

LONDON MAY HAVE COMPETITION IN SALE OF NIAGARA POWER

Charter Sought By the Hamilton Radial Company Is Pregnant With Fright for City Fathers, Who Scent Danger in One Clause.

FRANCHISE MEANS MUCH TO THE CITY OF LONDON

Major Beattie, M. P., Wired To Have the Bill Held Up at Ottawa Until Council Sees Where It Is At—Matter Was Not Deemed Important at First.

The city fathers have just awakened to the fact that there is a great probability that they may have competition for the municipal distributing plant, and that the competitor is liable to be an extremely dangerous one. Some time ago a notice was served on the city council to the effect that several amendments to the bill of the Hamilton radial railway were being proposed, and that the company would acquire the franchise of the Windsor, Chatham and London Electric Railway.

These mere statements of fact did not impress the city fathers very seriously, and the matter was left in abeyance.

INVESTIGATION BEGUN.

Not long ago the city solicitor and Ald. Beattie began to investigate the charters of the Hamilton Radial and the Windsor and London line, and it was discovered that the charter allowed the company to distribute and sell its surplus power.

The charter also gave the company the right to enter cities without their consent.

Last year the bill came up, but was opposed on the ground that a city should not be entered without the consent of such city, expressed by bylaw.

The cities of Toronto and Hamilton were chiefly interested in this clause, and the bill was amended to suit them.

The bill comes up in the House tomorrow. Mayor Stevely got word of this from City Solicitor Meredith, and he immediately consulted with Ald. Beattie, chairman of No. 1 committee.

All were of the opinion that it was too late to enter an objection to the bill.

There was no time to send representatives to Ottawa, to make a protest.

It was also felt that there was not enough knowledge concerning the matter at present.

WANT BILL DELAYED.

A delay will be sought.

Mayor Stevely wired to Ottawa to find out exactly when the bill would come up, and asked Major Beattie, the member for London, to ask for a postponement.

The wire was sent at noon today. In case a postponement is granted, the city will send representatives to Ottawa to protest against the passage of the bill.

WHAT IT MEANS.

The cardinal feature of the legislation is this:

The Hamilton Radial has a charter somewhat similar to that granted to the Windsor and London Railroad.

It has connection with the large power generators at the Falls.

The charter gives the company the right to run as far as London.

Here the company will connect with the Windsor and London Company, and also further up the country, with the Lake Shore, Essex and Windsor Radial Railway.

This will give the company a line from the Falls right through to Windsor, and another line to Sarnia.

MAY SELL NIAGARA POWER.

The charter will give the company the right to distribute Niagara power in direct competition with the hydro-electric commission in its own territory.

Toronto and Hamilton have raised no objections to the bill, as their rights regarding the streets have been protected.

The other municipalities have not protested, and so far as can be learned not one of them have raised any objection to the passing of the bill.

A DIRECT COMPETITOR.

If it goes through, London will have a direct competitor in a company distributing Niagara power.

The amendment suggested by Toronto and Hamilton, that the company be not allowed to enter the city over the city streets, except by the consent of the people by bylaw, is regarded as satisfactory in some quarters, but it does not by any means keep the company out of the city.

It still has the right to enter the city by private right of way and sell power to whoever it pleases.

For instance, it could enter the city with its wires over the right of way of the Southwestern Traction Company, if that company would consent to it.

Or else, it could enter the city by a private right of way of its own.

All the city can do is prevent the company coming into the city over the streets.

The city would have to sell power cheaper than the company could sell it in order to get the customers.

The matter of the peak load might have some effect in this question.

INTERESTING BILL.

"It is rather an interesting bill," declared Ald. Beattie this morning. "We did not think of the distributing powers granted to the company, but now we see that it is the most serious part of the business. If the bill goes through, we will have a direct competitor to our own distributing plant, and we could not prevent it. Of course, the bill will be amended, preventing the company entering the city over the city streets, but it can come in over a private right of way, and we cannot prevent it. London cannot do much else."

SOLICITOR INSTRUCTED.

"I have instructed City Solicitor Meredith to do what he thinks best in the interests of the citizens," said Mayor Stevely. "As soon as I saw what it meant, I instructed him to find out all about the matter. It is rather late, I will admit, but if the bill is postponed, as I hope it will be, I will send Mr. Meredith and one or two aldermen to Ottawa to lay the matter before the committee."

Anthony Comstock Speaks for Thaw

New York, Jan. 22.—It was 10:20 o'clock when the Thaw trial was resumed this morning, and Mr. Littleton of the defense, began at once the preliminaries of proving Harry Thaw's will and codicil, executed the day of his wedding to Evelyn Nesbit in Pittsburg. Miss Frances Pierce, who witnessed the signatures, and who testified at the last trial, was called to the stand.

Miss Pierce identified the papers, but District Attorney Jerome objected to the introduction of the will in evidence until witnesses had come forward to prove its custody from the time of signing up to the present moment. Mr. Littleton declared the district attorney's objection simply would delay matters, but he temporarily withdrew the offer of the will. Justice Dowling said the condition of the will, a long, rambling affair, was such as to make the proof of custody desirable. There are many changes and alterations in it. As to the codicil, Mr. Jerome objected to its introduction on the ground that it was in defendant's own handwriting, and was a self-serving document. Justice Dowling said the codicil was a compact, continuing

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Customs Receipts Multiply 200 Times Great Possibilities of Port Stanley

Policy of Laurier Government Has Worked Wonders at London's Lake Outlet.

Customs Receipts.

1892		\$ 390
1893		1,907
1906		65,306
1907		63,119
1908, approximately		\$0,000

The St. Thomas Journal has the following article regarding Port Stanley: Port Stanley, Jan. 21.—The marvelous increase during the past decade of the import trade at this port will doubtless surprise many. That the customs duties should jump

from less than \$400 to over \$80,000 a year is pointed to with pride by the citizens of this place as an indication of the foremost place Port Stanley is taking today among Canada's harbors.

The close attention and energetic efforts displayed by the Dominion Government have not been without effect. Today the harbor here is one of the very best and the increase in customs duties alone has repaid the country for the large expenditures on harbor improvements.

A Bright Future.

That the future holds still more in store, and that the recent progress of Port Stanley and its present bright outlook is to the credit of the Dominion Government, of the past few years is recognized by all who have given

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Ex-Ald. Cooper Makes a Gain of Four Such Is Rumor From Recount Room

According To Story Ald. Parsons Is Now Only Four Ahead in the Chase.

The recount of the ballots cast for the aldermen in the last municipal election was carried on last night and

this morning, and altogether eighteen boxes have been examined.

So far as can be learned ex-Ald. Cooper has made considerable gain, and is said to be four votes nearer the seat than when he started.

No information of a definite nature could be obtained, but that is the rumor going.

If it be true, Ald. Parsons is only four votes ahead of ex-Ald. Cooper now.

Roy Smith Had Merely a Pipe Dream Hold-Up Story Told Was Mere Fake

Police Became Suspicious and Made Him Confess—Wanted Notoriety.

An amusing sequel to the South London holdup story developed this morning when Roy Smith, who was reported to have been held up on Richmond street south on Monday night, confessed to the detectives and Chief Williams that the whole affair was a fabrication on his part and that he had started it for the sake of the notoriety that it would gain him.

Officers Suspicious.

Yesterday afternoon two detectives visited the scene of the supposed robbery.

According to Smith's story the two men came out of the lane leading into the Meredith property.

Upon examination the officers found that no person had been in the lane since the last snowfall, some days ago, as there were no footprints in the snow.

This was the starting point and the four decided to take Smith to the station.

Confessed.

This morning they told him that they knew that he did not have \$9, which he said was the amount taken from him.

Smith admitted that he hadn't seen \$9 for a long time.

Under the cross-questioning, he admitted and finally admitted that there was no truth in the story. He said he had been having some trouble with his head lately, and must have made the story up in a moment of weakness in an attempt to gain notoriety.

Chief Is Angry.

"It is too bad," said Chief Williams this morning to The Advertiser, "that such a fellow cannot be prosecuted, for besides the story frightening many persons, especially women, it has caused the officers a good deal of trouble and lost time in investigating it."

Smith was allowed to go, but was warned never to try the scheme again.

Eight Sarnia Crews Coming To City Big New Moguls Put Into Service

G. T. R. Is Making Preparations To Handle Freight With Great Expedition.

Eight brand-new mogul locomotives of the cross compound consolidated type, fresh from the shops in Montreal, and twelve that have been in use a short time in Sarnia, arrived in the city yesterday, to be used in the freight traffic between this city, Sarnia, and Niagara Falls.

Eight Crews Coming.

Eight firemen and eight engineers, whose homes are in Sarnia, have orders to move to this city at once, and make their headquarters here.

For the twelve new engines, local firemen and engineers will be promoted, and a number of new men, who have been on the spare list, will be taken on.

This move on the part of the company is a result of its policy to provide the fastest freight service possible between the tunnel and the bridge.

Will Disperse With Chutes. In about six weeks the old coal chutes will be discontinued, and in all probability torn down, as under the new schedule the engines will only run from Sarnia to this city.

Upon arriving in the east end yards they will immediately uncouple and go to the roundhouse, and a fresh engine will be put on, and will take the train right out.

It is estimated that under the new rule, what formerly took an hour and a half to do here, will be done in ten minutes, and the freight will be rushed through.

This will be much appreciated by the firemen, who often were extremely tired after reaching this city.

Fast Engines.

The new engines will travel considerably faster than the old ones, and it is expected that the trip of nearly 200 miles from the tunnel to the Falls will be made in about seven and a half hours, instead of ten hours, as formerly.

In addition to this, a great deal of the congestion which has been such a serious problem in the east end yards, will be done away with.

Ask Exemption From Lemieux Act

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Ottawa, Jan. 22.—There is a delegation of railwaymen meeting here today, and they will later call on Hon. Mr. Lemieux and ask that railway employees be exempted from the Lemieux act. The objections of the railway or-

ganizations to the act is that it takes away from them the power to strike without first trying conciliation. The railwaymen also complain of the severity of the prosecutions that railway hands are now subjected to in connection with accidents.

South Huron Polling a Large Vote

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Exeter, Jan. 22.—The election to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons caused by the death of Mr. B. B. Gunn, the late member for South Huron, is taking place today. The

weather is very favorable, and it is expected that a very large vote will be polled.

The sleighing is good, in spite of the rains, and a vote larger than usual will be polled. The vote is coming in fast.

The campaign, while good-natured, has been a very strenuous one. The riding has been thoroughly covered, and more than the usual number of meetings have been held.

Both candidates are sanguine as to the result. Mr. McLean, the Liberal candidate, seems to have the better chance, and will probably win, although the majority will not be large.

MAGISTRATE LOVE ILL WITH GRIPPE

Mayor Stevely Occupied the Chair of the Caid at Carling Street Court.

Magistrate Love is confined to the house with a severe attack of grippé, and Mayor Stevely dispensed justice this morning to the four drunks who were waiting in the cage.

With the exception of William Proctor, who was bailed to appear in a week, they were all allowed to go, being first-timers.

FORTY-DAY MEET FOR FORT ERIE TRACK

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 22.—Before he left Buffalo on Monday, John H. Madigan, who, with John Condon, Dan Stewart and Louis Cella, own the Fort Erie race track, visited the course across the river with an architect from Chicago, and planned improvements to the extent of \$40,000, and at a meeting in Chicago yesterday Mr. Madigan's colleagues endorsed his action.

It was announced that a forty-day meeting will be held at Fort Erie, following Kenilworth meeting, and that the big feature will be the Canadian Derby, unless Messrs. Parmer and Hendrie have a copyright on the Derby title. If they have, then another name will be chosen, but the stake will be just as big.

Another important announcement was made, to the effect that the book-keeping at Fort Erie will be open to any reputable bookmaker.

STILL UNDECIDED

McMahon & Granger Do Not Know as Yet Whether They Will Leave London.

Whether or not McMahon & Granger will leave London has not yet been decided. The firm expects to receive word concerning the matter any day, but so far nothing has been settled. "The matter is still undecided," declared Mr. McMahon to The Advertiser this morning. "We expect word almost any day, but there is nothing definite yet. We will know shortly."

A NASTY FALL

Workman on Smallman & Ingram Building Falls Fifteen Feet.

A misstep this morning caused John Barrett, of 533 Piccadilly street, to fall a distance of perhaps fifteen feet while working on the new Smallman & Ingram building. Internal injuries are feared.

Barrett was going up a ladder running from the first to the second floor, when he made a misstep and fell. Fortunately, he struck on some planks, otherwise he would have dropped into the cellar upon a mass of bricks and iron beams.

Barrett lay where he had fallen until assistance arrived. Later he was taken to his home.

SENATOR ROSS AT MONTREAL

Lectures on Canadian Constitution Before Women's Club.

Montreal, Jan. 21.—Hon. George W. Ross addressed the Women's Canadian Club today on "The Constitution of Canada as compared with that of the United States." Lady Drummond presided and introduced the speaker.

In studying the Canadian constitution he began with Lord Durham's report in 1829, praising it highly and recommending his hearers to read it. At the climax of the Confederation thirty-three men had the future of Canada in their hands and were called upon to rescue Canada from political destruction.

Senator Ross gave word pictures of the three most important men in the conference—John Macdonald, Geo. Brown and G. E. Cartier—and referred to them as "gladiators disarmed" that Canada might be triumphant.

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COLD.

FORECASTS.

Tuesday, Jan. 22.—8 a.m.

Today—High northwest winds; fair and becoming colder.

Thursday—Northwest winds; fair and much colder.

Local Temperatures

The temperatures recorded at the local observatory yesterday were: Highest, 41°; lowest, 29° above zero.

TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	4	4	Clear
Winnipeg	4	6	Cloudy
Port Arthur	10	10	Fair
Perry Sound	34	32	Snow
Toronto	36	36	Cloudy
Ottawa	26	34	Cloudy
Montreal	38	34	Cloudy
Quebec	38	30	Rain
Father Point	38	32	Cloudy

Minus (—) means below zero.

The first column in the above table records the temperatures at 8 o'clock this morning, and the second column records the minimum temperatures during the 24 hours previous.

WEATHER NOTES.

The area of low pressure which was near Lake Superior yesterday has moved eastward with increasing energy to the Lower St. Lawrence Valley, while high pressure, with much lower temperature, has set in over Manitoba and the Western Provinces.

The temperature is now above the freezing point from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces, but a general change to colder weather is indicated.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 38-44; Vancouver, 42-47; Calgary, 4-34; Edmonton, 8-26; Regina, 14-22; Winnipeg, 12-28; Port Arthur, 22-48; Perry Sound, 22-49; Toronto, 32-36; Halifax, 4-36.

JAPANESE MISSION A SUCCESS ENDS THE COOLIE INVASION

Mikado's Government Assures the Dominion That Restriction Will Be Placed On Emigration To Canada.

Ottawa, Jan. 21.—The Hon. Mr. Lemieux today made a statement to the House giving the results of his recent mission to Japan.

The importance of the occasion was evidenced by the crowded state of the public galleries and by the intense interest with which the Minister of Labor was followed throughout the two and a half hours he occupied. Mr. Lemieux spoke with the deliberation befitting a question so important and delicate, and showed great skill, discrimination and tact in his handling of the diplomatic and international phases of the problem. He revealed all there was to be revealed, and yet was careful not to disclose anything that

could possibly give offense to the great nation with whose representatives he had been in negotiation. In this respect giving proof of statesmanlike qualities that more than justified the confidence reposed in him by the Prime Minister and the British Government.

The Mission a Success.

The speech produced a most favorable impression, and the feeling here tonight is that the authoritative assurances which Mr. Lemieux was able to lay before the House will prove generally acceptable and will carry with them a satisfactory solution of the difficulty. In Liberal circles the Postmaster-General's statement is regarded as unsatisfactory, and as probably the

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Three Deputations Re Car Service Wellington St. Line in Limelight

Committee Hears the Speakers and Will Give "Careful Consideration."

Three deputations addressed No. 1 committee last evening on the street car situation in the north end.

One deputation, street line to Richmond street, while another urged that the line be removed.

The third deputation wanted the loop in the north end run up William street to Victoria, to Colborne, to Oxford, instead of the proposed route, which

runs west on Cheapside, one block south of Victoria street.

Each deputation spoke on behalf of its contention.

Chairman Beattie, on hearing all sides of the question, declared that the committee would give the matter careful consideration, and would bring the suggestions put forward by the speakers to the attention of the street-railway authorities.

Wellington Street Residents.

Mr. A. J. Morgan, on behalf of the Wellington street residents, opposed the removal of the Wellington line. He declared that the residents of Wellington street had bought their

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Local Builders Want an Inspector Matter Discussed at Exchange Meeting

Also Want Representation On the Proposed Technical School Board.

The tenth annual meeting of the

London Builders' Exchange was held in the rooms Monday afternoon.

The president, Mr. George C. Young, occupied the chair, and gave a resume of some of the principal matters brought to the attention of the board during the year past.

Amongst other matters touched upon was the need in this city of a practical building bylaw, and a competent building inspector to thoroughly inspect all new work of importance and especially to give attention to the remodeling of old buildings.

Technical Schools.

Another matter was that in the formation of technical schools the Minister of Education be urged to have some practical members of builders' exchanges placed upon their board.

The auditors' financial statement was satisfactory.

Business in connection with the re-

cently formed Canadian National Association of Builders' Exchanges required considerable attention, and at the convention to be held in Ottawa next month it is expected that representatives from all cities in Western Ontario will be present.

The Officers.

The officers were elected for 1908 as follows:

President—Mr. John Wittaker.

Vice-President—Mr. Geo. Hyatt.

Second Vice-President—Mr. Geo. Everett.

Secretary-Treasurer—Geo. S. Gould.

Directors—John Jones, E. Gould, Geo. S. Young, A. Nobbs and Thomas Beer.

Auditors—D. Ferguson and Thos. R. Wright.

Representatives to the Fair Board—Mr. John Jones.

Representatives to the National Association convention at Ottawa—Mr. Wm. Tytler, who is at present a director on their board; Mr. Geo. S. Gould and John Jones.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered the retiring president for the very able manner in which the business of the exchange had been conducted during his term of office.

A BIG CONCESSION TO M. C. R. MEN

[Special to The Advertiser.]

St. Thomas, Jan. 21.—Ald. C. Lawrence today received a letter which contains exceedingly good news for the M. C. R. employees of this city, and in fact the men on all of the New York Central lines. It is to the effect that the committee, headed by Vice-President Brown, who had under consideration the suggestions of the employees regarding a modification of the eyesight and vision tests, had adopted the recommendations of the men, and that as soon as circulars could be issued

the new system would be put into force. This, it is expected, will be sometime next month.

These men who have been let out or set back on account of defective eyesight, it is believed, will be given a chance to go through the new test, and many feel that they will be reinstated. The adoption of the plan is looked upon as one of the most valuable concessions ever obtained by the M. C. R. or any other organized body, as it affects not only the standing of the men with the road on which they are employed, but on all other roads.

SOCIALISTS BAIT THE CHANCELLOR UPROAR IN THE PRUSSIAN HOUSE

Berlin, Jan. 22.—Chancellor Von Buelow refused categorically in the Reichstag today to reply to a Socialist interpellation on the subject of the Prussian suffrage. This precipitated a deafening uproar from the members, during which all the ministers left the house. The debate was then continued.

Trouble with the people had been expected, particularly in view of the street disorders of yesterday, and in order to be prepared for a recurrence of violent encounters between the police and the populace, the houses of parliament were surrounded today with a strong force of police armed with pistols and sabres. The principal thoroughfares of Berlin are being patrolled constantly by police, both mounted and on foot.

The interpellation was very skillfully worded in order to bring it within the official authority of the Reichstag. The question was framed as follows: "On what grounds does the chancellor consider manhood suffrage, as already

granted for the elections to the imperial parliament, to be harmful to the interests of one of the federal states?"

Prince Von Buelow opened the Reichstag proceedings by uttering in the severest terms a warning against further manifestations, which he declared did not affect the Government in the slightest degree. He threatened, amid ironical cheering from the Socialists, that the leaders and organizers of all demonstrations would be dealt with severely.

The chancellor trembled with indignation when he referred to the terrorism which, he declared had been introduced into the capital. He stigmatized the street demonstrations as dangerous to the country, and he looked directly at the Socialist members when he announced that the organizers would be held responsible. He was compelled to pause