

the Toronto waterworks had a days ago. A steel crank pin broke through the back end of the large steam to the daily papers it was estimated that 100,000 lbs. to the square inch on the piston. The pressure was certainly more than the but if there had been even the half of the all there would not have been much of the engine in which broke was five inches in diameter and the presented a rather brittle appearance.

VERY strong protest is being made by electrical manufacturers and the electrical journals of the United States against the rule adopted by the Commissioners of the World's Fair to close the gates at 7 p.m. The Commissioners have explained that the rule was adopted not with the purpose that it should be enforced every evening, but to place in the hands of the Commissioners the power to regulate the hours of closing. This does not satisfy the electrical people who have gone to great expense in preparing exhibits in the belief that the Fair would be open every evening. It is probable that the protestations will be so vigorous as to compel the Commissioners to alter their decision.

THE Montreal City Council is considering the question of the renewal of the lighting franchise, and has appointed a committee to confer with the Royal Electric Light Co. on the subject. This action on the part of the Council has aroused the criticism of the citizens, on the ground that a clause in the present contract provides that the contract shall not be renewed, except after tenders have been called for at least one year before its expiry. There are several other companies desirous of tendering for the franchise, and they are talking of applying for an injunction to restrain the Council from renewing the contract with the Royal Co. without publicly inviting tenders for the same. There is every indication that proceedings of a lively character will precede the settlement of the matter. Since the above was written, the Committee has recommended to the Council a basis of renewal with the Royal Electric Company.

A HIGH spirited electric car in Montreal resolved the other day to get out of the rut. It consequently forsook the rails and made a bee-line for the sidewalk. A lady sitting in an upper window saw it coming and promptly went into hysterics. Fortunately for everybody concerned, the runaway didn't succeed in dodging an electric light pole that stood in its way. The pole was snapped off as though it had been a twig, and the force of the concussion landed the motorman and one of the company's experts over the dashboard. The car was but little injured. Although to all appearances it has become resigned to again pursue the even tenor of its way, a watch should be kept on its movements, as, like a horse who has once felt the pleasure of getting free from control, it is likely some day to want to repeat the experience.

THE chief engineer at the Badger Electric Light Co.'s works, Milwaukee, was killed a few days ago. It appears he was alone in the engine room when the steam pipe burst and he died from the effects of scalding. He had the steam shut off and was repairing the engine, at about half-past four in the afternoon. Some other employee turned the steam on, with the result that the pipe burst and the chief lost his life. Leaky valves and thoughtlessness are responsible for the greater number of such accidents as this. A leaky valve when shut allows a little steam to pass; this condenses and water accumulates in the pipe beyond the valve. A thoughtless attendant will open the steam valve without first draining off the water, or he will open it up quickly instead of slowly, and the sudden rush of high pressure steam into the pipe and coming in contact with the water will produce water hammering enough to rupture the strongest pipe.

CHIMNEY draught when defective has been helped in many ways—sometimes by a fan forcing air under the grates, or by a steam blast forcing air under the grate or over the fire. In locomotives the draught is induced by exhaust steam forced through a jet at base of the smoke pipe. Korting Bros. make an apparatus which is placed in bottom of chimney and by means of a straight jet induces a current of air. A Chicago firm is at pres-

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