

# HYDRO COMMISSION MAKES DRASTIC CHANGE IN RATING SYSTEM

## Domestic Floor Space Toll Replaced by Flat Service Charge of Thirty Cents—Standard Price of Current Revised.

A despatch from Toronto says:—A revolutionary change in the rating system for domestic and commercial lighting throughout the various Hydro Electric systems of the Province was announced Thursday night by Sir Adam Beck, speaking on behalf of the Hydro Commission.

Simplification of the rating method has been under consideration by the officials of the Commission for some months, and on Tuesday members of the Municipal Hydro-Electric Association were called into conference. The call for this conference was issued by ex-Mayor Maguire of Toronto as president of the association. The result of these deliberations was a decision—which was communicated officially to the municipalities throughout the province—to abolish floor-space rating for all domestic services and to provide instead thereof a 30-cent service charge in the case of all houses, large or small, connected with municipal distribution systems in the various Hydro zones.

It is believed, Sir Adam states, that this will be found in the end to be more equitable than the minimum and maximum floor space ratings hitherto enforced.

It also has been decided that the standard charge for current shall be 2 cents for a minimum of 60 kilowatts and 1 cent per kilowatt for all current supplied above that minimum. In the case of municipalities which find the revenue from this basis of rating insufficient for their needs and necessary additional revenue will be obtained by increasing the number of

kilowatts from 60 upwards to which the 2-cent rate is applicable.

If, for example, a municipality finds that it requires a minimum of 90 kilowatts per month at 2 cents to carry its necessary expenses, the local authority will have power to increase the standard minimum from time to time, subject, of course, to the general supervision of rating by the Provincial Commission.

I had been decided, Sir Adam stated, to accept for general use in the matter of commercial rating the basis put forward by the Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission for use in this city. Formerly commercial lighting was supplied at a minimum rate of 5 cents per kilowatt hour for 30 kilowatt hours, 3 cents for the next 70 and 1 cent for all over 100. The Toronto rate, which will now be applied throughout the province, provides for a rating of 4 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 50 hours, 2 cents for the next 50, and 1 cent for all over 100.

These changes have been formally approved by the Provincial Commission, as well as the new domestic rating system, and, so far as possible, goes into force on the first of June.

At the session of the Commission, revisions of provincial rates in 212 cities, towns and villages were formally approved, having regard to the surpluses disclosed by last year's revenue returns. In 155 cases reductions were made in the rate for power supplied by the Provincial Hydro to the local authorities; in 54 the rate holds at that of last year, and in 3 only was it found necessary to make increases.



This might easily be a scene of far-off India, but instead it's at Wembley, when Queen Mary "did" the show with Queen Marie of Rumania. Garlands of flowers were placed around the necks of the two Queens while dusky attendants held Indian sunshades over their heads.

### WESTERN GRAINS MAKE RAPID GROWTH

#### Rains and Rise in Temperature Help Crops Make Up for Lost Time.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—Marked improvement in weather conditions throughout the Prairie Provinces has proved a welcome boon to the Western farmer generally. Despite the lateness of the seeding operations and the unusually cold weather during the past month, recent rains and rise in temperature have contributed greatly to rapid growth. Wheat seeding is completed in the three Provinces with the exception of a few isolated districts, while good progress is reported in the seeding of coarse grain.

Farmers in the Regina district report that crops are slightly ahead of last year, and in some districts wheat has reached the height of three inches. In the Prince Albert district lack of precipitation has somewhat retarded growth, but rain is forecast.

The season's crop prospects in Alberta are regarded as the most ideal in many years. A steady but gentle downpour of last week-end over a wide area proved very beneficial.

In Manitoba the crop is not much later than in former years, although the lateness of the seeding season materially reduced the acreage sown to wheat.

"There is ample time yet for the development of a good crop, and, notwithstanding unfavorable weather conditions during the early spring, no fear need be entertained concerning the crop," declared Premier John Bracken, Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, following a visit through the Neepawa district.

### Dickens's Son Finds Faith in Human Nature Unsound

Sir Henry Dickens, who as a London magistrate has found in actual life that the faith his famous novelist father had in human nature is not always justified, has just commented upon a case that was brought before him recently. Sir Henry some time ago remarked that he was determined to try a great experiment, with a man who was arraigned before him. Although the prisoner had a long criminal record, Sir Henry paroled him and found work for him. Three months later the man was again arrested.

"It was one of the greatest disappointments I have ever experienced," said Magistrate Dickens. "I will never try such a thing again."



Mrs. Jamie Brown  
The reigning mistress of beautiful Holyrood Palace, Scotland.

### BRITISH WAR STOCKS FINALLY DISPOSED OF

#### \$3,235,890,000 Worth of Surplus War Material Sold in Last Five Years.

A despatch from Montreal says:—The Disposal and Liquidation Commission of the British Government, which in connection with its predecessor, the Ministry of Munitions, has had in charge the liquidation of the surplus war stocks and properties of the British Government, has just completed its work, and as reported by the English Information Service, has realized for these stocks in the past five years \$3,235,890,000 at par of exchange.

The releasing of these surplus properties and stores in large and small lots has involved more than three million separate business transactions, including railways in Europe, Asia and Africa, as well as thousands of miles of railways, sidings, etc., in the British Isles and a large fleet of miscellaneous craft lying in various harbors all over the world. Among the properties liquidated were real estate and factories, rolling stock, industrial plants, machinery, mechanical transport and road plant, metals, huts, buildings, furniture, building materials, horses and other animals, textile goods, medical stores, food stocks and aircraft material.

### ANOTHER VICTIM OF NIAGARA WHIRLPOOL

#### Seventeen-Year-Old Youth is Caught in Strong Undertow of Lower River.

A despatch from Niagara Falls, Ont., says:—Joseph Alexander Dempsey, 17 years of age, was drowned in the whirlpool in the lower river early Thursday morning when he jumped out of a rowboat which had become unmanageable.

Dempsey, with Edward Barrie and Morley Pearson of this city, went along the river bank with a skiff and launched it just above the whirlpool with the idea of taking it down to Queenston for the summer. Dempsey got into the boat himself and started to row across the big eddy. The current, however, was too strong for him and he had to pull the oars into the boat. Finding himself gradually being drawn into the vortex of the pool, he jumped into the water and started toward the shore. He made about twenty strokes, shouting for help, and suddenly disappeared. It looked as if he was caught by a strong undertow. The body has not been recovered. It is probable that if he had remained in the boat he would have been saved, for it drifted around the eddy and was drawn up near the shore.

### 103 Per Cent. Increase in Immigration in April

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Immigration into Canada in the month of April this year shows an increase of 103 per cent. over that of the same month last year, the total for April, 1924, being 19,330, as compared with 9,500 in April, 1923. Of the total for April this year 9,410 were British, as compared with 4,671 in the same month last year; from the United States, 1,838, as against 2,140 in April last year, and 8,082 from other countries, as against 2,689 in April last year.

## Weekly Market Report

### TORONTO

Man. wheat—No. 1 North, \$2.13 1/4; No. 2 North, \$1.06 1/2.  
Man. oats—No. 3 CW, 42 1/2c; No. 2, 41c.  
Man. barley—Nominal.  
All the above c.i.f. hay ports.  
Ont. barley—45 to 70c.  
Am. corn—No. 2 yellow, 95c.  
Ont. rye—74 to 78c.  
Prairie—No. 2, \$1.40 to \$1.45.  
Millfeed—Del. Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, \$23; shorts, per ton, \$24; middlings, \$30; good feed flour, \$1.85.  
Ont. wheat—No. 2 white, nominal.  
Ontario No. 2 white oats—39 to 41c.  
Ont. corn—Nominal.  
Ont. flour—Ninety per cent. pat. in jute bags, Montreal, prompt shipment, \$4.95; Toronto basis, \$4.95; bulk, seaboard, \$4.60.  
Man. flour—1st pat. in jute sacks, \$6.50 per bbl.; 2nd, \$6.  
Hay—Extra No. 2, mothy, per ton, track, Toronto, \$16; No. 2, \$16; No. 3, \$13 to \$14; mixed, \$11 to \$11.50; lower grades, \$10 to \$12.  
Straw—Carlots, per ton \$9.50 to \$10.  
Screenings—Standard, cleaned, f.o.b. Bay ports, per ton, \$17.  
Cheese—New, large, 16 1/2 to 17c; twins, 17 to 18c; triplets, 18 to 19c; Stiltons, 20c. Old, large, 22 to 23c; twins, 23 to 24c; triplets, 24 to 25c.  
Butter—Finest creamery prints, 35c to 36c; No. 1 creamery, 34 to 35c; No. 2, 33 to 34c; dairy, 28 to 30c.  
Eggs—Extras, fresh, in cartons, 33 to 34c; extra loose, 31c; firsts, 28c; seconds, 24c.  
Live poultry—Hens, over 5 lbs., 26c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 24c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 15c; spring chickens, 2 lbs. and over, 55c; roosters, 18c; ducklings, over 5 lbs., 26c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 24c.  
Dressed poultry—Hens, over 5 lbs., 28c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 18c; spring chickens, 2 lbs. and over, 60c; roosters, 22c.  
Beans—Can., hand-picked, lb., 6 1/4c; primes, 6c.  
Maple products—Syrup, per imp. gal., \$2.50; per 5-gal. tin, \$2.40 per gal.; maple sugar, lb., 25 to 26c.  
Honey—60-lb. tins, 11 to 11 1/2c per lb.; 10-lb. tins, 11 to 12c; 5-lb. tins, 11 1/2 to 12c; 2 1/2-lb. tins, 12 1/2 to 13c; comb honey, per doz., No. 1, \$3.75 to \$4; No. 2, \$3.25 to \$3.50.  
Smoked meats—Hams, med., 23 to 24c; cooked hams, 34 to 36c; smoked rolls, 17 to 18c; cottage rolls, 18 to 20c; breakfast bacon, 21 to 25c; spe-

cial brand breakfast bacon, 28 to 30c; backs, bonions, 28 to 32c.  
Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 to 70 lbs., \$13.50; 70 to 90 lbs., \$18; 90 lbs. and up, \$17; lightweight rolls, in barrels, \$37; heavyweight rolls, \$32.  
Lard—Pure tallow, 14 1/2 to 15 1/2c; tubs, 15 to 15 1/2c; pails, 15 1/2 to 16c; butira, 18 to 18 1/2c; shortening, 14 to 14 1/2c; tubs, 14 1/2 to 15c; pails, 15 to 15 1/2c; prints, 16 1/2 to 17c.  
Export steers, choice, \$9 to \$8.25; do, good \$7.50 to \$7.75; export heifers, \$8.75 to \$6; do, com., \$4.75 to \$5; \$9; butcher steers, choice, \$7 to \$7.75; do, good, \$6.25 to \$6.75; do, med., \$5.75 to \$6; do, com., \$4.50 to \$5; butcher heifers, choice, \$6.75 to \$7.25; do, med., \$5.25 to \$6; do, com., \$4.75 to \$5; \$5; butcher cows, choice, \$5.25 to \$6.25; do, med., \$3.50 to \$4.50; butcher bulls, \$4.50 to \$5.50; bolognas, \$2.50 to \$3.50; canners and cutters, \$1.25 to \$1.50; feeding steers, choice, \$6 to \$6.75; do, fair, \$4 to \$5; milkers, springers, choice, \$75 to \$80; do, fair, \$45.00 to \$60.00; stockers, choice, \$5 to \$5.25; do, fair, \$4 to \$4.25; calves, choice, \$10 to \$10.50; do, med., \$7.50 to \$9; do, com., \$4.50 to \$5.50; lambs, choice ewes, \$16 to \$17; do, bucks, \$14 to \$16; do, culls, \$9 to \$9.50; spring lambs, per lb., 15c to 18c; sheep, light ewes, \$7 to \$8; do, culls, \$4.50 to \$5; hogs, fed and watered, \$7.85; do, f.o.b., \$7.35; do, country points, \$7.10; do, select, \$8.60; do, off cars, long haul, \$8.25.

### MONTREAL

Oats, Can. West No. 2, 51 to 52c; do, No. 3, 49 to 50c; extra No. 1 feed, 48 to 49 1/2c; No. 2 local white, 44 to 45c.  
Flour, Man. spring wheat pat. 1st, \$6.50; 2nd, \$6; strong bakers, \$5.80; winter pat. choice, \$5.90 to \$6.00. Rolled oats, bag, 90 lbs., \$2.90; bran, \$23.25; shorts, \$24.25; middlings, \$30.25; hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$16.  
Cheese—Finest westerns, 15 1/2 to 15 3/4c; finest easterns, 14 1/2 to 14 3/4c. Butter, No. 1, pasteurized, 33c; No. 1, creamery, 32 1/2c; seconds, 31 1/2c. Eggs, fresh specials, 35c; fresh extras, 32c; fresh firsts, 28c.  
Potatoes, per bag, car lots, \$1.40 to \$1.45.  
Com. dairy type cows, \$3 to \$4; canners, \$1.50 to \$1.75; good veal calves, \$6 to \$8.50; do, med., \$5.50 to \$5.75; pail fed calves, \$4 to \$4.50; spring lambs, 18c per pound.



Angling for the wily brook trout when the white water pours into a shady pool—a familiar scene in the Laurentian hills of Quebec this time of year.

### ROYALTY VISITS CANADIAN EXHIBIT

#### King and Queen Much Interested in Butter Model of Prince's Ranch.

A despatch from London says:—King George and Queen Mary, with King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena of Italy, and Princess Mafalda spent a considerable part of Wednesday forenoon at the Canadian Pavilions at the British Empire Exhibition. Announcement of their Majesty's visit to Wembley brought sightseers by the tens of thousands, but, thanks to the skillfulness of the police and the good humor of the crowd, the royal party made a walking tour at the exhibition in perfect comfort.

The first call of the royal party was at the Canadian National Railways pavilion. The longest visit of the Italian royal visitors and their royal host and hostess was in the Dominion pavilion, where they were shown around by officials. King George fairly roared with laughter when he was suddenly confronted with the model of the Prince of Wales in Canadian butter. The butter exhibit is in the form of a model of the Prince's Alberta home, the Prince,

his horse, his ranch, the house and landscape all being in butter.

"Capital, capital, is it not?" King George exclaimed to Queen Mary, who was also much entertained by the display.

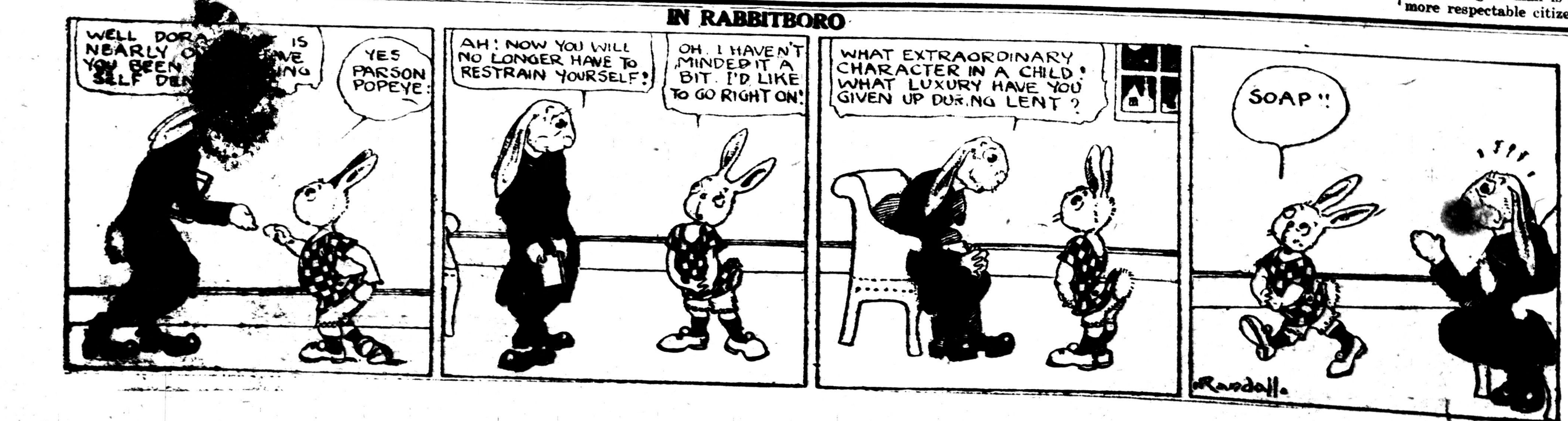
The Canadian Pacific Railway Building then was visited by the royal party. The spectacle of a model train running right around the C.P.R. Building attracted the visitors' attention. Seeing a view of Banff, Queen Mary remarked, "I remember very well being there."

### Sleeping Sickness on Increase in the Old Country

Sleeping sickness is increasing rapidly in this country, and 649 cases were notified by doctors in the first three weeks of April, against 468 in March, 217 in February, and 75 in January, says a London despatch.

While investigations into the cause of the disease are being carried out by the Medical Research Council, doctors admit they do not know either a cure or any means of preventing the spread. Large towns appear to be more affected than rural districts and the disease seems to spread westward.

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