

SUBSTATION PLAN BRINGS DEBATE

Westinghouse Co. May Get Contract to Install \$33,000 in Equipment.

It is quite likely that the Westinghouse Electric Company will install the \$33,000 worth of electrical equipment purchased from them by the public utilities commission for the new Carling street substation.

The Westinghouse Company has offered to install the equipment for the sum of \$4,835, which offer was discussed by the commission at some length at its regular meeting yesterday afternoon.

In tabling the company's offer, Manager E. V. Buchanan pointed out that the price was between \$600 and \$700 more than the cost at which the equipment could be installed by the commission's own staff, not including the time of its officials as to superintending, etc.

The company will put good men on the job, he pointed out, and at the same time will take on their payroll all the men we can spare from our regular work. They will probably be able to complete the installation within two months' time, whereas, unless we brought in outside competent electrical engineers, it would take the commission's staff about four months to complete the work.

Commissioner Philip Pocock recalled the difficulty that the commission had in getting the Westinghouse Company at the time of the installation of equipment at the Horton street substation about 12 years ago. He also urged that the commission continue the policy it had adopted for some years past in having its own staff complete the installation work in connection with all new equipment.

The other commissioners were inclined to be of the opinion that the commission should not, to have the Westinghouse Company install the equipment, since the company would then guarantee the equipment. Since the building will not be ready for the equipment before probably Feb. 1, the commission decided to consider the question further and arrange at its next meeting.

DEPARTMENTS WILL REPORT SURPLUSES

Waterworks and Electrical Revenue Jumps in Eleven Months.

The gross revenue of the waterworks department, under the direction of the public utilities commission, has increased \$13,000 during the current year, while the operating expenses have increased only \$8,000. The revenue of the electrical department had increased \$27,000 and the expenditures only \$12,000.

Such is the information gleaned from the financial statements submitted to the commission at its regular meeting yesterday afternoon by Manager E. V. Buchanan, covering the period Jan. 1 to November 30, in the electrical department and \$150,243.34 in the waterworks department, and a surplus of from \$4,000 to \$5,000 in the waterworks department, and a surplus of from \$15,000 to \$20,000 in the electrical department at the conclusion of the year's business.

"FIGHTING THIRD" TROOP FORMS A NEW PATROL

The weekly meeting of the "Fighting Third" troop of boys scouts of St. David's church was held last night in their headquarters, with a good attendance.

During the evening a rover patrol was formed, consisting of boys of the troop who are over 15 years of age. There are about twelve boys in this branch of the troop already.

Patrol Leader Dyson Green of the Beaver patrol, was elected rover mate, while patrol leader A. Hopper of the Pewee patrol, was elected as rover second.

The officers of the troop for the next six months were also elected. Henry Maudley being the new secretary, and patrol leader William Pace the treasurer. Syd Lawton was elected hatch secretary, and Joe Markham the new quartermaster.

On account of the fact that numerous people of the city are away for the holidays the next financial campaign has been extended until after the new year. It is expected that the objective, \$2,000, will nearly be realized.

TRAVELLERS WILL MEET TOMORROW AFTERNOON

The annual meeting of the Ontario Commercial Travellers association is being held tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock in the rooms of the association, Dominion Savings building.

As all the officers of the association were elected by acclamation at the nomination meeting a month ago the only business of importance tomorrow will be the annual reports submitted by the various officers.

BARN NEARLY READY.

Secretary Jackson of the Western fair board states that improvements being made to the cattle arena horse barn at Queen's park will be completed by the end of the year.

SNAPSHOTS OF A MAN DOING UP CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.



ABSTRACTS SPOOL OF RED RIBBON AND ROLL OF TISSUE PAPER FROM TOP OF MORTIMER'S BUREAU AND MAKES FOR HIS OWN ROOM. SPREADS PRESENTS OUT ON BED AND STARTS WONDERING WHERE IN THE WORLD IT WAS HE HAD HIS WIFE'S PRESENT. FINALLY FINISHES IT OUT OF BOTTOM OF HIS HAT BOX, AND CUTS SEVERAL PIECES OF TISSUE PAPER TO FIT ANY OF BUNDLES. EXPLAINS HE CAN POSSIBLY UNDOCK DOOR HE'S GOT ALL HIS PRESENTS LAID OUT, HERE AMONG THEM SHE DOESN'T NEED TO CHANGE FOR DINNER. DECIDES THERE ISN'T MUCH SENSE TRYING TO DO THEM UP NEATLY. HE'LL JUST WAP THE TISSUE PAPER ROUND THEM ANY OLD WHICH WAY. FINDS HIS BACK'S TIRED LEANING OVER AND TAKES A BREATHING-SPELL. BY GEORGE THIS 'RADIO BOYS IN THE A-ZONES' FOR BOB DOESN'T LOOK HALF BAD. SPENDS REMAINING TIME TILL DINNER GOES RINGS PRODDING AND POKING AND TRYING TO TELL BY THE FEEL WHICH IS WHICH, BY WHICH TIME MOST OF THEM HAVE COME UNDONE ANVVAY.

OLD-TIMERS FONDLY RECALL TELEGRAPHY'S CHILDHOOD

O. H. Talbot, Collector of Customs, Makes Hobby of Gathering Threads of Yore.

Tick, tick, tick, tick, dot, dash, space—the metallic ring of the telegraph sounds snaps off its message. Wm. H. Stanton, night operator is on duty in the Dominion telegraph office of Canada, 100, Richmond street. The sounder ceases to vibrate. Operator Stanton hands the wire to the messenger and goes on working in the forest telegraph in Stratford, while Harry Talbot, the clerk, is practicing "Morse" at another table.

That was in 1875, Thomas A. Edison no longer sits at the key in Stratford. He is busy in his laboratories in East Orange, New Jersey. Talbot Stanton has long since signed off. H. Talbot is at present collector of customs at the port of London. He was once a telegraph operator and then to bookkeeper, and in 1887 left the wires.

But the lure of the overland lines is an attraction not easily shaken off, and Mr. Talbot has never ceased to take an active interest in the romance of the telegraph. The telegraph and telephone first broke into prominence and young men were fired with the ambition to play a part in the new telegraphic adventure.

Last May, Mr. Talbot undertook to gather together the men who had received from the Dominion News the romance of the telegraph. He wrote many letters to friends who are still in the game and with the happy result that he has accounted for all but seven of the old operators.

McFarlane was Manager. When Mr. Talbot entered the service, L. B. McFarlane was manager of the Dominion telegraph. At Dunlop, Ontario, and Tom Rooks were the operators. Mr. McFarlane is now president of the Bell Telephone Company in the Dominion. He is also a director of the Dominion Telephone and Telegraph Company. He is also a director of the Dominion Telephone and Telegraph Company.

W. C. Morgan, a clerk in those times, now occupies a prominent position with the Dominion company in Buffalo. He writes to Mr. Talbot that there are no Morgans left in London, but there are now many in Buffalo, for he has several grand-children.

J. E. B. Crawford, another good operator, died in Vancouver. When the Montreal and Dominion Telegraph companies amalgamated, W. C. Furness was made agent here, with George Wardell, chief operator. The operators were Gilbert McIntyre, John Gill, now operating in Buffalo; E. Andrews, now in Cincinnati; E. Adams, now in Montana, and David Adams, now in London, practically the only operator who preferred the home town to adventure abroad. James Murray, another operator of that time, is now with a big firm in Wyanadote, Mich.

BOY CHANGES MIND TAKES FULL BLAME FOR SKATING RINK SUGGESTED FOR BASKETBALL FLOOR

Refitting of Old Westminster Building Would Remedy Conditions. NEED IS GREAT

Intimating that the local police were prosecuting a young boy on a charge of theft and allowing another boy, equally as guilty, to go free, Rev. L. W. Reid of Hale street Methodist church, and others, laid the case before Magistrate Graydon this morning.

The one boy was arrested two weeks ago for stealing an overcoat from a model in front of a downtown store. He appeared in court this morning for hearing.

When he was first brought to court he declared that another boy had helped him in the theft and gave the impression that the police were shielding his friend. This morning, in front of Mr. Reid, his father and the boy he had implicated, he flatly denied that the latter had aided him. He pleaded guilty to the charge and took full responsibility for the crime.

Magistrate Graydon asked Mr. Reid if he was quite satisfied the police were justified in proceeding against the boy. Mr. Reid replied that from information he had received, the two boys were together when the crime was committed. Although he had not taken the coat himself, he admitted wearing it and being with his friend when it was stolen.

Claims Both Equally Guilty. James I. Hodgins, counsel for the accused, declared that both boys were equally guilty. The first boy actually committed the theft, but the second had aided him, he said.

"If it is being intimated that the crown is protecting one of these young men I have a perfect right to inform the magistrate and the court that the accused boy had bought a ticket to a collegiate basketball game that he might steal coats left in the locker rooms," Crown Attorney Alford declared. "I was making a practice of this type of pleading."

When I stated that both boys were guilty I had no intention of casting any reflection on the police or the crown," Mr. Hodgins replied.

"No, but the impression has gone about that the crown is protecting one of these boys, and under the circumstances I want it made clear that the accused is certainly guilty, and was in no way influenced by his friend," said Mr. Judd.

Bailed for Month. The court sentenced the boy to be bailed for a month. The magistrate ordered that the boy be bailed for a month.

UNKNOWN DONOR AGAIN SENDS \$10 TO THE ARMY. Every year at this time a certain kindly disposed woman in Detroit sends a \$10 bill to the Salvation Army. It arrived today.

GIFT SPECIALS FOR BOYS. Oliver Twist jersey knit \$2.75. Boys' Scotch knit wool gloves, leather bound, 85c. Boys' new polo collar wool jerseys, all colors, 1.50.

Dowlers. 35c. R. H. & J. Dowler, Ltd. LONDON ST. THOMAS WINDSOR SARNIA WALKERVILLE

DENTISTS PERFECT NEW ORGANIZATION

Dr. W. J. Bentley Is President of Newly-Formed Association.

Special to The Advertiser. Sarnia, Dec. 18.—Sarnia dentists organized an association at a meeting last evening with the following officers elected: President, Dr. W. J. Bentley; vice-president, Dr. J. McKenna; secretary-treasurer, Dr. W. A. Hartley; hon. officers, Dr. Winn of Alvinston, Dr. Drummond of Petrolia and Dr. Walters of Forest.

MANOR PARK FONDLED BY VOTE ASPIRANTS. Would-Be Councillors Hasten Campaigns as Election Day Nears.

With nomination day on Dec. 29 and elections a week later, on Jan. 5, aspirants for township council jobs and county councillors are out through the highways and byways of Middlesex drumming up votes.

LONDONER PAYS \$400 FINE FOR SELLING LIQUOR. Four hundred dollars and costs was collected at police court this morning from a Londoner charged with selling liquor. He pleaded guilty and paid the fine out of court.

BILLIARD TOURNEY. Byron Sanitorium plays the G. W. V. A. in a billiard tourney at the hall for Christmas. The game will be on at 3 o'clock. The game will be a return match in a series between military organizations in the city.

MILK WAGON IS HIT BY SKIDDING AUTO. Is Only Accident To Be Reported in 24 Hours, Though Streets Are icy.

Streets of ice are signs of caution to London motorists, and despite the skiddy nature of the main thoroughfares only one accident was reported in the city within the past 24 hours.

SPEEDERS FINED. Two speeders and two drunks paid fines amounting to more than \$50 in police court this morning after pleading guilty to the charges.

CANADA'S MOST PROGRESSIVE CLOTHIERS. WE KNOW What Men Want For Gifts. Choose From These Gift Specials. Silk Knitted Mufflers \$2.50. Give Him a New Hat \$5. Wool Lined Gloves \$2.50. New Pleated Shirts \$3.95. Smart Lounge Robes \$10. Oxford Crepe Gift Ties \$1.50. Hickok Belt and Buckle \$1.50. MEN! OVERCOATS \$17. \$23. Boys' Mackinaw Coats \$5.95. GIFT SPECIALS FOR BOYS. Oliver Twist jersey knit \$2.75. Boys' Scotch knit wool gloves, leather bound, 85c. Boys' new polo collar wool jerseys, all colors, 1.50. Warm ribbed black worsted stockings, special, 45c. INITIALLED LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS 35c. R. H. & J. Dowler, Ltd. LONDON ST. THOMAS WINDSOR SARNIA WALKERVILLE