

Do Lindsay Citizens Desire **Bouble Phone Service?**

CANADIAN MACHINE TELEPHONE CO. WISH TO WIRE THIS TOWN,

So They Oppose the Granting of an Exclusive Franchise to the Bell Co. for Five Years.

"Helio Central!" was the text taken by the Aldermen at last week s meeting of the Town Property committee, and the sermons thereon extended over a period of two and onehalf hours. Mayor Sootheran and all members were present and feeling good as the length of the meeting denotes. Messrs. Robt. Neill, Peterboro, F. D. McKay and Wmr. Lytle, Toronto, and A. E. Gregory, town, were present in behalf of the Cana. dian Machine Telephone Co. to ask that at exclusive franchise be not granted to the Bell Telephone Co for the reason that the Machine Commany wished to establish their sys-

On the representatives of the Comparry being granted penmission to address the aldermen, Mr. McKay led off. In opening he referred briefly to the technical points of the system, covered in a lengthy article in last right's Evening Post. A perfect machine is more accurate than the human hand, and the machine telephone registers all calis accurately and rapidly. :With a 200 'phone merual board like that in Lindsay at present it may be profitable to make no effert to increase the number beyoud the capacity. He noticed 185 subscribers' names in the Lindsay book, and possibly a few had been added since it was published. Of that number only 47 were residence phones. The same thing existed in Feterborc-until recently, at any Tate. The Machine Co. would arm to secure all the services possible because the profit would be in direct relation to the number gained. In Peterbero the Bell man was now paying great attention to the residence end of the business -a result of competition-and the opinion prevailed that people could get phones at almost any price they cared to pay It was rather early for him to name the exact price at which the Machine Co. could give services in Lindsay, but he could at least tell them that the prices would not be higher than in Peterboro-\$20 for business'phone \$15 for residence, or \$30 for both. The main advantages of the nev system were; 1, absolute secrecy; 2 ches per price; 3, more efficient ser-

The Mayor of Feterborn was op-

posed to having two telephone systems, but he held that it developed upon the company having the monopely to give an up-to-date service and as they had not been giving this it was night to introduce competetion. | entirely wrong there the Council in-That was a matter for the Council and citizens of Lindsay to remember, as they were being served by a system as antiquated as that which had bore anything in return for the franbeen forced out of Peterboro twelve years ago. He understood that the chise? company now proposed making some improvements, but a combined system-half good, half bad - was worse of \$400 per year from the Bell poothen none. If the Council held the Lie including a number of free framehise open and allowed the Ma- phones, but they did not deem that chine Co. to come in, they would then have a system modern in every respect. It would, he thought, be unwise to grant any company an ex- brief, because Mr. McKay had covclusive franchise even if they were offered three times as much as the see why Lundsay should refuse to Bell Co, offered-an exclusive franchise for five years was a big thing in these days of great invections. Only a short time ago the Bell Co. monopoly came to an end in the United States; to-day they had opposition almost everywhere, and an exe'usive franchise was a thing ale would do so, too. It was no wonder most unknown in any town or city the aldermen gave thought to that across the border. The fact that the Bell Co. would have to pay more taxes on their plant in future carried on the chain street to-day. no weight, because it was a just tax and would have to be paid by the Machine Co. if they came to Lind- two phones. say. Toronto relused an offer of \$20,000 a year rather than give the many replies received by the Mer-Bell Co. an exclusive franchise, and | chapts' Association, from phore subthe men who put up the fight against } scribers in the United States is that the monogoly were those who were they generally secured the two compelled to have phones in their phones at about the price formerly residence as well as their places of paid for one. Competition is a great business. It might interest some of thing the aidermen to know that only a short time ago The Retail Merchants Association of Canada submitted five questions to a large number of users of telephones in towns and cities in the United States where Bell and independent exchanges were in operation. Over 1100 replies were received from subscribers to 189 exchanges, spread over seventeea States. One of the questions was "Would you prefer to return to the one company plan?' Tite ans vers rere "No, 1245; "Yes," 14 Another thing-the Bell Co. charges \$5 extra per year for the up-to-

date long distance attachment,

instal. All the Machine Co. phones

would be so fitted without addition-

al charge. Their system would not

be interfered with by electric light-

ing wires, because it would be made

first-cla-wat the outset. They were desirous of coming to Lindsay be-

which costs about \$3.50 to make and the few genuine means of recovery in

cause they wanted business, and that did not appear to be the case with

the Bell Co. Mayor Scotheran-"Will you please read the Retail Merchants' Association questions for the information of menivers? You said that five questions had been asked." Mr. McKay-"Certainly, the ques-

tions and answers appeared in the April number of the Association Journal and are as follows: Question No. 1-Has competition resulted in better telephone ser-

vice in your city(-a) As given by the Independent Telephone Company; (b) By an improved service on the part of the Bell Company. Answer-(a) Affirmative, 1215; Negative, 26; (b) Affirmative, 982; Ne-

gative. 154. Question No. 2-Han competition increased the number of telephone subscribers?

Answer-Affirmative, 1251; Nega-Question No. 3-Has competition brought about greater civility and more courtcous attention to the

wants of subscribers? Answers-Affirmative, 1222; Negative 37. Question No. 4-Have rates for telphone service been reduced by the

advent of competition-(a) By the reduction of Bell rates formerly charged. (b) By the establishment of rates by the Independent Company lower than formerly prevailed? Answers-(a) Affirmative, 979; Negative, 120. (b) Affirmative, 1238 vegative, 45.

Question No. 5-In your judgment, would it be preferable to return to the conditions prevailing before the advent of the Independent com-

Answers .- No. 1245. Yes 14. Ald. O'Rielly-"Do you ask for an exclusive or a working franchise?' Mr. McKay-"No, we do not seek an exclusive right-we are willing to stand or fall on the merits of the sarvice we will put in."

Mayor Scotheran-"I see you are putting your wires underground in Peterboro. Would you do the same here?"

Mr. McKay-"That's a matter for mutual arrangement; in Peterboro we have to go underground in the business section. One thing I can promise you-we will not put up any poles on your main street." Ald. O Rieliy-"How iong would it take you to get your system in operation here?"

Mr. McKay-"About the came time as in Peterboro-12 months." Ald. O Rielly-"Do you know of any other towns about the lize of Lindsay possessing metallic circuits." Mr. Latie-'Port Hope and Oshawa. The latter has had the met-

ellic for some years." Mayor Sootheran-"Is your system in operation anywhere in the United States?"

Mr. Mckay-"No, this is a new system, the result of Ca adian brains and Caradian money, but there are several somewhat similar systems." Mayor Sootheran-"It certainly is most ingenious arrangement, but t seems to me that children could not work it as easily as they can the

Ald finnamon-"How would it be in the dark?" Mr. McKay-"It would only be recessary for children to know how

to form numbers, and in the event of there being no light they could ask the Central attendant. We are about to spend a lot of money and it stands to reason that we would not take it to our own town first unless we knew it was a good thing." Ald. O Rielly-"It has been said that the cost of putting wires underground would be as great as that of building a railway."

Mr. McKay-"In many towns in the U. S. all wires are put inderground, and the day is coming fast when the same rule will prevail in Canada. That is one reason why we are making a start now." Ald. Maunder-"How about

long distance work?" Mr. McKay-"We will be handicapped in that way for a time. You would for the present have to go to the Be'l Exchange or put 15 two phones, but I fancy you would not find that so serious a drawback as some imagine. That has been the experience in the States. We intend extending to all the neighboring towns and to Toronto as speedity as possible, and it looks as if the Bell Co's application for the Lindsay franchise was intended to block our lirst move which naturally enough is in the direction of Lindsasy, our sister town. Mayor Sootheran - "No, you're vited the Beil Co. to make an offer, and that was before we had heard anything about the Machine Co." Ald. O'Rielly-"Do you give Peter-

McKay-"No, only the benefits of competitior. The town got an offer

as valuable as competition." Mr Robert Neilr when invited to speak, said he could afford to be ered the ground well. He failed to secept a good thing. His company was in position to give a batter system that the Bell Co. had or could supply, and they were willing to be bound by any regulations imposed on that company-if they made the Bell put all wires unde ground they question-they certainly had enough horrible objects in the way of poles Ald. McWatters-"To my mind the

important point is the expense of Mr. Neill-"The concensus of the

Ald. O Rieliy-"We have an example of that in the G.T.R. flyer." Ald Ciunamon-"Should not the question of revenue be discuss-



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ed? We should consider the inter ests of the man who does not use

Ald. O'Rielly-"The moment you bring in opposition you increase the town's revenue by the taxes on the new plant, and in other ways," Mr. McKay-"There is another point. You have only 47 phones in your residences-if you ant taxes, put it on in some other was than a franchise payment, which would shut out cur company, who are anxious to put a phore in as many homes as pos-

Mayor Sootheran-"What guarantee can you give us that you w come here? Mr. Neili-"What is the Bell Co.

fering you?" Mayor Soothcran-"\$200 a year for five years." Mr. Neill-"Well, we'll put up

guarantee of \$200 that we will fulfil our contract with the town with in the year, and forfeit it if we do Ald. Cinnamon-'What would your

Lindsay system cost? Mr. McKay-"It is difficult to say off hand-perhaps \$25,000 or \$30,-

Ald. Cinnamon-"Then the revenue derived from taxes on your plant would effect our loss if we do not close with the Bell Co. offer." Mayor Sootheran-"We don't for the guarantee with the object making money-it is in order that

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS. Aid. O'Rielly, then read the following motion, which was seconded by

"That the town of Liedsay grant to the Canadian Machine Telephone Co. a franchise to use the streets of Lindsay on which to place their eystem, Kent-st. to be wired underground, and the company to put up a deposit of \$200 as a guarantee to have their system in working order within one year; the price to be charged for telephones not to exceed \$30 for a business and private house telephone, or \$15 for house phone." Mayor Sootheran-"I think it think it would be better to take a little more time; it may be recessary to cali a public meeting or

send out a list of questions." Ald O'Lielly-"We're here to do the people's business and I'm prepared to vote. The people wouldn't attend a public meeting, but have been expressing their opinions pretty freely. Let us bring this matter to a head row-the motion will have to come before Council at the next meeting for ratification, and lots of time is thu left for consideration." Ald. Cinnamon-"The Machine Co. should reat satisfied with a promise that we will not grant an exclusive tranchise to any company." Ald. O'Rielly-"They haven't that promise. My motion means progress

ing f'ee" plan in the gas negotiations." Mayor Sootheran-"The matter won't suffer if it is held over." Ald. Cinnamon-"I won't vote for an exclusive franchise to any com-Pobinson-"l'il support the

-we have an example of the "hang-

motion. We can do as we like with it in Conneil." Ald. Ci namon-"An amount was ment'ored as the Beil offer for the franchise. I'm not sure that that is the right figure-the company may do hettar."

Mr. McKay -"Don't use us to batter the Bell Co. up or down. I see by the report of the meeting at which he franchise was considered thaat the Bell man declared he had given you his best offer, \$200, and they should be judged by that. You should not use that means of throw-

Mayor Sootheran-"Mr. Scott went to Montreal to see if he could secure better terms, and has returned with some sort of an offer. That was under way before you came." Mr. Norll-"We are willing to give you our cheque, and it seems to me that Ald. O'Rielly's motion is a reasonable one, being merely an expression of opinion. If you don't wish cent stamps for the paper-covered book, to deal with us till the end of twelve or 50 stamps for the cloth-bound. Admonths, all right-we'll come back dress Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. V. then but we don't want you to give

an exclusive franchise to another Ald. Cimnamon-"I don't approve of the beating down principle, but think we should not act hurriedly. Mr. Scott has been to Montreal since he made the \$200 offer and I know he can do better now.' Ald. Robinson-"Mr.

clased to us that \$200 a year was

the very best he could do." Mr. Neill (to Ald. Cinnamon-"It a better offer from the Bell Co., then I want to stop out. We are willing to put up a cheque for the amount offered by the Bell Co., and that s ould be sufficient for fair men. Ald O Rielly (glancing at the minute book,-"Ald. Cipnamon has been making broadsides, M. Scott has been in town all day; if he has been to Montreal then the offe, he clusive fra chise was dealt with at one meeting, and a motion approving of the offer was passed after Mr. In any shape you like one cannot but Scott had distinctly and repeatedly come to one of two conclusions-eithesser od that his Company could do | er the man set out with the deliberfashion are objecting to a resolution which does not bind us to anything." At this juncture Ald. McCrea found fault with Ald. O'Rielly for not addresswing his remarks to the chair-

Aid. Robinson-"He's talking

right." Ald. O Rielly-"With all that im-Cinpanion was so anxious to away that he was ficgeting in his seat. If Mr. Scott went back to Montreal after making that offer he did so, not by the request of Louncil, but of some of the aldermen. I'm not in ir Courcil for two months, and need | breath his nibsy shatters our belief. not be passed then. For Ald. Cinramor's benefit I may sa that under no consideration will I support an exclusive franchise to any loiephone company."

Some crox firing then took place between the two aidermen named respecting the use of opinions expressed in private, the meaning of which was unintelligible to the majority of the listener i. Ald. Cincamon wound up by declaring that he had had rothing to do with the resolution to when they come out here. They meet give the Beil Co. a franchise

pext day I consuited the records to can't work them as clay they immedsee what had been done. that Manager Dyke's request to open up the streets (the business for which the meeting had been called) had been shelved, and the franchise question taken up without authority." Mayor Spotheran-"You know well,

Ald. O'Rielly, that it was the intention to refer the resolution to Council for discussion. If we had then known of the Machine Co's existence we would have been the more inclined to do so. Mr. M Kay-"I see by the new spa-

per report of the meeting that Ald. Cinnamon in particular tried to induce Mr. Scott to offer better tenms, but he declared he could not. We would like the resolution to pass as an exp. s.ion of opinion on the exclusive franchise question." A vote was then taken on the re-

solution, which was acgotived on on the following show of hands: Yeas, Alderme" Storer, O'Rielly, Robinson McWatters; nays, Aidermen Maurder Cinnamon, Sootheran and

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WEEKLY POST LETTER BOX

WAS DUNDONALD FULL?

To the Editor of the Post.) Sir,-We seem to be getting a surfeit of Dundonald just now, and as is usual, our friends the enemy, but stead of being Canadians and sticking up for Canadian rights, are seeking to make it a party matter. It seems to me, Mr. Editor, that as long as we look on these sort of things from a party standpoint, so long will we be looked down on, and be treated as this man Dundonald sought to treat us, for a man of this calibres soon finds out that if he goes contrary to one party, no matter how much in to "skir." us. That offer for an ex-Looking at that Montreal speech

no better because it had to treat all ate intention of insulting the powtowns slike. To-night we find that ers that be, and through them our the members who were anxious to country, or he has partaken foo close that agreement in hurried freely of the flowing bowl and opened his mouth wider than he knew he was doing. I am very much inclined to the latter opinion. I think it is Shakespeare or Paul, or someone who evidently knaw whereo, he spoke, who said, speaking of the tongue, "Behold show great a matterfa little fire kindleth," and again, "Greater is he that portant business under way, Ald. | bridleth his tongue than he that taketh a city." So that Dundonald, if he did take Ladysmith, don't amount to very much after all, judged by that standard. Look at the speech again-see how he seeks to squelch our aristocracy. Here ove a resolution that does not commit have been living in a fools' paradise. us to any uing than he was the other | We living here in the back townships night to pass an agreement banding have been flattering ourselves that if the town to chut out all opposition. | we did not have culture, we had lots My motion need not be put to a vot; of it at Ottawa, and now in one He speaks very sl'ghtingly of "eti-

his two years residence there, and of being unable to find any there Where aid he miss it? Was it when he called up Farmer Fisher over the phone and told him to virtually mind his own busine-s? Did he expect the farmer to crawl? As a rule farmers dont crawl in this country, and that is what riles these blooming dudes a regiment of farmers and expect Ald. O Richly-"a was absent from them to be as putty in their hands, that meeting owing to Hiness, and and when they find out that they liately conclude that the country is going to the "demnition bow-wows," One would expect at least gentlemanly treatment from them-they profess to come from that stock-but I think any unbiassed person reading that speech could not but come to the conclusion that it was a sample of unadulterated insolence and impudence worthy of a gutter-snipe. And his defenders-save the mark! Sam Hughes of all men! But enough for the present-more of him anon .-

quette" and sarcastically, refers to

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Pilkie-Walters.

A pretty house wedding took moved entirely; bones are spliced; dout-st., when his daughter, Miss Beatrice Walters, was married to Mr. Albert Pilkie, of Kentville, Nova Scotia. Rev. Mr. Marsh performed the ceremony, assisted by Rev. Mr. Hallam. The house was prettily decorated with flowers and palms.

The bride wore her travelling gown of navy blue broadcleth and becoming hat of blue, with touch of green. Her | with yok; and bortha of lace, and shower boquet was of white roses and carried a boquet of pink roses. Mr. smilax. Owing to the illness of her T. W. Greez, of two vectoria Long & father the bride was given away by Savings Company, Linesay, act d as her brother, Dr. Fred Walters, only best man in his usual efficient manthe immediate relatives being pre- ner. sent. The bride was unattended, as The presents to the bride were the family have been in recent many and bautiful, coming from

ening train for Toronto. The bride the immediate vicinity of the bride's was the recipient of many handsome home. The groom's present to the gifts, among them being a silver can- bride was a magnificent sunburst of delabra from the teachers and the in- paris and gold reck chain; to the fant class of St. Paul's Sunday bridesmaid, a pearl crescent, and a School, with whom she has been ider- poarl pin of Fleur-le-lis and clover tiffed for many years. Miss Ethel Walters, sister of the groomsman a beautiful pearl scari-

bride, wore a b'ack basket cloth gow, a pin. The father's present to the over taffeta. Mrs. P. G. Pilkie, bride was a handsome cheque from mother of the groom, wore a hand, the choir of the Methodist church, of some black silk granadine over burnt | which she was a member she received orange, with black hat with plames. a magafficent piece of silverware, The wedding march was played by Miss Bessie Pilkie, in a dainty white of sliver knives and forks. gown. Mrs. Devitt, of Bowmanville, Miss Laura Bullis, of the Moulton sister of the bride, wore a becoming Ladies' Conlege, Toronto, presided at gown of black silk with black picture the piano.

Blackwell-Wiltse.

A vary pretty and fashionable home wedding was celebrated on Wednesday June 15, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Inwin Wiltso, Athons, being the occasion of the marriage of Brockville and left by Grand Trunk their second daughter, Cora C ... Mr. George F. Blackwell, formerly Louis Exposition Mr. and Mrs. Science Master of the Athens High Blackwell will reside in Lindsay on School, how Inspector for the Manu- their return, at their Kent-st. resifacturers' Life Ins. Company Toronto. The oeremony was pervorite Prescription. I soon realised that I had found the right remedy. It helped nature formed by the Rev. William E. Reynolds, pastor of the Methodist

motifs of chiffon and tudor ruching, her head costame being a tulle veil our derivery while the roads cloth and hat to match. The bridesmald, Miss Maud Wiltse,

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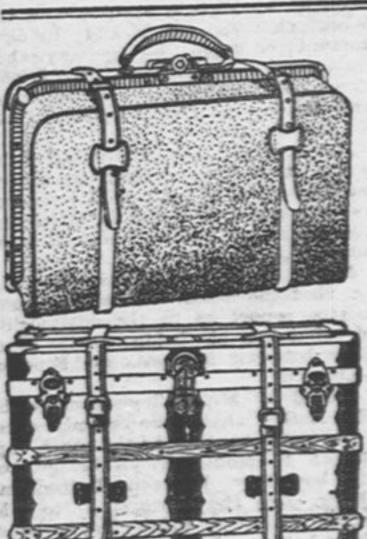
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sister of the bride, was artistically gow ed in cream dotted ba ket clota,

friends and relatives in Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. Pilkie left on the ev- Lindsay and a so from localities in leaf to the bride's sisters and to the the groomsman's present being a set

> The floral decorations throughout were comprised of lillies of the vulley, ferns and sweet peas, artistically arranged by the lady friends attend-

ant on the bride. Immediately after the peremony all partook of evening dinner, after after which the happy couple drove to to for Toronto, Nisgara, and the St.

Hard Coal.

Notwithstanding a monthly adsystem, removed all pains and strengthened the digestive organs, and brought the roses of the digestive organs. for the ceremony, the charming cided to make no change in the prebride, learing on the arm of her sent price of \$7.00 a ton for all coal father, entered the room, beautifully delivered between now and the first gowned in white silk trimmed with day of September, and thus facilitate and orange blossoms, and carrying a good and the coal procurable. We beautiful shower boquet of white will be pleased to have your orders, roses interspersed with ferns. Her left either at the store or at our travelling gown was blue costume Coal Office, just east of the post-of-

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