoot every American caught fighting in the army of the Revolutionists. Some of Zelaya's military officers protested against this order and warned him that trouble with the United States would result. These are now four American warships in the Corinto harbor.

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Says He Coached Cook.
In the narratives of Capt. Loose and Mr. Dunkle, Capt. Loose frankly expresses his scorn of Dr. Cook's claims, laughs at his ignorance of the simplest essentials for accurate observations in the Arctic regions, and describes at length how, working backward from the Pole, he calculated observations that would fit in with Cook's narrative, and coached him on the necessary modification of the latter—as, for example, that he must be sure to record that he rose before 4:15 o'clock on a certain morning, because it was at that hour that a certain star, mentioned in one of Loose's calculations, would be visible.

Mr. Dunkle describes the inception of the enterprise, how from the newspapers they gathered that Dr. Cook was in deep water, and inferred that he would be glad to pay for help; how Dunkle got John R. Bradley, Cook's brother, to introduce him; how the subject was led up to delicately and the bargain finally struck and carried out, and how, at last, Dr. Cook disappeared, after accepting their work and paying only \$260 for it.

Lewis Nixon, the shipbuilder, who coaches for Capt. Loose's competence as a navigator, told the captain in command of the torpedo-boat Gregor, built for the Russian Government, when it was taken from the shipyard in these waters and across the ocean, Mr. Nixon declares that Capt. Loose is, in his estimation, one of the "most competent, efficient and accurate of navigators."

WOULD USE GARBAGE TO HEAT BUILDINGS

Dr. Niven Has a Suggestion in Regard to the Court House.

Dr. Niven is out with a new suggestion in the much-older matter of heating the county buildings, his suggestion is that the incinerating plant be used for the disposal of garbage, the most important purpose of disposing of the garbage being to heat and light the county buildings, and he considered that it would be better to open negotiations with the city with reference to such a move.

In Ireland.
In Irish cities, which the doctor lately visited, such a scheme is in successful operation, and he found that the factory in every way. The heat made in the garbage disposal is there used to heat and light the county buildings, and he considered that it would be better to open negotiations with the city with reference to such a move.

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THE ATLAS CHARGES

Toronto, Dec. 9.—Two more charges of fraud, making four in all, were laid yesterday against the Rev. George Atlas, who is at present on his way to Bulgaria.

The complainants are Mrs. Toni, 275 King street east, and Van, 1000, 177 Dundas street. The former says Atlas got \$28 from him to pay his bill for the use of the (Bulgarian) Union, and the latter claims he gave him \$450 upon his arrival in Canada, presumably to protect him against being sent back to his native country.

The two complaints were brought to the police court, and they were out of the information in the presence of Sergeant of Detectives Markle, who has been quite making an investigation with regard to Atlas' movements with his countrymen in Toronto.

ELLENVANNIN WAS SUNK IN A COLLISION

Liverpool, Dec. 8.—An examination today by divers of the wreck of the steamer Ellenvannin, which was destroyed at the mouth of the Mersey River, revealed the fact that the steamer sank in Friday's storm as a result of a collision with another vessel.

As no collision has been reported it is believed that the ship in collision with the Ellenvannin sank with all on board. Thirty-one lives were lost in the sinking of the Ellenvannin.

JURY SAYS NO ONE TO BLAME

Inquest Into Death of Late James S. Cook of William Street.

PURELY AN ACCIDENT

Man Walked Under Big Plate as It Was Being Moved in Leonard's Boiler Shop.

That James S. Cook came to his death in Victoria hospital on Nov. 30 from injuries received at E. Leonard & Sons' boiler works, and that in our opinion no blame can be attached to the company or any of its employees.

The jury, which under Coroner Ferguson last night investigated the death of James S. Cook, of William street, brought in the above verdict. As nearly as could be learned from the evidence, Mr. Cook, who was foreman of the boiler shop and slightly deaf, was probably making his way to his cupboard to get something, when he stepped in front of the big plate and was crushed. If this surmise is correct, Mr. Cook must have walked out from behind some of the machinery, and in front of the plate, just after the helpers had moved it, so that all was clear and had given the word to release it.

Mr. E. H. Johnston represented Mr. Cook's family, and Mr. George S. Gibbons appeared for the firm. Mr. Johnston stated to The Advertiser that no action for damages has been entered.

Mr. Arthur J. Southam, who was in charge of the men who were turning the boiler plate, stated that he had been at the business for thirteen years and had never had any accident before. All care had been taken to avoid accidents. Other employees gave similar evidence.

RESTAURANT MAN FINED SOLD CIGARS ON SUNDAY

A Case of Much Interest to Those Who Conduct Business on Sabbath.

At this morning's session of the police court Magistrate Love decided to fine a local restaurant-keeper who sold cigars on Sunday some weeks ago, \$1 and \$3.85 costs. Mr. McEvoy, who has the case in hand for the defendant, has presented two stated cases to the court of appeal, but Magistrate Love has gone ahead and acted on his own judgment, as he has held throughout that there was an infraction of the bylaw when the restaurant-keeper sold cigars on Sunday.

The defendant has been warned not to sell any more cigars on Sunday unless he wishes to be prosecuted. Mr. McEvoy has asked the court of appeal for a ruling in two stated cases, one in case a man who has had a meal in a restaurant ask the waiter at the conclusion to bring him a cigar, and another in a case where a man is supposed to have stepped in from the street, and without having anything to eat, has just purchased a cigar, and contention is, in the first case, that a cigar is part of a meal. Local restaurant-keepers are greatly interested in the case, as on it depends to a large extent their Sunday cigar trade.

A MEASURE TO STOP GAMBLING IN STOCK

Bill in the U. S. House to Prohibit Option Speculation.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Anti-option bills, designed to prohibit gambling in grain, cotton, wheat and other products sold on stock exchanges, will be taken up for consideration by the public committee on agriculture soon after the holidays.

The committee has begun work on the annual bill from the department of agriculture and as soon as some progress has been made on that measure hearings will be held on a number of bills aimed at "stock gambling."

Such a bill has been introduced by Representative Scott, of Kansas, chairman of the committee on agriculture, and he will make every effort to have it reported to the House later in the session.

A FREIGHTER BURNED SIX OF CREW PERISH

Big Steel Lake Craft Goes Down Within Five Miles of Buffalo.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 9.—The W. C. Richardson, a big steel freighter, sank early today at a point five miles up the lake from Buffalo harbor and five members of the crew went down with the ship.

Captain Griesser and the lifesaving crew went to the rescue and saved the other members of the crew, most of whom had grabbed life belts and jumped into the water.

MEETS WITH DEATH AS KNEELS TO PRAY

Aged Windsor Contractor Expires While Attending a Church Prayer Meeting.

Windsor, Dec. 9.—Death came with-out warning to Meredith Conn, 70 years old, a prominent paving contractor, at the Central Methodist Church last night. Mr. Conn was in the act of kneeling for the opening prayer by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Holmapple, when he was stricken with apoplexy. Death came before there was time to summon a physician. Mr. Conn had been a resident of Windsor for twelve years. Prior to coming here he lived in Dutton and Tarryton, A. T. Conn, Windsor, to John Guertin, Vars; from David Potts, Reno, to Albert Rogers, Emo; from L. P. Phelps (shop), Welland, to John and G. A. Toyn, Welland; from C. S. Casswell, Apple Hill, to William Lalonde, Maxwell; from estate of Thomas J. Flahiff, Paris, to Henry Isaacs, Thornbury; from Mrs. Louisa Wetz, Allanville, to W. L. Wettlaufer, Mitchell; from J. E. Hinds, Sundridge, to Luke Wilson, Orillia.