

Majority of Council Speak Against Power Company's Second Offer

Matter, However, Is Laid on Table for Further
Consideration—New Owners Not Willing to
Sell Out.

Disapproval of the offer made to the city by E. N. Sanderson, president of the Federal Light and Traction Company, was voiced at yesterday afternoon's meeting of the Common Council by Mayor Fisher and all the council members except Dr. Frink who reserved his opinion until he could secure some information. The second session of the offer was laid on the table for further discussion.

The Mayor was in favor of rejecting the offer absolutely and going ahead with the creation of the distribution system. Commissioners Bullock and Wigmore said the offer did not go far enough and they did not think rates offered were attractive enough to warrant accepting the offer. Commissioner Frink wished more information and withheld his opinion on the matter. A large number of hydro supporters were present at the meeting and applauded the points made in the people's cause. It was the opinion of these men that the offer was doomed to rejection.

Mr. Sanderson, after numerous and persistent questions from the commissioners, finally admitted that the new owners of the Power Company would not sell out to the city. They had not come here for a quick buy and a get-out, he said.

In calling the meeting to order, Mayor Fisher warned the citizens to be on their guard in view of a concerted movement which was on foot to hand over the control of the Musquash current to the new owners of the N. B. Power Company. The Common Council needed the assurance of support from the citizens and since Tuesday's meeting he had received many commendations of the stand he had taken. "Delay at this time," he cautioned, "plays into the hands of the enemy and while many costly delays have resulted, I am confident that all obstacles will be overcome and the people's cause will be successful."

Referring to a statement made by Mr. Sanderson at Tuesday's meeting regarding the hydro power, Mayor Fisher said that the city had been advised by Gordon Krebs, consulting electrical engineer of the N. B. Electric Power Commission, that such a procedure would not be safe to the populated districts through which the high tension lines would pass. His Worship declared he would faith in Engineer Krebs' judgment.

Mr. Sanderson said his Worship had spoken fully on the subject and that the citizens were enjoying that and that the city was not to be deceived. Mr. Sanderson had indicated that the new company would be forced to raise the price of this power in competition with the city proved ruinous and if the city did not let the Power Company have control of the current, Mayor Fisher said he did not know what this threat was but it was not less for the specific purpose of instituting such an increase.

There had been some talk from certain citizens regarding the proposal of the Civic Power Commission to do some of the work of construction of the distribution system by day's work. So far, said his Worship, all the work has been done by contract and it is feasible that practice would be continued. The Mayor also exploded the myth regarding increased taxes for the citizens if a second distribution system were built.

His Worship also turned his attention to some remarks made by J. Fraser Gregory at Tuesday's meeting. Mr. Gregory, he said, had the opinion that as the Civic Power Commission was not a skilled electrical body, it could not handle the current as efficiently as the N. B. Power Company. His Worship thought this a poor argument in view of the fact that the Power Commission was a board of management purely. "The board of directors of the Power Company," said his Worship, "are all amateurs and electrical experts." He twitted Mr. Gregory about talking to elevator boys regarding Musquash and not talking to responsible citizens.

Mr. Sanderson's Reply.

Replying to his Worship, Mr. Sanderson said that in several cities in the United States the high tension wires were brought through the city to the power plants.

Some Interesting Comparisons.

Major McGivney, chairman of the

from \$1 a week to \$1.25 per week? The company by this scheme could make \$30,000 a year extra, he said. Was the city wise, he asked, in going into competition with the powerful Federal Light and Traction Company? He did not mean to be offensive, but he did not believe there were 10,000,000 k.w.h. available for the city at Musquash and he doubted that even if the city should get 10,000,000 k.w.h., it would be able to sell it.

An eye-opener for Mr. Sanderson.

Major McGivney took the wind out of Mr. Sanderson's sails when he informed the meeting that in company with the City Engineer, he had canvassed several large concerns in the city and they had agreed to take 2,000,000 k.w.h. and in one year's time to double that, making it 4,000,000 k.w.h. Not only that, but 1,128,000 k.w.h. would be taken by the citizens. Further, when the consumption reached 6,000,000 k.w.h., the civic distribution system, costing \$600,000, would be self-supporting. (Loud applause.)

Commissioner Bullock said he was disposed to consider proposals from the company for the sale of its entire property. He moved that the offer lie on the table for further consideration. Dr. Frink seconded.

Mr. Thornton's Stand.

Mr. Thornton said: "Frankly, this offer does not meet with my approval. It was, however, a basis for a get-together and he hoped that in the near future it would be taken from the table and re-considered. He had been accused of blocking progress and he reminded the council that all bond issues needed his vote. He said, however, that he would fall in line with the majority and not obstruct merely for obstruction's sake. He repeated his challenge of Tuesday for all the commissioners to resign and go to the people."

Major McGivney corrected a statement by Mr. Thornton regarding his stand on the matter of purchasing the distribution system of the city. He said that he would be willing to sell it for a sum near \$600,000, the proposition would be well worth considering.

Commissioner Frink quizzed Mr. Sanderson on the matter.

Mr. Sanderson: "That offer was made on December 2, 1922. It was made at a time when the company letter of December 2, 1922, contained an offer from the company to sell the city its distribution system. He had treated it as a joke. 'Perhaps,' he said, 'Mr. Sanderson has something to say on that question.'"

Commissioner Wigmore: "Are you willing to consider purchase of your distribution system by the city?"

Mr. Sanderson: "We did not purchase the property for the purpose of coming here making a quick turn-over and then going back." He wished to disabuse the mind of all in purpose of the company to segregate and sell departments owing to overhand charges.

Commissioner Wigmore: "In other words, Mr. Sanderson, the Federal Light and Traction Company is not for sale?"

Mr. Sanderson: "We did not come here to sell."

Mr. Thornton: "Then how about the offer you mentioned of December 2?"

Mr. Sanderson: "That was made by the old company."

Mr. Bullock: "Is this proposition for sale?"

Mr. Sanderson: "I have amended it for you."

Mr. Bullock: "Including the amendment, is it final?"

Mr. Sanderson: "There are a number of things open for discussion."

Mr. Goldie urged that the council and new owners get together.

Major Fisher said the council should reject the offer in its entirety at once. He would vote against the motion to have it lie on the table for further discussion.

The vote being taken, only the Mayor opposed it. Adjournment then was made.

URGES MARITIMES TO GET TOGETHER

Health Minister in Legislature Speech Also Recommends London Office for Province.

Hon. W. F. Roberts, Minister of Health, in his address in the debate on the budget yesterday in the Legislature, advocated the getting together of the Governments of the Maritime Provinces to bring the needs of the section of the country to the attention of the rest of Canada. His plan was to have the representatives of the provinces, irrespective of party, to form an association for this purpose. He suggested that they should hold meetings twice a month in Ottawa at which men capable of outlining the sentiments and needs of the Maritime would be speakers and to which prominent public men from the rest of the Dominion could be invited. He believed that this scheme would provide a relatively inexpensive way to bring the eastern provinces questions before the people of the Dominion. Dr. Roberts advanced this suggestion while speaking of the danger of diminishing influence of these provinces in Federal affairs.

Another proposition advanced by Dr. Roberts during the course of an address that touched upon a wide range of topics, economic, social, political and medical, was that this province place a practical business man as its agent in the British Isles. It would be the duty of this man to try to attract both capital and immigrants to New Brunswick. There was competition for the British immigrants, Dr. Roberts said, and many were going past our doors and out into the west. Favorably situated on the seaboard for export trade and handy to raw materials from New Brunswick, he thought, had a great manufacturing future ahead of it if only some aggressive effort was made to go and get the capital. The Province could only absorb young healthy farmers with a little capital and this

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Regular up to \$1.15.
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Yard..... **69c**
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Roller Towing
60 p.c. linen; red border; Reg. 25c.
Friday only, yard..... **16c**
Yard..... **16c**
Drapes Third Floor.

White Cotton
86 inches wide; fine quality; excellent for making up for all kinds of family sewing.
Regular 25c. yard.
Friday only, yard..... **17c**
Yard..... **17c**
Drapes Third Floor.

Curtain Scrims
86" wide, in white and cream.
Friday..... **16c**
Yard..... **16c**
Drapes Third Floor.

F. A. Dykeman & Co.

was the class he thought New Brunswick ought to make a bid to get. Speaking of his own department Dr. Roberts declared that public health was the greatest economic service in which any government could engage. He quoted statistics showing that the death rate had been reduced from 15.60 in 1920 to about thirteen per one thousand of population in 1922. Computing the monetary value of lives saved at \$1,000 each, Dr. Roberts figured that a saving of \$1,200,000 last year in public health, he said people could get what they paid for and asked the Opposition if they wanted to go on record as opposing a policy that had done so much for the country. He declared that there was no extravagance in the administration of affairs of his department which he dealt with exhaustively.

At the conclusion of Dr. Roberts' address adjournment of the debate was moved by A. Chase Fawcett, leader of the Progressives, which means

that the agrarian pilot will continue the debate on the budget tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Fawcett's resolution calling for the abolition of liquor export in the province came up this afternoon but Hon. A. A. Dymally, Speaker of the House, deferred ruling upon it until tomorrow at which time Mr. Dymally will also give his ruling as to whether the resolution favoring a twenty per cent reduction in members and ministers salaries, also offered by Mr. Fawcett, is in order.

Notices of enquiry were given for Tuesday next as follows:

By Mr. Young, as to certain amounts paid J. Charlton Berrie for automobiles, supplies, etc., since 1920 and as to the service rendered for the sum of \$800 paid to him for automobile hire. Also as to the amount each agricultural exhibition contributed towards the sum of \$7,007 collected in amusement taxes and if it is the intention of the government to discontinue the tax.

Hon. Mr. Robinson introduced a bill to amend the Game Act 1921. He explained that one section would restore the bounty on wildcats, which had become very destructive to deer during the last winter. It was also proposed to increase the non-resident bird license from \$15 to \$25 and to permit the holders of non-resident bird licenses to shoot partridges.

Hon. Mr. Merereau introduced a bill to amend the act relating to the dairy industry 1904. He explained that tests made at creameries during the month of June often showed considerable variations in the percentage of butter fat and it had been felt by the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association that there should be some modification in the act so that retailers could be made more responsible.

Mr. Hayes introduced a bill to provide for further fire protection in the parish of Lunenburg.

The House on resuming after recess went into committee with Mr. Bentley in the chair and agreed to bills to enable the city council of Moncton to grant a superannuation allowance to Hon. Mr. Steadman; to enable the said council to guarantee debentures of the Moncton Hospital; to authorize the City of Moncton to issue debentures and to sell and convey certain land; to amend an act incorporating the town of Moncton to authorize the City of Fredericton to make a grant of \$25,000 to the University of New Brunswick; and to authorize the said city to issue debentures to provide permanent sidewalks.

The House again went into committee with Mr. Peck in the chair, and agreed to bills to incorporate the Southwestern Cemetery Company to authorize the town of St. George to borrow money for lighting system; to fix and define the boundaries of the town of Devon and to authorize the town of Grand Falls to issue debentures.

The House again went into committee with Mr. McKenna in the chair, and agreed to a bill to authorize the St. John Horticulture Association to issue debentures.

The committee next took into consideration a bill to amend the Police Act of the City of St. John.

Mr. Hayes said that he would give the necessary notice of the amendment and would be willing to have the bill stand over. Progress was reported.

The House again went into committee with Mr. Hayes in the chair, and agreed to bills to amend the general mining act and reform a grant to St. John Harbor.

The committee next took up consideration of a bill to consolidate and amend the Rates and Taxes Act. Progress was reported.

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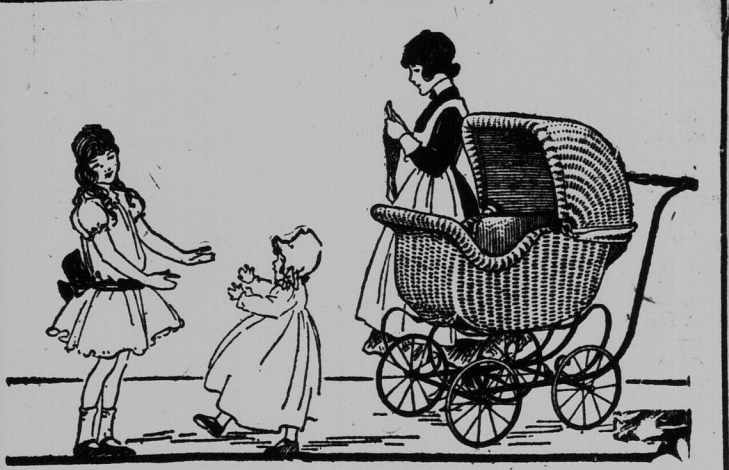
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LOCAL NEWS

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Ladies' gingham street dresses selling out for \$1.98 at Bassett's Closing-Out Sale, 282 Prince Edward St.

See Bassett's adv. Page 7.

Annual Motor Show, St. John
Armories, April 9-14th.

D. O. K. K. (Dokerys) Minstrel Troupe, Carleton City Hall, Monday, April 9, at 8 p. m. 1923-24

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ANOTHER USE FOR HYDRO CURRENT

Ontario Man Has Invented
Economical Refrigerator
Operated by Electricity.

The use of electricity to produce heat is a very familiar one and one that will be more general in days to come, especially when with Musquash power, there is electricity at cost. How electricity may be used instead of ice is a very recent invention but an invention that has been proved of great importance. Major D. Forbes Keith, of Toronto, has discovered how electricity can be used to supply heat in a very recent invention but an invention that has been proved of great importance. Major D. Forbes Keith, of Toronto, has discovered how electricity can be used to supply heat in a very recent invention but an invention that has been proved of great importance. Major D. Forbes Keith, of Toronto, has discovered how electricity can be used to supply heat in a very recent invention but an invention that has been proved of great importance.

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Ladies' Tricotine Suits, tailored lines, crepe \$25.00	Polo and Velour Coats, sports style \$10.75	Serge Dresses, henna braided \$7.50
Ladies' Tricotine Suits, Bal-kon style and blouse back \$29.00	Velour Coats, fancy braided trimmings, lace sleeves, with or without belt \$14.98	Serge Dresses, circular panels \$12.00
Ladies' Tricotine Suits, in loose back, belt style and blouse back; also tailored lines \$35.00	Polo and Velour Coats, wrap effects \$17.50	Tricotine Dresses, with or without panels \$15.00
	Bloused back Coats \$22.50	Canton Crepe Dresses, in blue, black or brown \$22.00 to \$30.00
	Duvetyn Wraps and Coats \$28.50 up	

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THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS WILL PROBABLY CONSIST OF 245 MEMBERS, DISTRIBUTED AS ABOVE

It is expected that the redistribution based on the last census, will show 245 seats in the Canadian House of Commons distributed as marked on this map.