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NO INDEPENDENTS IN THE TELEPHONE FIELD

Likely That Extension of Franchise Will Have To Go to the People.

The Bell Telephone Company's exclusive franchise expires Jan. 1, and so far nothing has been done regarding a renewal.

It was expected that some communications would be received before this, but so far no word has yet been received.

It is understood that the Beck bill applies to the Bell Company's franchise, and consequently it will have to be referred to the people in January next if an extension for more than one year is asked by the company.

No Opposition.

There is no opposition to the Bell Company now, so far as can be seen. The Independents have apparently abandoned the field. The Bell Company will be alone in asking for a franchise. If that privilege is asked the people will have to express their opinion on the subject.

"The Beck amendment to the consolidated municipal act does apply," said an alderman today. "The consolidate act gave councils permission by a two-thirds vote to make an agreement with a telephone company for a franchise for a period not exceeding five years. The Beck act amends this, compelling all such franchises to come to a vote of the people, if they are to be extended for a period more than a year. The citizens, I take it, will have to vote on the franchise in January next."

WANT CHARTER CANCELLED

Exeter Methodists Pass Resolution Against Toronto's New Track.

Exeter, Sept. 27.—The Exeter Methodist district meeting has passed the following resolution:

"Moved by Rev. C. P. Wells, seconded by Mr. George D. Stanley, and resolved, that the Exeter district of the London Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, having learned of the issue of a charter to the Metropolitan Racing Association, regret exceedingly such action on the part of the department of the secretary of state, inasmuch as gambling is now legal during a race meet on the race course of an incorporated association. We are assured that this charter confers facilities for gambling which are inimical to the business, moral and public interests of our Dominion, and which will make our land the training ground of gamblers of the lowest type that cannot now operate in many states of the republic to the south of us because driven out by the stringent laws which have there been enacted.

"We respectfully but urgently call upon the secretary of state to cancel the charter at the earliest possible moment

"We further wish to urge upon the Dominion Parliament at its next session, as far as the prerogatives will permit, to settle once and for all the question of race track and all other forms of gambling and make such practices illegal."

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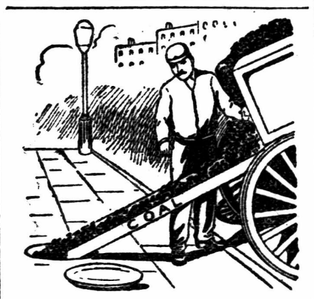

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LONDON AND DISTRICT

—Mr. Thos. Neville, formerly of this city, was united in marriage, on Sept. 16, 1909, to Miss Gertrude May Henry, daughter of Dr. David Henry, of Monrovia. Mrs. and Mr. Neville will reside in Monrovia, Cal.

An Appointment.

Rev. A. H. Rhodes, of Teeswater, has been appointed by the Bishop of Huron as incumbent of the parish of Point Edward.

Mothers' Club Meeting.

The Talbot Street School Mothers' Club will meet for reorganization in the kindergarten of the school Wednesday at 3:30. Officers for the coming year will be elected and other necessary business transacted.

A Wedding.

On the afternoon of the 27th inst., the wedding of Mrs. Jennie C. Younge, to Mr. S. J. McCreery, of Glencoe, was quietly solemnized. Mr. and Mrs. McCreery left on the evening train for the coast. On their return they will take up their residence in this city.

Call From the West,

Rev. E. W. Matthews, B. A., pastor of the William Street Baptist Church at Chatham, has received a call to the pastorate of the Brandon Baptist Church, and it is likely that he will accept. Mr. Matthews is looked upon as one of the most promising of the younger men in the ministry of that denomination. He is a graduate both in arts and theology of McMaster University, Toronto.

A Fine Animal,

Mr. Robert Allen, the well-known cattle buyer, of Delaware, Ont., has recently purchased from Mr. Thomas Skippon, Hyde Park, at a handsome figure, the young prize-winning Hereford bull, Defender. This bull, which was a member of Mr. Skippon's show herd the past season, will prove a valuable acquisition to Mr. Allen's herd.

Young People's Society.

An organization meeting of the Young People's Society of Christ Church, was held last night when a small committee composed of the rector, Rev. R. S. W. Howard; Miss Austin, Miss Stanley and Messrs. Spear and J. H. Woodward, was appointed to draft a programme. The opening meeting of the society will be held next Monday night when the officers for the year will be elected.

Reception for Col. Hodgins.

Invitations have been issued for the reception which the officers of the London garrison will tender Col. Hodgins, D. O. C. of military district No. 1, at the Armories on Saturday. The reception will be held in the messrooms of the officers of the Seventh, and the officers of the regiment, together with those of the Sixth Field Battery and the First Hussars will be present.

Drove Into the Gates.

A man who refused to give his name to the police, drove into the C. P. R. gates at Richmond street late Sunday, and broke one of the shafts of his buggy. The man claimed that the lanterns were not on the gates, and that therefore he could not see where they were. The watchman, however, stated to the police that the lanterns were in their usual position and were burning.

Leaving for the West.

Mr. Ernest Beech, who has been bass soloist in the First Methodist Church choir for the past three years, has decided to go to Vancouver. Mr. Beech has been very popular with the choir, and in recognition of his good work the choir gave him a very nice present of a cut glass pitcher and glasses, and sent him away with their very best wishes for his welfare.

Miss McPherson Remembered.

Miss McPherson, who has been connected with the business office of The Advertiser for some time, severed her connection on Saturday. She was presented with a very handsome grip by the members of the staff. Miss McPherson is leaving for Toronto, where she will spend the year at the Deaconess Training School, preparatory to leaving for China as a missionary under the auspices of the Woman's Missionary Society. Miss McPherson carries with her the very heartiest good wishes of her numerous friends.

Arthur Cooper, photographic studio, opposite city hall. For sittings phone 2014.

Pianos to Rent.

Pianos to rent from $2 per month upwards, six months' rent allowed in case of purchase. Williams' Piano Company, Limited, 261 Dundas street. tf

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INSURANCE RATES AND LIGHTNING RODS

Underwriters Say the Rods Cut No Figure in the Fixing of Rates.

An Advertiser subscriber writes and asks the question if he places lightning rods on his barn will it make any difference in his insurance rates.

A number of local agents who were spoken to regarding the matter state that it would make no difference at all, as the rods are not taken into consideration in any way in fixing the rates.

"There is a great diversity of opinion as to whether lightning rods are of any use or not," said one agent. "In some cases they are considered as a hazard, in that they attract the lightning. In others they are considered as a safeguard. But companies make no difference in rates if places are equipped with them."

FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ARCHDEANERY

Will Be Held in St. John's Church, Glencoe, on October 6 and 7.

The archdeanery of London, which comprises the three counties of Middlesex, Lambton and Huron, will hold its first annual conference in St. John's Church, Glencoe, on Oct. 6 and 7. There are some 50 clergy connected with the archdeanery, of which Ven. Archdeacon Richardson is the head, while asociated with him are the rural deans—Canon Dann, of East Middlesex; Rev. S. F. Robinson, of Strathroy, for West Middlesex; Rev. C. R. Gunne, of Clinton, for Huron, and the Rev. Canon Davis, of Sarnia, for Lambton.

The conference will open on Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock with a preliminary meeting for organization, and after supper has been served, and some time spent in social intercourse Rev. Edwin Lee, rector of Glencoe, will deliver the address of welcome, which will be replied to by Rev. Wm. Lowe, of St. Matthew's Church, London.

At 8 o'clock the services will be formally opened, when the Bishop of Huron will deliver the sermon.

TAXATION COURT HAS ADJOURNED TILL NOV.

Investigation Into the Appeal of the Town of Strathroy Was Commenced.

No definite decision was reached at the meeting of the court appointed to consider the equalization of the taxation of the County of Middlesex, and after a good many points had been considered the court was adjourned till Nov. 1, in order that the assessors might be present and explain their methods of striking an assessment.

The appointment of the court is due to the appeal of the town of Strathroy against the assessment of 1908. As the county and town councils could come to no agreement on the matter, the Provincial Government appointed a board to consider the matter in dispute, delegating Judge Elliott, Judge Ermatinger and Mr. Stephen Blackburn, the registrar of West Middlesex, to preside.

The court met first on the 15th, when it was decided to ask all the clerks of the different municipalities to be present on Monday, Sept. 27. As a result there was a very large gathering at the sitting yesterday. Mr. T. G. Meredith, J. C. Elliott, J. M. McEvoy and J. C. Pope, the mayor of Strathroy.

The argument was mainly directed to the means by which the court should reach its decision, and the opinion was advanced that the court was bound to eliminate from its considerations in every case incomes and taxable business. It was finally resolved that the matter could be most satisfactorily arranged by requesting the various assessors to be present and explain the way in which they prepare their assessment rolls. As Judges Ermatinger and Elliott have to attend division court, they were not able to set a date earlier than Nov. 1. The county clerk was instructed to notify the different assessors that their presence was requested at this date.

DOCTORS IN FRANCE.

[Professor Charcot, in le Revue.]

In 1846, under Louis Phillippe, there were 8,000 doctors in France. In 1891 the number had reached 15,000. In the space of 45 years, 1846 to 1891, the number had almost doubled, the yearly increase being 155. In the decade following this period the augmentation is given at 200, and since 1901 the increase has been much greater. And the number of students at the medical schools and the universities continues to grow. The number enrolled on Jan. 15, 1906, was 7,507, and a year later 7,649, an increse of 142. In 1908 and in 1909 the numbers were 8,265 and 8,246, or 616 and 597 in excess of 1906.

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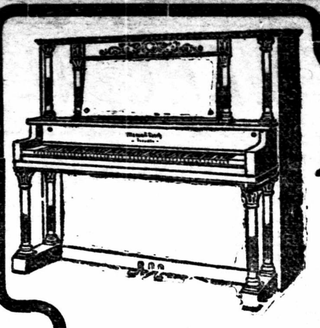

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:-: Bennett Theatre Building :-:

BURNHAM WANTS STRATTON'S SEAT

His Lawyer Says He Claims It as Result of Alleged Corruption.

Peterboro, Sept. 27.—The West Peterboro election protest trial, in which John Hampden Burnham of Peterboro is endeavoring to unseat and disqualify Mr. J. R. Stratton, the successful candidate at the last federal election, commenced today at 11:30 o'clock, in the county courtroom, the presiding judges being their Honors Judges Magee and McMahon, who went right to the court on their arrival in the city.

The interest in the case in Peterboro and district is keen, and the courtroom will not be nearly large enough to accommodate all who want to get in.

The petitioner has issued between 250 and 300 subpoenas, while the respondent in the cross-petition has summonsed over 100. It is a matter of speculation just how long the case will last.

The firm of Du Vernet, Raymond, Jones, Ross, and Ardagh is appearing for the petitioner, while Mr. Stratton's interests will be looked after by Mr. G. H. Watson, of Toronto, and Mr. R. R. Hall, of Peterboro.

Mr. Stratton's majority at the election on Oct. 26, 1908, was 333.

The courthouse was only fairly well filled when the election trial opened this morning, shortly after 12 o'clock.

"The petitioner claims the seat, does he?" inquired Judge McMahon, on opening the court.

"Yes," replied Mr. Du Vernet.

"No, he does not, nothing of the kind," remarked Mr. Watson.

Sheriff James A. Hall was called to testify as to the majority obtained by Mr. Stratton. He produced the reports of the returning officers indicating that the majority for Mr. Burnham was 2,518 and for Mr. Stratton 2,851, a majority of 333 for Stratton. He testified that the total number of votes in the riding was 7,040. He could not say how the vote compared with that of other sessions.

Joseph Picard, a clerk, residing in Peterboro, was the next witness. He stated that he was a supporter of Mr. Stratton's during the election, and had been employed on one of the committees, his work being to check off the lists. He named some of the most prominent workers whom he had seen around the committee rooms, and was questioned as to the organization of the parties. He said that he had been asked to find out from voters what way they were inclined to vote.

"Did you take a message to any of them?" asked Mr. Du Vernet.

"No, sir."

"Did you get anything from Mr. Leary or others for any of these voters?"

"No, sir."

"Were there any funds placed at your disposal for that purpose?"

"No, sir."

"Did you send voters to places where you got any money?"

"No, sir."

In cross-examination by Mr. Watson witness said that he was a Liberal, and had taken part in elections before.

CHATHAM BOY'S EYE PUT OUT WITH POWDER

Sad Loss for Daniel Phillips—Ocular Reminder of Hidden Treasure.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

Chatham, Sept. 27. — Half-forgotten stories of treasure buried in Raleigh Township during the troubled times of 1837 were revived yesterday by the finding by Clyde Wilcox, a farmer on the River Road, of a French 5-franc piece, bearing the date 1822. Mr. Wilcox was walking across his cornfield, when he noticed what looked like the top of a small can. Kicking it, he was struck by the graceful flight of the metal, and on picking it up and cleaning it, discovered its identity. Much money, both English and French, is reputed to have been hidden in the old settled portions of this country during the rebellion.

Daniel Phillips, 13-year-old son of John Phillips, of Tilbury, lost an eye yesterday as the result of a powder explosion. Young Phillips had a bottle full of gunpowder wrapped in paper. He set fire to the latter, the bottle was smashed by the explosion, and a small piece of glass penetrated his left eyeball, completely destroying the sight. Glass was blown in all directions, the boy being also wounded in the hands and face.

Prize-Winners.

A. McKenney, B. S. A., secretary of the Ontario Corn Growers' Association, has reported the results of the standing corn crop competitions conducted in connection with the fall fair here. The prizewinners are: 1 Frank Suitor, Raleigh; 2 Alex. Dick, Harwich; 3 Arthur Parrish, Dover; 4 W. Newkirk, Dover; 5 J. B. Rhodes, Raleigh. W. H. Winter, of Dover, receives high commendation and R. R. Huff, Raleigh, is also commended.

At the services at Holy Trinity Church yesterday it was announced that Wm. Ball proposed to install in the church cathedral choir stalls of hand-carved quarter-cut oak, as a memorial to his son, the late W. Stanley Ball, of Winnipeg. It is expected that the Bishop of Huron will be able to dedicate them in about a month.

Paul Normandin, aged 84, an old and highly respected Dover resident, passed away yesterday at the Normandie homestead, near Pain Court. He was a native of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, and leaves two sons and two daughters. The funeral will take place Wednesday morning at 9:30 to Pain Court Church and cemetery.

Called out yesterday morning at 11:30 by a summons from box 13, the city fire department found the roof of George W. Terrell's home on Brock street ablaze. The fire was quickly extinguished, though not before the roof had been practically destroyed.

China Wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Neil, of 159 West street, on Saturday, celebrated their china wedding, when, in honor of their 20th wedding anniversary, about 30 invited guests assembled to spend an enjoyable evening in games and music. Mr. and Mrs. Neil were made the recipients of many appropriate gifts.

Mr. McKay, accountant, of Toronto, will arrive in the city tomorrow to confer with the city representatives respecting a settlement of the present difficulties between the municipality and the local branch of the Canadian Gas, Power and Launches, Limited.

John Green, well known throughout the country, passed away at the house of refuge yesterday, aged 86. A native of Ireland, he had no relatives in this country. A sister in the old country wished him to live with her, but the old man remained here, fearing the ocean voyage.

Married at Gravenhurst.

Word was received here today of the wedding at Gravenhurst on Friday of Robert G. MacKay, formerly of the Daily News, and son of the late Rev. Dr. W. A. MacKay, of Woodstock, to Miss Mary E. Stewart, of Gravenhurst. Rev. Mr. McKeracher officiated.

James McLister, for 15 years past foreman of the Fairbanks oil wells at Bothwell, is leaving this week for Burmah, where he will spend the next three years. Prior to his departure, the employees presented him with a leather suitcase and a number of travelling conveniences.

Miss Verlyn Lamont, well known throughout Southwestern Ontario, as an elocutionist, writes from Winnipeg that she intends to pursue her studies in vocal culture and elocution there for some time. She will probably revisit here next June.

Frank Powell, formerly of Blenheim, arrived here today with the body of his wife (nee Clara Morgan, of Blenheim), who passed away in Dawson City several weeks ago. The remains will be interred in Blenheim. Twenty-six days were required for the sad journey.

New Law Firm.

Stanworth & Gallagher is the name of a new law firm now being formed with offices in the Board of Trade Chambers. The members are Ward Stanworth and E. E. Gallagher, both of whom have been practicing separately here.

George McGarvin, whose racehorse Sydney R. was killed at the driving park last week, thinks he knows the owner of the dog which dashed across the track and caused the horse to stumble. He contemplates legal proceedings.

Robert L. Johnson, who was a clerk in the Central drug store prior to departing for Arizona a year and a half ago, passed away in Phoenix recently from pneumonia. The sad news reached here today.

TILLSONBURG.

Dr. A. Raymond, of Battle Creek, Mich., is the guest of his father, Mr. George Raymond.

Mrs. Cunningham, of Hamilton, is the guest of her brother, Mr. William Pow.

Miss A. Cornell is spending a few months in London.

Miss Price, of Dublin, Ireland, is the guest of her cousin, Mrs. Wm. C. Brown.

Mr. A. Pow has returned to Grand Valley after spending a few days with his mother here.

Mr. George Misener has left for Niagara Falls, where he has secured a good position.

Miss Laura Somers, of Rockford, was the guest of Mrs. M. S. Somers this week.

Mrs. A. Walker, of Brantford, is spending a few days with Miss McDowell at Deepdale Farm.

Miss Eva Smith, of South Middlet, was the guest of her uncle, S. John this week.

Laurence Sedge has returned to Detroit, after a short visit with his parents here.

Miss Gladys Caverhill left Saturday for London, where she will attend the Normal School.

Visitors will find the old firm, The Frank Cooper Studio, in new quarters, 330 Dundas street, opposite the Armories. 67-tf

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And at any figure between.

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That are correct in style and materials, with prices from $10 to $25.

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