

London Advertiser.

FOUNDED IN 1853.

TWO EDITIONS DAILY-WEEKLY.
TELEPHONE CALLS.Business Office 107
Job Department 175
Editorial Departments ... 134 and 136
The London Advertiser Company,
Limited, 191-193 Dundas street, Lon-
don, Ont.

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Six Months \$2 50
Three Months \$1 25
One Month 45
Ten cents per week.
Delivered by carrier boys in any
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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10.

A COSTLY FARCE AT OTTAWA.

Parliament has now been sitting
over six months, and unless the Op-
position recovers its sanity the ses-
sion may last all summer. Meanwhile
public business has been held up at
enormous expense, while thousands of
civil servants have been put to in-
convenience because the obstruction-
ists refuse to vote the supply neces-
sary to enable the Government to pay
salaries. For the minority to thus
rule would be impossible in the
mother country and model of parlia-
ments, and it is little wonder that
some influential journals are now
discussing the advisability of intro-
ducing closure in the Canadian House
of Commons.The plan followed by Mr. Borden,
Mr. Foster and the rest of them is,
immediately on the Government mov-
ing that the House go into commit-
tee of supply, to bring forward a
motion of want of confidence, discus-
sion of which will continue until
early next morning, when the House
rises without having transacted any
real business. Occasionally there will
be a slight change in tactics. An
Opposition member will be put up to
bring forward some matter as to
which it is sought to censure the
Government. Speech after speech
will be made before an amendment to
supply is moved, the object being to
prolong the debate by enabling ob-
structionists to speak more than once
if they so desire.On the approach of the close of the
fiscal year Mr. Fielding, seeing that
it was impossible to pass the esti-
mates in time to permit the public
service to proceed, asked for an in-
terim supply bill of one-quarter the
total estimates, but the minority
would agree to only one-eighth, the
result being that the Finance Minis-
ter secured enough money merely to
carry on the affairs of the country
until May 15, instead of until July 1,
as desired.When eventually the Government
agreed to proceed with the elections
bill and moved the second reading,
the Opposition gave the ultimatum
that not one dollar of supply would
be voted until the measure was
amended to meet its views. Since
then certain items of the estimates
have been allowed to pass, and Mr.
Borden, realizing that the Opposi-
tion's tactics are not popular in the
country, even among his political
friends, is now found seeking to
escape the consequences of his dis-
creditable course by blaming the
Government for the delay in voting
supplies. Last week he had the ef-
rontery to claim that the Govern-
ment had not asked for the votes for
the militia camps, while no one
knows better than he that time and
again the Government has asked for
supply, that the various ministers
have been in their places day after
day ready to take up their estimates,
and that he and his supporters have
stubbornly refused requests for a
second interim supply bill.The Ottawa Free Press has been
examining Hansard, and finds that
ten thousand columns of that record
stand as a monument of the obstruc-
tive tactics of the Conservative party
this session, and that practically
every sitting during the six months
furnished some illustrations of the
"hold-up" policy of the Opposition.
No one objects to exhaustive criti-
cism of the Government's acts if it
is sincere. That is the purpose of an
Opposition. But Mr. Borden and his
lieutenants have gone far beyond that
and their conduct is making parlia-
mentary proceedings a costly farce.

THE POWER CONTRACT.

Ald. Beattie and Ald. Ferguson are
the only members of the council who
have had sufficient backbone to de-
mand a clearer and more satisfactory
explanation of the power contract,
than was furnished yesterday by the
spokesmen of the hydro-electric com-
mission. Ald. Booth, who moved
yesterday that the con-
tract be signed, declared some time
ago that it would be folly to enter into
such an undertaking until the city had
been protected by contracts with local
power users. Ald. Armstrong admitted
that the contract was "loaded" against
London in favor of Hamilton, Toronto,
and municipalities nearer London. It
may be inferred, therefore, that at
least some of the members of thecouncil voted against their judgment.
Perhaps they took the view that if
they were unable to understand the
contract, after all the explanations of
Mr. Beck and his engineers, the rate-
payers would be in no better position
to form an opinion, and that it would
be useless to refer the question to
them again.One difficulty is that the figures in
the contract are based upon an esti-
mate of 5,000 horsepower, whereas the
members of the council appear to think
that 3,000 horsepower would be ample
for present needs, if indeed there would
be even this demand for Niagara
power, when it was brought to the
city's doors. The 5,000-horsepower es-
timate necessarily increased the liabil-
ity of the city, as set forth in the
contract, but Mr. Beck says it cannot
be altered now. It is a matter of great
importance to know what the cost per
horsepower will be if the city exercises
its option to contract for only 3,000-
horsepower. Ald. Beattie tried to get
an answer to the question, but was in-
formed that "the entire proposition
would have to be refigured." The coun-
cil should have had this point cleared
up, even though a postponement for
the purpose exposed the mayor and al-
dermen to further bulldozing.Now that the contract is to be
signed, and the municipal corporation
committed to an enormous annual ob-
ligation, the ratepayers can only hope
for the success of an enterprise in
which they have been virtually made
shareholders.

TWO-CENT POSTAGE.

As a result of a private convention
between Great Britain and the United
States, the two-cent postage rate on
letters between the two countries will
go into effect on the 1st of October
next. The matter is one which has
long engaged the attention of both
countries; but not until recently has
the time been considered ripe for its
consummation.The arrangement will be of mutual
advantage, and it is the opinion of ex-
perts that the result will be an increase
in revenue for both countries with
little added expense. It has been the
uniform experience all over the world
that, in accordance with the principle
of least resistance, postal revenues in-
crease as the charges decrease. In the
United States until a few months ago
it cost five cents to send half an ounce
of first-class matter to any country in
the postal union outside of Canada.
Now the rate is five cents an ounce,
and three cents additional weight.
This, however, will be superseded so far
as Great Britain is concerned by the
regular two-cent rate.If the arrangement proves to be as
satisfactory as it is hoped it will, it
should lead to other arrangements of a
similar kind between the United
States and countries in continental
Europe. Next, there will result a very
large increase in business correspondence
there can be no doubt. The differ-
ence in the cost of sending out a
large number of business circulars will
be very great, and the tendency will,
no doubt, be to multiply letters rather
than to save the three cents. The
change also means much to immi-
grants coming from Great Britain to
the United States. It is estimated that
what with the new arrivals and the
older residents, all the immigrants
from the British Isles now in the re-
public would by themselves make a
populous state. The British are a
letter-writing people, and this re-
duction in postage is certain to great-
ly encourage the habit.Canada has no reason to fear the
effects of this postage reduction be-
tween her neighbor and the mother
country, for, as Lord Sirathconna says,
the arrangement will not be any
sense inimical to the Dominion. The
larger benefit will come from a close
affinity between the two great English-
speaking nations, and in time this
should extend to the whole world.The city seems to be buying a pig
in a poke.The Ontario Opposition ought to
be unanimous.Mr. Whitney will no doubt claim
that he has a mandate for further
hiving the Grills.It is suggested that Mr. Finlay Mac-
donald, of West Elgin, will be made
minister of agriculture. It is not a
berth for a sleepy man.The Whitney Government had an ag-
gregate majority of about 12,000 in
Toronto. No wonder that city can get
anything it wants from the Whitney
Government.Mr. Whitney could easily find a
safe seat for Mr. Monteth, but he
may find it more convenient to sac-
rifice a faithful colleague than to re-
sist the importunities of other men
who want Mr. Monteth's job.It is said the Federal Opposition
will try to force the Government to
drop the election bill or appeal to the
country. The Government will not
drop the bill, and the Opposition
would have everything to lose by an
appeal to the country on that meas-
ure.Mr. MacKay is probably right when
he says that the whole force of the
liquor interests was thrown against
the Liberal party in defense of thethree-fifths clause. The result also
shows that the so-called temperance
men in the Tory ranks are Tory first;
but this is not a recent discovery.

A DARING DEVIL.

[Trib-Bits.]
Knack-Bones is a reckless fellow.
Knack-How's that?
Knack-He has discharged his cook,
even when she was willing to stay.

HAD TO GET UP AGAIN.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
She-How you locked the kitchen door,
John?
He-Yes.
She-And fastened the dining-room win-
dow?
He-Yes.
She-Are you sure there is nobody under
the bed?
He-Twenty times. But, say, confound it,
I forgot to look under your Merry Widow
hat!

THE UNQUIET STAIRS.

[Harper's Weekly.]
In a recent suit in a Cincinnati court
a lawyer was cross-examining a Ger-
man, the point under inquiry being the
relative position of the doors, windows
and so forth, in a house in which a
certain transaction was alleged to have
occurred.And now, my good man," the lawyer
said, "will you be good enough to tell
the court how the stairs run in your
house?"
The German looked dazed for a mo-
ment. "How do they run?" he repeat-
ed."Well," continued the witness, "even
I am upstairs dey run down, and ven
I am downstairs dey run oop."

A TENOR'S TENACITY.

[Judge.]
"I hear that the new tenor is a
great success—that he holds one of
his notes for half a minute."
"That's nothing. I've held one of his
notes for over a year."CHURCHILL'S APPEAL TO SCOT-
MEN.[Winston Churchill at Dundee.]
Upon the main principle of one free trade
system, upon the temperance cause in its
conflict with the organized forces of the
liquor trade, upon the hopes of a con-
cord in education which shall give us
in England the freedom of conscience and
secular efficiency you in Scotland have so
long enjoyed, upon the land reform in
town and country upon South Africa
upon Ireland I avow myself entirely un-
repentant. You will be asked to endorse
the appeal of the Scotch people for a
larger share of life and sun and light,
and thereby to take another practical
step in the long movement which seeks
to make all processes of economic produc-
tion conform to the laws of health
and science. You will be asked to fortify
the Government against the arbitrary
responsibility of the House of
Lords, to approve an orthodox and thrifty
administration of the public finances, and
to hang, bar and bolt the door against
protection and preferential taxes upon
bread and meat, no matter upon what
pretext they are imposed. It would be
foolish for us not to recognize that British
democracy is now confronted by a vigor-
ous Tory reaction. The social battle
swings to and fro in uncertain decision;
the fate of important legislation conceiv-
ed in the highest interests of the laboring
classes of Great Britain hangs in the
air. An electoral blow which would sweep
the Liberals from power would fall with
aggravated force upon labor representation
in all its degree.

SAVED BY A COOL HEAD.

[The Bellman.]
Sir Andrew Clarke while traveling
in India ascended a high tower one
evening and found at the top another
tourist, an Englishman. The latter
pleasantly for a few minutes, when
suddenly the stranger seized Sir An-
drew by the shoulders and said quiet-
ly, "I am going to throw you over."
The man was a fanatic. The physi-
cian had only a moment to gather his
thoughts, but that moment saved him.
"Pooh!" he replied un-
concernedly, "Anybody can throw a
man off the tower. If we were on the
ground you could not throw me up.
That would be difficult. I would be
could," retorted the fanatic, "I could
easily throw you up here from the
ground. Let us go down and I will
try it." The descent was accordingly
made, during which Sir Andrew man-
aged to secure help and release him-
self from his perilous position.

LIFE INSURANCE.

[Montreal Gazette.]
The current issue of the Insurance Press
contains the annual review of the life in-
surance distribution during 1907 in the
United States and Canada. The total
reaches the immense sum of \$351,000,000,
of which Canada's share is \$12,000,000.
This is a very respectable sum, but half as
much was paid to beneficiaries resid-
ing in the city of New York alone,
while Philadelphia and Chicago be-
tween them divided as much as all Canada re-
ceived. Montreal ranks twelfth in the
list of cities, having received \$2,315,586.
Following Buffalo and Cleveland, Toronto
is in nineteenth place, with \$1,455,900. A
table of 29 cities follows, in which the
total of \$200,000 was paid last year, the
Canadian representatives in the list, and
their standing being:
12. Montreal \$2,315,586
13. Toronto 1,455,900
38. Ottawa 651,458
46. St. John, N. B. 497,077
54. Quebec 418,520
75. Halifax 255,585
138. Winnipeg 104,827
Hamilton almost reached the list, the
total paid in that city being \$98,575, while
London drew \$71,000.

MODERN CLAYEATERS.

The existence of a community of clay-
eaters in the mountainous region of
North Carolina is of more than passing
interest. They are not an aboriginal peo-
ple, but simply degenerate whites. Clay
forms a regular article of diet with them
and they claim it is so nutritious that it
will support life without any other food
being eaten. The edible clay is a spe-
cial kind. It exudes an oil, and it is
eaten by placing small pieces in the
mouth and permitting them to dissolve.
Adults will make away with a mass as
large as a hen's egg. The health of the
clay-eaters seems to be about the same
as that of the people of the region. In-
feriority is corpse-like. An explanation
of the habit offered is that the presence
of a species of intestinal worm creates an
appetite for the clay. There are other
clay-eaters than those of North Carolina.
A tribe of aborigines living on the Orinoco
river largely upon the clay-eating habit.
In India, some of the Siberian tribes eat
a white clay, and on the islands of the
Pacific Ocean communities are found in
which the people spread a white clay upon
edible leaves, and eat the mixture as we
eat bread and butter—Life.

ACCEPTS POWER CONTRACT

(Continued From Page One.)

He declared that the contract would
place London at a disadvantage as
compared with Hamilton, Toronto and
other cities. London had to pay more
than its proportionate share of the
cost for power and transmission lines.I understand that there is no use
discussing the matter, as Mr. Beck
has stated that we must either ac-
cept or reject the contract," said Ald.
Armstrong. "However, we would like
to have these questions answered."
Ald. Greenlees suggested that a
series of questions be put to the en-
gineers of the hydro-electric commis-
sion in order that the best possible
advantage be made of the time at the
disposal of the committee.

A TILT.

A little tilt took place between Ald.
Stevenson and Chairman Greenlees,
regarding the mode of procedure. Ald.
Stevenson objected to Ald. Greenlees'
interpretation of the rules of order,
and in order that something definite
might be put before the aldermen,
he moved that the communication of
Engineer Sothman be accepted.

Mr. Beck Explains.

Hon. Adam Beck then gave an ex-
planation of the position of the commis-
sion in this matter. He said that since
his position in asking for more in-
formation by saying that it was his
duty, in the interests of the city, to
obtain all possible information on the
question in order that the council
might have an intelligent grasp of the
situation.That was the reason he had asked
City Auditor Jewell to prepare his
statement on the cost of 3,000 horse-
power, assuming that the smaller
quantity was all that the city could
handle at the time. He was free to
report that the auditor's report went
farther than he anticipated, but he
was informed by one of the engineers
of the commission that the figures
given by Mr. Jewell were absolutely
correct so far as his information
went."My engineers never said that Mr.
Jewell's figures were correct so far as
his information went," said Mr. Beck.
Mayor Stevely maintained that his
engineers were correct, and nothing
further was said about the matter
until later.

Mr. Jewell's Figures.

Engineer Ross then explained the
contract at some length, and point-
ed out some alleged discrepancies in
the figures of Mr. Jewell. The latter
had charged up his estimates, since the
commission in their figures had made
provision for that in the capital ex-
penditure. He also declared that it
was a mistake to figure on a horse-
power basis, as the city was not
misleading. He drew the simile that
power was like the carcass of a beef
some cuts were expensive and some
less expensive. In the power ques-
tion, he said, the city was not to
choose cuts of meat, but to pay \$80
per annum for lighting, the electric
which was at least \$120 per horse-
power. If the power cost \$40, as Mr.
Jewell estimated, then the electric
lighting would make the selling price
of power at least \$80 per horsepower.
Incandescent lighting would make
power worth at least from \$80 to \$100
per horsepower. Mr. Ross said the
remnants could be sold during non-
age hours. Mr. Jewell's figures were
perfectly logical, but he could not
take in many features of the case be-
cause they were technical.

How It Is Done.

Ald. Armstrong wanted to know
how the commission arrived at the
figures for the transmission line. In
the table of estimates, Toronto was
charged \$228,050 for 10,000 horse-
power, while London, with 5,000 horse-
power, was charged with \$671,080,
although the distance was only twice
as great.Mr. Ross pointed out that Lon-
don had not only to pay on twice the
number of towers, but four times
the amount of wire. He could not
say how the figures were arrived at,
but he was convinced that London
was treated in a fair manner. The
figures, he declared, would be revised
annually, by competent accountants,
and London would be treated fairly.

Engineer Sothman.

Engineer Sothman followed, with
an explanation. He devoted some
time to Mr. Jewell's figures, and de-
clared they were wrong. He said the
cost of London's portion of the trans-
mission line and transformer stations
was arrived at by dividing the dis-
tance from the Falls, and amount of
power to be used, into the total cost
of the transmission lines. This cost
was somewhat large on account of
the fact that a loop line had been put
in guaranteeing power at all times.
The auditor also made a mistake in
charging up the same line loss on
5,000 horsepower as on 3,000 horse-
power. The transformer loss is per-
cently estimated at 1 1/2 to 2 per cent,
so it was plainly evident what that
discrepancy would be. The line loss
would be probably 6 or 7 per cent,
and this loss would occur at the peak
load. This was figured on 5,000 horse-
power, not on 3,000 horsepower. Mr.
Sothman declared that the cost of
transformer attendance was the same
for 10,000 horsepower as for the
smaller amount. The greater the
quantity, the less the expense. Mr.
Jewell had not reckoned on that. The
auditor had also estimated on the
basis of a \$225,000 distributing plant,
but a plant to distribute 3,000 horse-power would be much smaller, and
would not cost that sum of money.
Submit It to People.Ald. Armstrong thought the ques-
tion should be submitted to the peo-
ple on June 22, at the time the vote
on the water question was being
taken, and moved to that effect.Ald. Beattie then resumed the de-
bate.
"After the torrents of abuse that
have been heaped upon me, and the
motives imputed to me because of my
endeavors to get information upon a
question of great importance to the
citizens of London, I feel somewhat
diffident in arising to speak on the
matter," said Ald. Beattie. "As for the
motives imputed to me and to others,
I pass them over as unworthy to be
mentioned. Considerable bitterness
has been displayed towards me and
towards others because we endeavored
to see if this proposition was such
a good one for the city. When I
asked for a statement of the figures
of the schedule, especially of the
sums, \$671,080 and \$31,000, I expected
a detailed statement of the
method by which these figures were
arrived at would be submitted to us,
so that we could employ an engineer
from Chicago or some other place to
verify these figures. The expense
would be considerable, but I think
the money would be well spent. I think
we should be able to go to the con-
sumers of power and tell them what
we sell power for. I think it is
idle for us to go on with the scheme
until we can do that. I am disap-
pointed in the statement before the
council today. We ought to know the
mass of line, the total cost, how the
proportions are arrived at and other
matters."

Ald. Beattie's Position.

"As for the accusation that I am an
opponent of Niagara power, it is not
correct. I voted for Niagara power
and I will vote for it again, provided
that it is a feasible scheme. Until
that is done I do not feel like vot-
ing for this contract. I am not here
as a voting machine. I am here to
exercise my freedom of thought. I
will oppose the contract if it is forced
through here today in the absence of
the information I asked for."Ald. Armstrong suggested that a
joint committee be appointed from the
council and the commission to obtain
the information required. That sug-
gestion was not thought wise, and
Ald. Beattie moved that the matter
be laid over until the next meeting
of the council, and in the meantime
the hydro-electric commission be asked
to furnish the necessary information.

No Need for Haste.

Ald. Booth took the ground that the
vote of Monday was a mandate for
the council to act on the power ques-
tion, and he advised that the con-
tract be signed.
Ald. Beattie pointed out that there
was no hurry as the city was not suf-
fering. The commission delayed the
contract for a long time, and a few
days' delay on the part of the city
would not matter much. The people
were responsible, not the commission.
Ald. Ferguson declared that there
was no need for haste. The council
had only discussed the contract once,
and the aldermen should be thorough-
ly conversant with the whole ques-
tion. He favored Ald. Beattie's sug-
gestion. The people did not vote on
the contract and they should have
voted on it.Ald. Stewart also favored Ald. Beattie's
view. He thought it was time to
start at the other end of the question
and make contracts with his users of
power.

Mr. Beck Again.

Mr. Beck then took the floor and be-
gan to deliver a speech on the power
question. He criticised the auditor's
figures regarding the cost of 3,000-
horsepower."Will the honorable gentleman tell
us how much 3,000-horsepower would
cost if Mr. Jewell's figures are wrong?"
asked Ald. Beattie.
Mr. Beck, with a show of ten-
sion, said: "The municipality did not ask
for that information. The council
asked for the cost of 5,000-horsepower.
You have no right to have it. I have
the floor.""I did not know any person had
the right to the floor except he be a
member of the council," said Ald. Beattie
sharply. "I thought we were here for
information. I asked that question for
information."
Mr. Beck saw the point and sat
down.He was urged to continue and began
another speech. He said that it was
useless to appoint another engineer as
he could not obtain the information
that the council asked for unless he
spent six months with the commis-
sion going over the whole scheme.

The Cost.

"Will this contract be invalid if the
power costs more than \$25 50?" asked
Ald. Armstrong.
"It will," answered Mr. Beck. "If
the cost is more we will have to come
back to you. We are responsible for
the submission. You are responsible
only for the distribution. We, in the
Government, are floating these bonds.
We are assuming this debt."
He was confident that the line
could be built for much less than the
estimated cost, as copper was cheaper
and the other necessities of the line
were less expensive.In reply to Ald. Beattie's remark
that the contract had not been in the
hands of the council any length of
time, he said that the contract had
been in the mayor's hands since
March last."The council did not have it," said
Ald. Beattie.
"Can you deny that the mayor had
it?" retorted Mr. Beck.
"Since fault has been found with
the figures of Mr. Jewell," said Ald.
Beattie, "would the engineer, Mr.
Ross, kindly tell us what 3,000-horse-
power will cost at the city limits?"

Mr. Beck Angry.

Mr. Ross did not answer, and Mr.
Beck jumped to his feet.
"That question is unfair to our en-
gineer," he said. "Give us a month
and we will answer."
"I have no objection," answered Ald.
Beattie.Mr. Beck pointed out that the con-
tract had been made with the munici-
palities on the assumption that
London would take 5,000-horsepower,
and if the city did not take that
amount it would disarrange the whole
scheme. The council would have to
accept the contract as it stands. "I
have not had my question an-swered yet," said Ald. Beattie.
"I am not going to answer it
either," retorted Mr. Beck."Suppose we signed a contract for
5,000 horsepower, and availed our-
selves of the clause allowing us to
take 3,000 horsepower, what would
the price be?" continued Ald. Beattie."I cannot give you the figures," said
Mr. Beck, visibly disconcerted at Ald.
Beattie's questionings. "We have not
the time to spend on that."
"I see Mr. Richards says Mr. Jew-
ell's figures are not correct," said Ald.
Beattie. "I think he can tell us how
much 3,000 horsepower will cost."Mr. Richards intimated that he had
no desire to be mixed up in the argu-
ment. He, however, stated that he
had not made the statement that Mr.
Jewell's figures were correct, so far
as his information went.

Mayor Corrects Statement.

This brought Mayor Stevely to his
feet.
"I discussed Mr. Jewell's figures
with Mr. Richards at noon today,"
said Mayor Stevely. "We had a copy
of the figures, and Mr. Richards dis-
tinctly stated that Mr. Jewell's fig-
ures were substantially correct with
the information he had at hand. I am
sorry that there is a difference be-
tween Mr. Richards and myself. I
have always found him reliable up to
this time. In this case it is his
word against mine, and you can do
as you desire about it."Mayor Stevely then spoke regard-
ing the contract.
The contract came on April 3. He
called a meeting of the council, but
City Solicitor Meredith told him that
some changes were necessary, and not
to deal with it for some time. In the
middle of May the contract came back
and was considered the next week by
the committee. No conclusion had
been arrived at, and the question was
laid over for another week. At this
meeting Ald. Beattie asked for in-
formation, and the question was sent
to the council. He denied that the
matter had been delayed unnecessarily.I am prepared to sign the contract
just as soon as the council instructs
me to do so," said his worship. "I
am not in favor of sending it to the
people. Our duty is clear."
Ald. Ferguson thought it was un-
fair to bind the city to take 5,000
horsepower when it was impossible
to sell more than half that amount
here. He thought the contract should
go back to the people so that the
onus should be upon them, not upon
the council.The Price Again.
"What would be the effect if all the
municipalities received the amount
of power 40 per cent, as the contract
permits?" said Ald. Beattie. "Would
it affect the price of power?"
Ald. Beattie pointed out that there
was no hurry as the city was not suf-
fering. The commission delayed the
contract for a long time, and a few
days' delay on the part of the city
would not matter much. The people
were responsible, not the commission.
Ald. Ferguson declared that there
was no need for haste. The council
had only discussed the contract once,
and the aldermen should be thorough-
ly conversant with the whole ques-
tion. He favored Ald. Beattie's sug-
gestion. The people did not vote on
the contract and they should have
voted on it.Ald. Stewart also favored Ald. Beattie's
view. He thought it was time to
start at the other end of the question
and make contracts with his users of
power.Mr. Beck then took the floor and be-
gan to deliver a speech on the power
question. He criticised the auditor's
figures regarding the cost of 3,000-
horsepower."Will the honorable gentleman tell
us how much 3,000-horsepower would
cost if Mr. Jewell's figures are wrong?"
asked Ald. Beattie.
Mr. Beck, with a show of ten-
sion, said: "The municipality did not ask
for that information. The council
asked for the cost of 5,000-horsepower.
You have no right to have it. I have
the floor.""I did not know any person had
the right to the floor except he be a
member of the council," said Ald. Beattie
sharply. "I thought we were here for
information. I asked that question for
information."
Mr. Beck saw the point and sat
down.He was urged to continue and began
another speech. He said that it was
useless to appoint another engineer as
he could not obtain the information
that the council asked for unless he
spent six months with the commis-
sion going over the whole scheme.The Council Accepted.
When the council resumed, Ald.
Booth moved that the contract with
the hydro-electric commission be ac-
cepted, and the mayor authorized to
sign it on behalf of the city.
Ald. Rose seconded the motion, and
it carried by a division of 9 to 2, as
follows:Yeas—Ald. Parsons, Greenlees, Arm-
strong, Moorhead, Booth, Saunders,
Rose, Stewart and Gerry.
Nays—Ald. Beattie and Ferguson.
Ald. Stevenson was called away be-
fore the vote was polled, but he had
put himself on record as being in
favor of the contract going to the
people.Other Matters.
Several communications were dis-
posed of.
J. C. Gerlach and others petitioned
for a cement walk on west Maitland
street, between Victoria and Regent
streets. No. 2.
Mr. B. C. McCann, wrote re a group
photo of city council for the Old
Boys' Reunion. No. 1.
Roy E. Moore wrote asking for