

THE FIELD OF ELECTRICITY

Solving the Problem of Motor Power Without Overhead Wires.

UNDERGROUND SYSTEM AT WASHINGTON

Cost of Construction and Advantages—Trial of a Storage Battery Motor at Chicago—Trolley in a Sewer.

The underground electric system in use in Washington, D. C., is the first of its kind. It is a complete system, including the power house, the substations, the trolley, and the cars.

Mr. G. B. Coleman, secretary and general manager of the company, and F. H. Chamberlain, chief electrician, have charge of the operation of this system. They state that it is the most perfect system that is now in use.

The advantages of the underground system are obvious to anyone. The circuit is entirely metallic, and it is impossible to cause electrolysis. The first cost of construction is about the same as that of an overhead trolley.

It should be noted that the cost of such a change, exclusive of the cost of new cars, would be from \$10,000 to \$15,000 a mile. The cost of the cars is about \$2,000 each.

Our system is known as the General Electric system, but it has been modified in many respects by the American Electric Company. The cars are built by the American Electric Company.

It is a common belief, but an error, that we have an underground trolley. We have a wire which carries the current, and a trolley which runs on it. The trolley is suspended from the wire by a contact shoe.

The reason for changing from the cable to the underground electric on Pennsylvania avenue were the character of the street, the running of the cars and easier starting and stopping of them.

Application of storage battery power to the power house is rapidly being recognized in this country, and is becoming economical and satisfactory operation.

The wide fluctuations in load in railway power houses is now well known. The average load is only about 20 per cent of the maximum.

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STUHT'S SCHEME CAN WAIT

Auditorium and Jail Combination to Have Time to Crystallize.

OTHER JAIL PLANS HAVE PRECEDENCE

Chairman Lobbeck of the Council Committee Thinks the Advisory Board's Committee Has the Right-of-Way at Present.

Chairman Lobbeck of the city council committee on public property and buildings has called a meeting of the committee to consider Stuh's city jail and auditorium resolution, and it is not likely that anything will be done in this direction until some disposal is made of some of the other schemes that are now under consideration.

The special committee appointed by the Advisory Board has the jail matter in charge at present, and as it is concluded that the whole matter belongs to that body there is a disposition to work in harmony with that body.

Aside from this the idea suggested by the councilman from the First ward is not regarded as entirely feasible. In the first place it is asserted that it would be very difficult to plan a building that would be a satisfactory auditorium during the exposition which would be adapted to be turned into a jail, etc., afterwards.

AIMED AGAINST INCOMPETENCY

New Plumbing Ordinance Will Shut Out Poor Workmen.

If the new plumbing ordinance becomes a law it will do away with one of the most expiring things that the engineering department of the city has to contend with in respect to sewer connections.

It is claimed that the cost of construction and equipment of a road using the motor would be less than one-half of that of any other kind of road system.

TRACTION BY BATTERIES

The application of the "Storage Battery to Electric Traction was one of the most attractive subjects discussed at the meeting of the American Street Railway Association at Niagara Falls.

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BOARD OF REVIEW BUSINESS

The Board of Review is still waiting for the tax commissioner to complete the tabulations of the real property assessment before beginning active work.

WILL OPEN PAVING BIDS

The Board of Public Works will open bids today for paving and curbing Half Howard street, from Thirty-sixth to Thirty-eighth street, and for repaving Dodge street, from Twenty-ninth to Twenty-fifth street.

TREES FOR THE PARK

The last two cars of trees ordered by the Board of Park Commissioners from Brownville have arrived and they are being set out in Riverview park.

UNSTABLE FREIGHT RATES

Railroad Men in a Delightful State of Uncertainty at Present.

OMAHA JOBBERS SHOW LITTLE CONCERN

No Reduction to this City Announced, but Colorado Through Rates Offer an Advantage that is Not Overlooked.

It's a waiting game that is being played in freight circles here, at least so far as the movement of westbound freight is concerned. The supplement to Saturday's tariff issued Wednesday had not up to noon been superseded by any new issuance, but no one in freight circles was wagging very much on the stability of any rates.

DROP FROM THE SEAWARD BRINGS DEATH TO A WORKMAN

The first fatal accident in connection with the building of the Transmississippi Exposition occurred early yesterday morning. William S. Morrow, a carpenter employed upon the Mines and Mining building, breaking his neck.

DAMAGES IN BLACKLIST CASE

Former Employee of Northwestern Secure a Favorable Verdict. CHICAGO, Nov. 18.—Fred R. Ketcham was awarded a verdict of \$1,666.33 by the jury in Judge Clifford's court today in his suit against the Northwestern railroad for \$25,000 damages for blacklisting.

MAYOR MOORES PROPOSES THAT SIDEWALKS SHALL BE FREE FOR TRAFFIC

It has been pretty definitely decided by Mayor Moore and other city officials that the curbside signs which now obstruct the business district must go.

CRIBSTONE SIGNS MUST VANISH

It has been pretty definitely decided by Mayor Moore and other city officials that the curbside signs which now obstruct the business district must go.

LOBECK'S KNOTTY PROPOSITION

The fact that the legal department has its hands full with the Bohn case for some time to come will probably prevent any action on Councilman Lobbeck's resolution.

MAN WHO HAD BEEN ACQUITTED AND SENT TO A MOB

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 18.—A special to the Star from Liberty, Mo., says: At midnight last night a large party of men broke into the home of William Amend, a neighbor of the law, near here, shot him in the left leg when he showed resistance, and then, according to Fargo's statement, fell upon and beat him.

HANGED FOR KILLING A NEWSBOY

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 18.—Henry Clay Johnson, colored, was hanged at 6:30 a. m. for the murder of William Amend, a newsboy whom he shot on the night of August 1, 1896. He died bravely. The murder was the result of a quarrel between the two boys over a "newsboy's alley" by a number of newsboys and Johnson, who had a bootblack's shop nearby.

NOT BUYING OCEANIC SHIPS

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—Referring to the proposal to purchase the Oceanic Steamship Company, which is being made by the United States government, the company's president has stated that the company is not for sale.

FOOD SUPPLIES FOR ARMY

Uncle Sam Buys Proveder for His Doughboys' Consumption.

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS

Omaha Jobbers Secure the Largest Portion of the Business with the Government—Prices on Meat Supplies.

The commissary department of the Department of the Plate has been engaged for the last two weeks in making contracts for food supplies for the several posts of 1898. Proposals for supplying the numerous items required for feeding the large number of men and horses in this department were received last week, and the usual forms of tabulating and submitting the results for approval have been gone through with and contracts are being made with the successful bidders.

The purchase of these supplies at this point is a most substantial addition to the right side of the trade balance. The great bulk of the supplies are purchased in Omaha, as it has been demonstrated that the goods can be bought here just as cheap as at any other point, and the freight charge from eastern and southern points is thus eliminated.

It is expected that net earnings of the Missouri Pacific for the current year will show an increase of from \$1,500,000 to \$1,600,000. C. P. Jones, a fireman on a Union Pacific train, was badly injured about the head at the town of Alton, Va. While crossing a trestle over a bridge, when it was caught in the trestle work.

MAINE WILLING TO GET TO TEXAS

Nebraska Expedition to the Lone Star State Will Be a Hummer. Chairman Green of the committee of the Real Estate exchange having in charge the trip to Texas and the visit to the deep harbor convention reports that guaranty checks are coming in from the prospective delegates so numerous that he may find it necessary to add another car to his train.

DEATH OF MRS. ELLEN MORRIS

Another of the family deaths which has passed away. Ellen Morris, wife of Thomas Morris, died yesterday. She was a sister of Richard and John Withell. She was buried in the city cemetery at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the late residence, 328 South Twenty-second street, interment being in Prospect Hill cemetery.

IRON WORK ON THE DEPOT

Frank Lehman, construction man for the Koken Iron company of St. Louis, having the contract for placing in position the heavy iron work of the Burlington's new depot, has arrived in Omaha.

EXHIBIT GREAT X-RAY MACHINE

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 18.—The great X-ray machine in the world was exhibited last night in the Lawrence Scientific school of Harvard college. The new apparatus, which is the most powerful of its kind, is capable of producing rays of great intensity, which is about equal to the voltage of 3,000 electric cars. It gives out a powerful beam of rays, which has been hitherto unknown.

LYNCH A NEGRO MURDERER

ALLEN, Tex., Nov. 18.—Last night at the Allen farm, near here, while gambling for money, a negro named General Chestman was stabbed twice and killed. Another negro, Tom Sweet, was arrested for the crime, and while being conveyed to a jail by a posse was taken from his guards and strung up to the limb of a tree. The vigilantes are said to have been negroes.

COMMISSIONER MAY LOOK SERVILE

Fish Commissioner W. L. May has received his commission from Governor Holcomb. When Mr. May serves out the term for which he has been appointed he will have completed twenty-one years of service in the fish commission of the state.

RAILROAD MEN IN A DELIGHTFUL STATE OF UNCERTAINTY AT PRESENT

At present there is not a great deal of freight being shipped from here to Colorado. The rates are high, and it is expected that they will fall in a few days.

OMAHA JOBBERS SHOW LITTLE CONCERN

There is but one thing that freight officials in Omaha will admit, and that is that west-bound freight rates are more demoralized than they ever have been. The low rates from the Atlantic seaboard to Colorado points via the Gulf are still held responsible for the demoralization in all rates from east to west.

While the freight men are almost topsy-turvy over the situation and are keeping the wheels of their offices and receiving headquarters warm with queries, the Omaha shippers interested in westbound shipments are simply leaning back in their chairs, wearing their slippers and indulging in snuff and prayers that the rate war will continue and will become fiercer as it progresses.

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