

## DECIDE TO ALTER UTILITIES BUILDING

Commissioners Decide to Install Elevator and New Floor, Long Needed.

### TALK BACK TO MAYOR

Then Drift to Discussion of Toboggan Slides They Had Known.

"You're late, your worship," greeted E. V. Buchanan, with a smile that belied his fault-finding words, when Mayor Cameron Wilson bustled into the board room, where the session of the public utilities commission was in progress yesterday afternoon.

By the hands of the clock on the wall he was just 25 minutes late.

"Yes, you should get here on time," criticized Chairman Vining. "We've been stalling on this amusement park question until you came."

The mayor was congratulating Commissioner-elect, R. J. Webster, who was present, and looked up at the last remark.

"Oh, I just came along to make a quorum," he remarked, and he took his seat.

"We can talk back to you now," added Mr. Buchanan, still smiling.

Mr. Buchanan called the attention of the commissioners to the need of two alterations in the present public utilities building. A mezzanine floor, for the accommodation of part of the office staff, and an elevator for the conveying of freight from the basement to the first floor, were considered some time ago, but were laid over until a decision on the city hall building was reached. Now that the citizens have decided against the building of the city hall on the Spencer site, it was pointed out that the alterations would have to be gone ahead with, and it was decided to have Mr. Buchanan secure tenders and report back.

When the toboggan slide to be constructed at Thames Park came up for discussion the commissioners realized that the good old days were gone.

Somehow, things in general, and toboggan slides in particular, are no longer what they used to be. As facts were presented, it became known that everything possible was being done to insure the best of tobogganing for London enthusiasts during the coming winter—even the ground was being carefully levelled.

Secretary Oliver Elwood just completed his signature to a stack of documents, and pushed them over to Mayor Wilson. "There won't be any bumps," suggested Mr. Elwood, "an air of disappointment. Probably he had been contemplating some extensive tobogganing during the winter."

Commissioner T. W. McFarland agreed with him. "Level ground takes half the joy out of the sport."

"When I was a boy," said Mr. Elwood, "we had a dandy."

"You remember that one," said Mr. McFarland, with enthusiasm. "It was a good one, wasn't it?"

"One day," began Mr. Elwood.

"Sign these," interrupted Chairman Jared Vining, who possibly saw visions of a long tussle with ancient history. Another stack of papers was turned over to Mr. Elwood.

Through demonstrations conducted by local switchboard operators and addresses from officials of the Bell Telephone Company, much of the mystery which surrounds the placing and receiving of a telephone call was cleared up at noon today, at the regular meeting of the Kiwanis Club.

In an introductory address by C. H. Beard, local manager, figures were given which indicated the immense amount of work necessary to effective service.

Incidentally Mr. Beard related the fact that in at least 60,000 of the average number of 90,000 calls sent in daily to the central switchboard, unnecessary labor and waste of time were caused by subscribers who answered "Hello," a word which in telephone circles at least, he considered obsolete and "fit for relegation to the junk pile."

Prove Interesting.

In the words of President Arthur Ford of the Kiwanis Club, who presided at the meeting, the addresses and demonstrations given by the three operators were equal in interest to any flow of oratory ever delivered at the Kiwanis meetings.

The entire program of receiving and placing local calls were shown by Miss Mina Crittle and Miss Doris Nichol, the former acting as operator, while the latter explained each movement.

Ample evidence was given to show that very often the blame in the case of poor telephone service lies not so much with the telephone company as with the subscriber himself. One point in particular of the demonstration created interest, when it was shown that in connection with the two-party line system, to remove the receiver from the hook before the signal from central ceased to ring, would cause the telephone of the other subscriber on the party line to ring also.

Use Switchboard.

The use of the multiple switchboard by which one operator can answer a call from any part of the city, was also shown.

The various uses of the long distance service, the means by which companies are able to extend special rates for various types of calls, and the number of operations required in the long distance service, were shown in the clear address of Miss Blanche Roberts, a long distance operator, who explained carefully each operation, and was able, from experience, to give much advice on the effective use of the service.

The demonstration was not without its humorous aspect. Apparently switching operators have been keen in ferreting out the faults of the subscribers. For instance, Kiwanians were forced to laugh and admit their guilt when Miss Nichol showed how through carelessness, on the part of the person placing the call, the wrong number was received, and how the answer came. "Oh, excuse me, central made a mistake."

An explanation of the mechanical and electrical aspect of telephone service was given by Mr. Drew, of the Bell Company.

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## ADVISES GIRLS TO GET RIGHT WORK

T. H. Yull Addresses Federation of Club at Y.W.C.A. Building.

"How many girls here feel they are in the wrong work for them, in other words, that they are round pegs in square holes?"

The question was asked Thursday evening by T. H. Yull, at the conclusion of his address to the Federation of Girls' Clubs of the Y.W.C.A., on the subject of "Round Pegs in Square Holes."

Immediately the hands of half the girls in the big clubroom shot up, an indication to the speaker, the industrial secretary,

Mrs. Crawford, and club president, Miss Ruth Lucas, that the lecture had been heard with "hearing ears and understanding hearts."

"The greatest thing in life is to know yourself, to find out your own capabilities and tastes, and to decide what kind of work you are adapted for," said Mr. Yull, after commenting that the term "round peg in a square hole," like other familiar sayings and maxims, has much underlying truth.

Many people, he declared, are failures in life, not because of lack of ability or good intentions and conscientious effort, but because they are misfits.

"Some people," he said, "are misfits because they are in their wrong environment. They are drifters in a shoal of dead fish. Occasionally in the shoal there is one fish live enough to get out, try something else, and ultimately make a success. Some are Round Pegs."

"Other people are round pegs in square holes because they need to do a good deal of whittling to fit them-

selves to their work and environment."

To illustrate the folly of giving up and drifting, the speaker told of a small boy employed in a cotton mill in Montreal a number of years ago, who disliked the work. The lint got into his eyes and lungs. He disliked the machinery. He wondered why the many girls employed around him did not get out. One day he decided to take the step for himself. He wanted to work with live things instead of machinery. The decision was the first definite move in the direction of a successful happy career of usefulness. He got out instead of giving himself up to the bad conditions under which he was placed.

"Don't be afraid to analyze yourself," urged Mr. Yull. "Decide whether you want to work with live things or machinery. Get an ideal and try to find out what relationship it has to your own life. Don't be afraid to tell those whom you think can help you about your capabilities and ambitions."

Persevere.

"And don't be afraid to persevere and work steadily towards your goal. You can't expect to become an expert typist or to do any other kind of work well without good hard plowing any more than you can expect to become a great musician."

The speaker, in conclusion, sounded a warning against misplaced confidence. "Know the people to whom you tell your wishes and ideals," said Mr. Yull. "Few people of established position in the community when you want to ask for advice or assistance with change of work."

Miss Ruth Lucas, federation president, was in the chair, the address following the fortnightly get-together supper.

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