

Citizen Ottawa Dec. 21/22

Thornton

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SIR H. THORNTON ASKED QUESTIONS ON ELECTRIFICATION

Mayor Maguire Alleges Present Stand is Against Policy of City of Toronto.

TORONTO, Dec. 20.—As a result of the announcement by Sir Henry Thornton, president of the Canadian National Railways, forecasting the electrification of at least a portion of the National Railways system between Toronto and Niagara Falls, Mayor Maguire, of Toronto, today sent Sir Henry the following telegram:

"Your statement of today regarding possible electrification of the National Railways between Toronto and Niagara Falls, and Toronto and Cobourg, is being used by opponents of public ownership to aid in defeat of vote of proposed Toronto-Niagara Hydro Radial line, which will be feeder of National Railways, and will include N. S. and T. lines, on which the Hydro Commission holds option on behalf of municipalities from the government. Toronto Suburban has already been taken over by city as part of this option.

"Are you joining with the C.P.R. in opposing Hydro Radials, which will give service that National Railways cannot give, even if electrified and which will be feeder for National Railway and competitor of the C.P.R.?"

Please rush reply, as your statement as published today is being used to defeat Hydro Radial bylaws that are being voted on January 1st in Toronto, Hamilton and other Hydro municipalities."

The President's Reply.

A telegram from Sir Henry Thornton, president of the Canadian National Railways, was received by Mayor Maguire early this morning in reply to a message the mayor sent yesterday regarding the possible electrification of the National Railways between Toronto and Niagara Falls.

Sir Henry's telegram follows: "In answer to your telegram of this date, a statement was requested from me as to what the Canadian National Railways proposed to do in the way of furnishing adequate service for the protection of its business and the announcement to which you refer relates solely to that."

Mayor Maguire in his telegram yesterday stated that Sir Henry's statement regarding possible electrification of the National Railways between Toronto and Niagara Falls and Toronto and Cobourg, "is being used by opponents of public ownership to aid in defeat of vote on proposed Toronto-Niagara Hydro Radial line which will be a feeder of National Railways."

MEIGHEN PAPERS, Series 3 (M.G. 26, I, Volume 135)

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