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PUBLIC OWNERSHIP CRITICIZED.

legislature it was announced that the government telephone system had been a failure, and Sir R. Roblin bit terly acknowledged the fact. He did not, or would not, admit that public ownership had been given a blow un necessarily, that the work of the commission had been a disappointment because its members were grossly and wickedly extravagant. But that the finding of a special commission, appointed in deference to public opin ion, and its finding has been generally

The commissioners—the men whose mismanagement brought the telephone They did so reluctantly. They were forced to retire from a position they The record of the special investiga tors is to the effect that the telephone I is that they are partizans of all cerlines were well built, that the sta- ain tribe or type.

At the last session of the Manitoba I tions were well equipped, but that the ystem generally had been extravaantly managed. There has not been ested, and without any increase of electrician. ates. Some of the exposures of the

Manitoba's experience should b ery helpful to the other provinces. t shows that public ownership is a me into disrupture-have resigned | cight, but political management is the wrong. A business that requires exact and technical management can had not fitly and satisfactorily filled ot be made to pay when put in the ands of men whose only qualification

pecial examiners are bitterly damag-

VALUE OF CHEAP POWER.

with the Hydro-Electric Commission ommittee and by a deputation of tric works, and discontinued the op o use plenty of light. One St eration of them in order to take pow | I homas man said he had to incur

it. The power generated at Niagars away from the maximum tariff, and Falls was unlimited in its supply. It unless there was some adjustment of was wasted until the power companies rates he would go back to the use -the Ontario and Electric Develop gas. Others were like-minded; ment on the Canadian side harnessed they had spent large sums in electric it to some extent, and the cost of was represented as very low.

to the distance of delivery from the company, and it is hoped that the

St. Thomas has had its experience, nent which was made before a civic and it is assumed that one can quote business men. In London a flat rate it without being charged with knock a sallowed to the merchants of four ing at enterprise. St. Thomas is one and a half cents per kilo-watt, and of the places which had its own elec there was some inducement, therefore, er from the commission and distribute lill of \$20 per month in order to ge

controlling thousands of horse-power | There may be some lesson in all this for our committee on power. It wi The cost of transmission, however, be considering presently the report of was another matter, and it is this an expert on the offers of the Hydro-For Summer Wear item that loads the service according Electric Commission and Seymour Navy Blue Suits, extra good, equal generating plant. St. Thomas had, cision, when reached, will be found from its old plant, run by steam, f satisfactory. Let there be no abangiven power at 10c. per kilo-watt, and donmment of the civic plant without this is a lower rate than the power is good reason, and the strongest ev said to be furnished by the commis- dence that action, whatever it is, wil

MR. KELSCH'S SURPRISING REPORT.

pared remedy of proven worth. The the Whig questions the conclusions will repay perusal.

result from their use is quick and which have been reached, for it as- What is of special moment is the 63 BROCK ST. to crowing louder as he goes along, ized-for the present. Looking at the for which the the street railway nor Only 45c per pound. For chewing and situation as it now appears the re- pays about \$3,500 a year, would, ungested great possibilities, as cheap \$10,000. power is the matchless consideration It is gratifying that the expert does

> electric enterprise has made an empha- densers, etc., and the comparison to Mr. Kelsch, canot be delivered from plant. long-distance transmission lines, for The duty of the power committee, point will be surprising to some peo- is to accept the estimates of Mr ple; it will be more surprising that Kelsch, as to the cost of new m Mr. Kelsch has been able to consider chinery, in view of Mr. Folger's dethe offer of the commission in only a claration that it is an absolute nece favourable, in that the price is fixed, the earliest opportunity. There can and yet Mr. Kelsch says power, taken no good purpose served in delaying satisfactorily. The price could not be action now that the power question

The Whig confesses to a distinct dis-1 station, the transmission lines and appointment with the report of Mr. the necessary machinery, have to be Kelsch, the expert whom the city en- increased. His process of figuring this gaged to pass professionally upon the out, as detailed in the report in the power offers it had received. Not that news columns, is very interesting and

sumes that they cannot be successfully statement that the pumping of waattacked, but that the hope of the ter for general use cannot be approv city for cheap power is not to be real- ed, for many reasons, and the power gret is that the offers were not soon- der the Seymour offer, plus capital er dealt with technically. They look- expenditure and expenses already reed inviting to the layman. They sug- ferred to, cost between \$8,000 and

Anyone having Furniture. Stoves, Clothes, Boots to Sell drop a card be-with all manufacturers, and they were disposing of to to Grain Street, Opposite Craig's Wholesale.

Dower is the matchless consideration of the gratifying that the expert does not content himself with a general disapproval of the power offers. He submits estimates of the cost of accept Until the offers were examined by an ing the Hydro-Electric Commission's expert it was not possible, however, proposal, as he understands it, the to pass upon their merits; and it is a cost of the Seymour offer, and the relief that at last a disinterested per- cost of improving the city's present son-disinterested in the sense that he steam plant by the addition of ne has no connection with any hydro- boilers, a new engine, generators, con tic pronouncement. Power, according unmistakably in favour of the steam

local distribution, at a profit. That under the circumstances, is clear. It less. The Seymour offer is more of the whole matter to the people at 79 Princess St. reduced; on the contrary, the rates has been robbed of all its mystery and would, in view of the cost of the sub- is fully understood.

EDITORIAL NOTES

that they pay for.

Austin Chamberlain is paying his repects to the Canadian ministers, and ndulging in a lot of gutt. Imperialism is all right, but it is not being help

The end of the Baltimore convention which all the leaders of the democra tic pary jound of it is not sicear whother, Bryans and the New York de-

Montreal's board of control proposes | Kingston can supply power, from to divert the people who visit the its steam plant, for less than it can public parks with moving pictures, he supplied by any commission or Why not? Let the people have all company over long-distance lines. That is the surprising statement Mr. Kelsch, the expert, and it is as sumed that no one can successfully mpugn or attack his report.

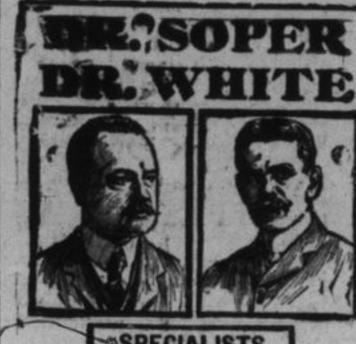
> For political effect-to implement | Multiple Batteries \$6.00 Hon. Mr. Rogers' efforts in Saskatchewan-a deputation has landed in Ottawa to talk about a terminal clevator, What a deception! There has been no appropriation for this work, and it is contrary, to the settled by Hone Mr. Foster.

Two men forced their way to 'reognition because of their ability

Ir. Mabee and Mr. Drayton. One wa selected for the chairmanship of railway commission after he had served as a judge, and the other for the same position after a long service as Toronto's city solicitor. Both were liberals who left politics aside in public office. Would that there were more of their kind.

The Kingston Milling company's offer of power 'at three-quarter of s cent per kilo-watt, for 100 horse power in summer and 400 horse power n winter, is worth considering. That is Mr. Kelsch's opinion. He does not see much advantage in it, but he does not suggest that it should be turned

A little bird whispered to the Whig proper method of accounting, and a long time since that if the city's a that respect it is difficult, if not steam plant were braced up, and supoppossible, to say what the success of plied with certain new machinery, he business had been. But with eco- taking the place of machinery now comy, with the purchase of plant and worn out, it could supply power supplies as they are wanted, with all cheaper than any hydro-electric comvastefulness eliminated there should pany or commission. Now we have e a good return from the money in- this fact set forth by Mr. Kelsch, the



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