

Local Railway Items from Ottawa Papers - Lanark County Electric

Friday 22/01/1892 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY A scheme is talked of to build an electric railway between Perth and Lanark, outside parties to furnish capital and own the road. In this age of electricity we would not be surprised to see such a road go on.

Friday 05/02/1892 Renfrew Mercury Lanark County Electric

An electric railway is being talked of, to connect Lanark to Perth.

Friday 18/05/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY TO LANARK - Mr. James Fowler, U. S. consul at Carleton Place, was here on Monday, and informs us that a scheme was in progress for building an electric railway between Perth and Lanark. The promoters are: Messrs. John B. Riley, Plattsburg, N.Y. Alex. Wendler, Carthage, N.Y.; Thos. Henry, Montreal; A. H. Edwards, Carleton Place, and James Fowler, Carleton Place. Some of these gentlemen are very wealthy, and if they find such a road can be built to pay, and a certain amount of encouragement given the company along the line, the scheme will go on. We understand a proposition is to be submitted to the Perth Board of Trade some time soon by the promoter in connection with the enterprise. The Lanark people look very favorably on the scheme, as it would give them access to the outside world, and we are sure Perth would have no objection to see the road go on.

Thursday 25/05/1894 Brockville Recorder Lanark County Electric

Application for charter in gazette. Perth to Lanark. A preliminary survey has already been made with a view to obtaining a direct line - towns to be asked for assistance.

Similar note in Renfrew Mercury 25 May.

Friday 15/06/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC ROAD - A deputation from Carleton Place and Lanark came to town yesterday regarding assistance to the proposed electric railway between Perth and Lanark.

Friday 13/07/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY SCHEME - A meeting of the Perth Board of Trade held in the town council chamber on Tuesday evening, Wm. Meighen, president, in the chair. The object of the meeting was to consider the scheme of Mr. Fowler of Carleton Place, and company, to build an electric railway between Perth and Lanark. After some discussion the feeling of the majority of the Board appeared favorable to granting the bonus asked, but on condition that the tolls on the road between this and Lanark be done away with, and a resolution was passed to that effect.

Friday 03/08/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

1894-08-03

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY - A public meeting called by the mayor was held on Wednesday evening to discuss the advisability of granting a bonus to an electric railway from Perth to Lanark. There was a good attendance, but everyone seemingly went there for information on the subject, while very few had given the matter sufficient consideration for decisive action. Mr. Fowler was there in the interest of the company, and laid the scheme before the meeting. Two routes were proposed - one along the toll-road, and the other between lots 5 and 6, Drummond, by Steacy's, or what is known as the swamp road. The latter route was looked upon with decided disfavor, while the former, providing it embraced the abolition of the toll-gates, was more open for discussion. Several spoke of giving \$5,000 bonus to the electric road along the toll-road; others thought if the toll-gates were bought up and the road made a free one, we would receive all the benefits of the trade north of us; while others were of the opinion that the electric road would be a positive injury to the town. The matter was pretty fully discussed, and has set the ratepayers thinking. It was thought better to leave the matter in that shape for the present. Another meeting will be called very soon, when the scheme will be thoroughly considered by everybody, and action will be taken to test the feeling of the people before a by-law is submitted. One thing certain - unless the toll-road is made free as part of the scheme, a bonus to the electric railway will be snowed under by the freehold vote of the town.

Saturday 04/08/1894 Ottawa Free Press Lanark County Electric

A public meeting called by the mayor was held on Wednesday evening at Perth to discuss the advisability of granting a bonus to an electric railway from Perth to Lanark. Two routes were proposed - one along the toll-road, and the other between lots 5 and 6 Drummond, by Steacy's or what is known as the swamp road. The latter route was looked upon with decided disfavor, while the former provided it embraced the abolition of the toll gates, was more open for discussion. Several spoke in favor of giving \$5,000 bonus to the electric road along the toll road. The matter was pretty fully discussed, and has set the ratepayers thinking. It was thought better to leave the matter in that shape for the present. Another meeting will be called very soon.

Friday 17/08/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY MEETING - A good number of ratepayers attended a public meeting in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, called by the Mayor, to discuss the question of an electric railway to Lanark Village, Mr. Duncan Kippen, mayor, in the chair. Messrs. Fowler, of Carleton Place, and Riley, of Plattsburg, N.Y., U.S. Consul General for Ottawa, promoters of the road, were present as well, and the latter, being invited, entered into some explanations of the scheme, and of the probable benefits not only to the two terminal points, but also to the farmers along it, who would be afforded a cheap and quick mode of transit to the market towns. Though not wishing to be down to any particular route, Mr. Riley thought the company would seek to make arrangements to run the line from Perth to Balderson along the present macadamized road between the telegraph poles and the fence. This would not interfere with the wagon road, while the fears that horses would be frightened by the trolley cars were groundless. They were not in other places, as there was no puffing or smoke from an electric car, and but little noise. He thought Perth needed something to give it a start again, just like Plattsburg did ten years ago before it went into certain expenditures and public enterprises to keep it moving. The fare between Perth and Lanark would be very low, sufficiently so as not only to encourage but create travel and traffic. There was some speaking from local people, some on behalf of the macadamized road company, others of the town wholly, and some for ward interests. In the end the following resolution was put and carried by a large majority: - Moved by Mr. F. A. Hall, seconded by Mr. John McCann, "That in the opinion of this meeting it is advisable to submit a By Law to the ratepayers of Perth to raise the sum of \$5,000 as a bonus to the Lanark County Electric Railway Company, such bonus to be paid when the road is completed, and cars running thereon from Perth to Lanark. Rates of fares and the details to be agreed upon between the Railway Company and the Town Council, one of such conditions to be that the tolls on the road between Perth and Balderson be abolished and the public travelled road made free of tolls."

Friday 21/09/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

(two items)

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY - The Drummond Council have consented to allow the proposed electric railway between Lanark and Perth, the use for right of way of the allowance for road between lots 5 and 6 through the township.

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY - Mr. Fowler, of Carleton Place, was in town between trains on Wednesday to find out what the people were going to do about the electric railway to Lanark. Public opinion, however, had not travelled very fast on the question, but put a by law before the people and there would soon be an awakening and a full ventilation of the subject. It must be confessed there is nothing in the resolution passed by the Board of Trade recommending that the road between here and Balderson be made free of tolls. The grant is too small to ensure both the and free roads. If there is anything to us in the railway, the question will have to be dealt with differently.

Friday 12/10/1894 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY TALK - Mr. Riley, U.S. consul, Ottawa, and Mr. Fowler, U.S. consul, Carleton Place, arrived in town, and met the Board of Trade in the Council Chamber in reference to the electric railway to Lanark. The visitors did not seem to think \$5,000 enough for Perth to contribute, but they found the feeling of the Board adverse to granting any more. Mr. Riley thought Perth should give \$10,000 but they would consider a bonus of \$5,000, without conditions imposed connected with the abolition of tolls. They offered to pay the expenses of submitting a by-law to the ratepayers, providing the by-law were carried and they should afterwards back out of the arrangement, so that the town would incur no expense if the road did not go on. Nothing has been done since. We think something definite should be settled on at once.

Friday 27/12/1895 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY - The electric railway project to run a line of that description between Lanark and Perth is not dead yet. The Lanark Village Council has agreed to submit a by-law to the ratepayers granting a bonus to the road. The company has agreed to all the conditions required by the council. The last being that a forfeit of \$500 per annum for ten years would be due and payable if the company failed to run their trains after receiving the bonus. The by-law is being published and will be voted on in due course thereafter. The company has made a deposit of seventy-five dollars with the village clerk to cover the cost of submitting the by-law.

Friday 21/02/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY - We understand the promoters of the proposed electric railway between Perth and Lanark intend asking Town Council to submit a by-law to aid the road to the extent of \$5,000. Some correspondence has already passed

Friday 15/05/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

The Perth and Lanark Electric Railway

The Bonus By-Law Carried by 139 Majority

On Tuesday morning the fate of the by-law to grant the \$5000 asked from the town to the electric railway enterprise between here and Lanark, was a matter of pure conjecture. A good deal of writing, pro and con, had been done in the press, but no canvass of the people had been made by either the friends or the opponents of the by-law, so that no one could give a forecast of the result. All was uncertainty, and to a great extent there seemed to be an indifference as to the issue. Certainly there was no excitement, and but little enthusiasm except among very few.

On Tuesday morning, however, the leading supporters of the by-law went quietly but energetically to work, and proceeded to get the vote out. Without having much of an idea how the voters here and there and all over town felt about the matter, it was taken for granted that people generally favored the bonus and this supposition was correct. Though somewhat indifferent, the vote was got out and by five o'clock a pretty representative vote was known to have been polled. The opposition to the bonus let the matter drift along pretty much all through, and did very little work to defeat it.

The returns, as they came in after the count-up when the poll closed, were encouraging to the sympathizers with the by-law from the start, as good majorities showed themselves from one polling division after another. The East Ward gave two big majorities; so did the West, but the Centre was weaker. The vote all over stood as follows: -

East Ward - Court House 51 for 19 against

Engine House 47 for 10 against

Centre Ward - Fire Hall 15 for 7 against

Town Hall 20 for 14 against

West Ward - Music Hall 49 for 14 against

Allan's Store 51 for 23 against

Total 224 for 87 against

Majority for, 137

The bylaw being carried, it remains for the company to go to work and do their part. We do not know that things are in a very forward way with them; and there is not a very great deal of time to get things into shape for an undertaking of so much relative magnitude; but the money from Lanark and Perth will be there for them when the conditions are fulfilled, and if they do not proceed neither place can lose anything beyond the prospective benefits. However, we must hope the work will go on and the road be running by the 1st of September.

Friday 29/05/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

PERTH TOWN COUNCIL - The council met on Tuesday evening. Present: Mr. J. M. Rogers, Mayor; and Councilors Allan, H. M. Shaw, Butler, Kippen, Grant, Little and A. C. Shaw.

Certificate from John A. Kerr, town clerk, stating that the by-law granting a bonus of \$5,000 to aid the construction of the Perth and Lanark Electric Railway, submitted on the 8th May, was carried by a majority of 137, the vote standing 224 for and 87 against; that the votes required for the passage of the by-law 176, being one-third of the names on the voters' list.

Friday 05/06/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY The scheme for constructing the electric railway between here and Lanark seems to have fallen dead, so far as any one here knows or can tell. For a railway that is bound to be constructed and running by the first of September, there is certainly a faraway look about it; and to afford some sort of satisfaction to the people of Lanark and Perth who have voted bonuses to it, the projectors ought to enlighten them on the subject if there is anything good to be told.

Friday 03/07/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

TWO DEAD SCHEMES As far as we can learn there is no life in either the Perth and Lanark Electric Railway scheme or in the Perth Waterworks project. The latter may be resurrected after a bit.

Friday 17/07/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

MORE TIME WANTED. The projectors of the Perth and Lanark Electric Railway have asked the town council to extend the time for the beginning and completion of the road. If the company would show any tangible signs of getting ready for the work, the request might be granted, but lightest kind of wind will accomplish nothing.

Friday 24/07/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY The Perth and Lanark Electric railway scheme dies hard, and it is possible it may yet get a new lease of life. Mr. Fowler, the best-known promoter, has been seen, and says the directors intend going ahead with the road, and will buy the necessary ties and material for building this winter, and build the piers for the bridge across the Mississippi before spring. The delay was caused by the failure to get a charter. It was the intention to get a charter under the ordinary road companies act, but on examining this it was found that electric railways could not go out of a town beyond three miles, and of course it was useless in this case. They now intend to get a special charter from the Ontario Government, and as this is only a matter of routine it can be obtained without difficulty. They propose following the macadamized road as far as the Balderson turn, then keeping straight on will cross the Mississippi and follow a course nearly straight to Lanark village. He says the money has been secured, and that Bate, the wealthy Brockville brewer, has taken a financial interest in it. The company has asked the Councils of Perth and Lanark to extend the operation of the by-laws granting bonuses, under the circumstances.

Friday 31/07/1896 Renfrew Mercury Lanark County Electric

The Perth and Lanark Electric Railway scheme dies hard, and it is possible it may yet get a new lease of life. The delay has been caused by the failure to get a charter: and a special charter will be applied for.

Friday 14/08/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

PERTH TOWN COUNCIL The Council met on Monday evening. Present: - Mr. J. M. Rogers, Mayor; Councilors Allan, H. M. Shaw, Consitt, Butler, Klppen, Little, Burris, A. C. Shaw and Dr. Grant.

Moved by A. C. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Burris, that the request of the Lanark County Electric R. R. to extend the bonus by-law for one year be granted, provided that the said company furnish a guarantee to the satisfaction of this council of the bona fides of the said company in carrying on the work.

There was a good deal of discussion on the motion, without there being any great difference of opinion. All expressed themselves as having no great faith in the scheme or its promoters, but some thought it should get one more chance.

Mr. Shaw said the by-law had been carried by a large majority, and it would be no sacrifice to the town to have the time extended. But he was somewhat disgusted with the way the scheme had been handled so far.

Dr. Grant spoke similarly. It would be a pity after all the trouble gone to, to let it drop without giving the promoters one more chance.

Mr. Kippen explained at some length the substance of a conversation had some time ago with Mr. Fowler, who informed him the change in the law regarding a charter was the cause of the delay in procuring a charter and in beginning the road. The money was all available for building it.

Mr. Allan suggested a middle course, under the circumstances. The Council might extend the time till October, and by that time get some guarantee from the company for a further extension.

The Mayor said no doubt the people had passed the by-law by a large majority, but there were some now opposed to it who supported it on voting day. He thought if the town undertook to construct waterworks this bonus debt for the railway would interfere with selling the debentures for the best figure.

The motion was carried on a division.

The Council then adjourned.

Friday 23/10/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE PERTH-LANARK RAILWAY Mr. Fowler, promoter of the Perth & Lanark Electric Railway, and his brother, who is a surveyor, were in Lanark on Monday taking steps to make a preliminary survey of the line of road between the two points. Mr. Alfred Morris, C. E., of Perth, will assist in the survey. Two trial routes will be run, one by the road back of Balderson between lots No. 5 and 6 Drummond, and the other down the Clyde and across the Mississippi at the town line. Mr. Fowler talks of contracting for the ties, so they can be got out this winter.

Friday 30/10/1896 Renfrew Mercury Lanark County Electric

Messrs. James Fowler, of Arnprior and Mr. W.J. Fowler, of Boston, two of the leading promoters of the Lanark Electric Railway, were in town on Monday afternoon, and state that the prospects for a railway are now very encouraging. The ties, poles and other necessary timbers will be prepared during the winter. Mr. W.J. Fowler is spending a few days here locating the lines. - Lanark Era.

Friday 11/12/1896 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY Mr. Fowler, of Arnprior, representative of the Perth & Lanark Electric Railway scheme, was in town on Monday, and in company with Mr. R. J. Drummond, of the Bank of Montreal, and Mr. J. G. Campbell proceeded to the Bathurst town hall where a meeting of the Council was to be held that day. When there they submitted to the Council a request for the use of the Bathurst side of the town-line from the toll gate at Perth to the shore of the Mississippi River, to be used as a right-of-way for the proposed electric road to Lanark, the idea being to run at the side of the stone road, cross the river at the town line, and reach Lanark by the winter road, or nearly on that route. The Council took their request into consideration, but as the present Council was near its end, they concluded to leave the settlement of the matter to the new council, which would be organized and meet in January. It is claimed that the Bathurst and Drummond Councils have power to grant the privilege asked for, so long as the roadway is not interfered with or the grant is not conceded for a wagon road. Mr. Fowler was also negotiating with parties for getting out ties for the road.

Friday 15/01/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY Mr. W. C. Caldwell, of Lanark, and others, appeared before the Bathurst Council on Monday in behalf of a long petition from townships ratepayers asking the use of the Bathurst side of the town-line between Perth and Balderson for the right of way for the Electric railway. The Council reserved action.

Friday 05/03/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

LANARK CO. ELECTRIC R.R. We have received from Col. Matheson, M.P.P., a copy of the bill incorporating the Lanark County Electric Railway Company, the promoters being Alex. H. Edwards, of Carleton Place; John B. Riley of Plattsburg, N.Y.; Thomas Hendry, of Montreal; James Fowler, Arnprior; Geo. A. Fowler and John A. Houston, of Ottawa. The bill provides for the construction of an electric railway between Perth and Lanark, with power to extend to Oliver's Ferry or Smith's Falls, on the south, and Almonte or Carleton Place, on the north. Dr. Preston, M.P.P., has the bill in charge.

Friday 12/03/1897 Brockville Recorder Lanark County Electric

The promoters of the Lanark County Electric Railway are Alexandria H. Edwards of Carleton Place; John B. Riley of Plattsburg, N.Y.; Thomas Hendry of Montreal; James Fowler of Arnprior; Geo. A. Fowler and John A. Houston of Ottawa. The bill provides for the construction of an electric railway between Perth and Lanark with powers to extend to Oliver's Ferry or Smiths Falls, on the south and Almonte or Carleton Place on the south (sic) Mr. Geo. Fowler was a one time resident of Brockville.

Friday 19/03/1897 Renfrew Mercury Lanark County Electric

Dr. Preston, M.P.P., has charge of a bill in the local legislature incorporating the Lanark Co. Electric Railway Company, the promoters being Alexandria. K. Edwards, of Carleton Place; John B. Riley, of Plattsburg, N.Y.; Thos. Hendry, of Montreal; James Fowler, Arnprior and John A. Houston of Ottawa. The bill provides for the construction of an electric railway between Perth and Lanark, with power to extend to Oliver's Ferry or Smith's Falls on the south and Almonte or Carleton Place on the north.

Friday 09/04/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY The bill to grant a charter to the Perth and Lanark Electric Railway Company came before the railway committee of the Legislature at Toronto on Saturday, and when it appeared it was found that it contained a clause keeping alive the bonus granted by the Perth corporation, though the time ensuring the validity had expired long ago. Col. Matheson, in the morning telegraphed Mr. J. A. Allan, Mayor, stating the purport of this clause, and asking if it would not be better to change it by providing that the by-law only be renewed by a fresh vote of the ratepayers. The Mayor wired back his assent to this at once, and either to have this confirmed or some other decision given, the Mayor saw a majority of the members of Council, and most of these endorsed his action. In the afternoon, another telegram came from Col. Matheson stating that the clause objected to had been struck out, and the alternative one substituted of a fresh submission of the bonus by-law to the ratepayers.

Friday 16/04/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY Mr. James Fowler, promoter of the Lanark and Perth Electric Railway, was in Perth and Smith's Falls on Tuesday in the interest of the road. He was arranging a meeting of the businessmen of Smith's Falls with a view of interesting the people there in the road, the scheme now being to run it from Lanark and Perth to Oliver's Ferry and Smith's Falls. Mr. Fowler says the company intend pushing the scheme through.

Friday 04/06/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

(2 items)

PERTH TOWN COUNCIL Council met on Monday evening.

Present : Mr. J. A. Allan, Mayor ; Councilors Consitt, Stewart, H. M. Shaw, Hope, Little, Burris, A. C. Shaw and Deacon.

On motion of Messrs. A. C. Shaw and Burris, the by-law to grant a bonus to the Lanark County Electric Railway Company was read a first time, the 33rd and 36th rules of Council being suspended for that purpose.

The by-law was read a first time, and appears in our advertising columns of this issue.

Moved by the same that the by-law be read a second time short.

Mr. Hope wanted to know if it was the intention of the road to carry cattle through our main streets ; also if the deposit money was to be refunded if the by-law did not pass. He said it was no fault of the town that the by-law had to be voted upon again.

The Mayor said the deposit was made on the same conditions as the former one: to be forfeited if the by-law carried and the road did not go on, or to be returned if the by-law was defeated or the road went on.

Mr. Code said it proved a nuisance in some towns when cattle cars were allowed to be run on the main streets. There should be a switch off to the station.

Notice:

BY-LAW No.

By-Law to aid and assist the Lanark County Electric Railway to build and operate a line of Railway from Perth to Lanark by a grant of a bonus of Five Thousand Dollars, and to authorize the levying of a special rate therefor.

Passed the day of 1897.

[full text followed]

Friday 11/06/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE BY-LAWS Voting on the Lanark County Electric Railway by-law will take place on Saturday, 26th of June, and on the sewerage by-law on Tuesday, 6th of July. The voters should keep both these dates in view.

Friday 02/07/1897 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY BYLAW LOST - The polling on Saturday on the bylaw to grant a bonus of \$5,000 to the electric railway proposed to be run between Perth and Lanark was attended with but little excitement. A fairly large freehold vote was polled, however, and of the two sides the anti's worked the harder. The East Ward reversed its verdict of last year, and gave a considerable majority against the bylaw, and so did the Centre Ward, but the West Ward was more friendly, which it proved by casting a small majority in favor of the scheme. There is no doubt the vote to be taken next week on the Sewerage bylaw worked against the Electric Railway bylaw. as did many other things connected with the handling of the scheme itself. The vote stood as follows :

EAST WARD	Court House	For	28	Against	64
EAST WARD	Union Engine House	For	26	Against	32
CENTRE WARD	Tay Steamer House	For	10	Against	10
CENTRE WARD	Town Hall	For	9	Against	31
WEST WARD	James Allan's store	For	41	Against	35
WEST WARD	Music Hall	For	35	Against	32

Total For 149 Against 204

Majority Against 55

Friday 09/07/1897 Renfrew Mercury Lanark County Electric Perth

By a vote of 204 to 149, Perth defeated the by-law to bonus the Lanark electric railway to the extent of \$5,000.

Monday 20/09/1897 Ottawa Citizen Lanark County Electric Lanark County Electric

It is the intention of the Lanark County Electric Railway Company to form a summer resort on the north side of the Mississippi river. They certainly could not find a more attractive or suitable site, and with good railway facilities, would be one of the most desirable in the Ottawa Valley.

Friday 21/01/1898 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

ELECTRIC RAILWAY The Perth-Lanark Electric Railway scheme shows signs of being revived. Mr. James Fowler, the promoter, was in town on Tuesday, and interviewed the Mayor about it.

Friday 15/04/1898 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

GROUND BROKEN Mr. James Fowler of Arnprior, was in town on Tuesday, and while here informed us that his errand was to formally break ground for the County of Lanark Electric Railway, the object being to save the company's charter. The feat was accomplished by Mr. James Doyle, of Perth, and the ground was broken on his farm at Armstrong's Corners. He used his road grader for the purpose, and turned up the sod for about two acres along the proposed route.

Friday 22/04/1898 Renfrew Mercury Lanark County Electric

Mr. James Fowler of Arnprior, was in Perth on Tuesday, and while here informed us that his errand was to formally break ground for the County of Lanark Electric Railway, the object being to save the company's charter. The feat was accomplished by Mr. James Doyle, of Perth, and the ground was broken on his farm at Armstrong's Corners. He used his road grader for the purpose, and turned up the sod for about two acres along the proposed route. Courier.

Friday 01/07/1898 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY It is claimed that the necessary capital has been secured to build the Lanark and Perth Electric railway.

Friday 15/07/1898 Perth Courier Lanark County Electric

3 items
PEBTH TOWN COUNCIL The Council Met on Monday evening. Present : Mr. J. A. Allan, Mayor ; Councilors Stewart, Consitt, Butler, Hope, Burns, Bennett, Balderson and A. C. Shaw.

Mr. A. C. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Balderson, that the by-law granting aid to the Lanark County Electric Railway be introduced and read a first time, and that the necessary rules be suspended for that purpose.

Mr. Shaw said Mr. Fowler, the promoter of this railway, and two others of the company, were in town that day and had a conference with the railway committee and the latter had agreed to introduce the by-law in the motion. The amount was now \$7,500, but the increase from the former \$5,000 arose from the fact that company were to run the line along the macadamized road from Perth to Balderson and the extra \$2,500 would go towards buying the right of way along that road. The company agreed also to deposit \$500 in cash to the credit of the corporation to be forfeited to the town in case if the by-law were carried the road were not built, and they also agreed to pay all the expenses of submitting the by-law whether the ratepayers carried it or not. The feeling in the town regarding this scheme has changed since it was defeated last year, and there was no doubt but that the company meant business now. The by-law was practically the same as the last one submitted except the difference in the amount of bonus.

Mr. Butler would oppose giving the by-law more than one reading to-night, as he was unacquainted with its contents.

Mr. Shaw that with the exception of one or two clauses there was no difference between this and the former by-law. The extra amount was asked because the company would have to pay for the right of way on or alongside the toll-road, and this route was chosen so that people along the line could jump on any where and come to town. There would be a station at the Scotch Line, and the changes in the clauses from last year's was due to certain restrictions In the use of streets, the details to be under the direction of the town council. The trade of the northern part of this county was drifting away to other towns and this railway should help to keep it at Perth.

Mr. Balderson said the people had a right to express themselves on this by-law, but though seconding it for this purpose, he reserved to himself the right to oppose or support it, as a citizen, as he thought fit. If by this railway they could get rid of the toll-road he would support it, but was not yet fully convinced of this result. He differed with many that the railway would be an injury to the town ; and if the company could be induced to come to terms with the macadamized road company so as to do away with the tolls, he would support the by-law heart and hand.

Mr. Hope thought the change of route from the Drummond swamps to toll-road would be beneficial to the railway company, and in getting the extra \$2,500 they could well afford to put up \$500 as a forfeit. He said that if the Lanark people thought the road was for the special benefit of Perth they would not have voted their \$10,000.

Mr. Stewart, as one who had opposed the by-law before, was disposed to support it now, for the reason that by the guarantee that it would run on or near the macadamized road it would result in the abolition of toll-gate. He saw no change in public opinion in the town regarding this road. He believed that the direct result of the railway would be to benefit Lanark at the expense of Perth ; but at the same time it would be an indirect benefit to Perth for the reason that by building it along the toll-road it would ultimately kill the tolls and benefit the town trade.

Mr. Burris had always been a supporter of the Electric road, and was now. There would be no expense in submitting it, and there was no excuse for not putting it before the people. The road must be of great benefit to Perth. Not long ago he had traveled on the Kingston & Pembroke railway, on one of its cheap excursion days, and the train was crowded, and there must have been fully \$1,000 worth of goods on the train bought at Kingston bound for the back country. Perth would benefit in the same way, as there was a provision in the by-law for a 25ct. rate both ways every Saturday ; and if our merchants could not compete with Lanark and secure the trade then the trade ought to go to Lanark.

Mr. Consitt saw no reason why the by-law should not go through to-night and let the people pass their verdict on it. As to the benefit to the town it was purely problematical, and no one could tell till time proved it whether it would be an injury or a benefit to us. At present Perth is the distributing centre for the back country, and if the Electric railway were built this would be moved twelve miles back. It might, however, be a benefit to both places. As a general thing, the more railway the greater the increase of trade generally.

Mr. Bennet thought the people themselves should have a chance to say whether the by-law should be passed or not, and he would therefore vote for placing it before them.

Mr. Butler withdrew his opposition on the guarantee that no expense whatever would be placed on the town for its advertising or submission.

The motion passed, and the by-law was read in full the first time, and the second time short.

[The by-law will be found in our advrting columns.]

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY The Lanark County Electric Railway Is again before the people of the town. and the by-law appears in this issue for the Information of the ratepayers. It Is absolutely fixed as one condition that the road is to run along the town-line toll-road and the result no doubt will be the abolition of the toll-gates between Perth and Balderson. This means a very great deal to the businessmen of Perth and consequently the whole town, and the twenty-five hundred dollars beyond the amount of bonus In the previous by-law is to help the company to pay for this. The railway should bring increased business to Perth and make our town more than now the headquarters for the trade of this section. The line is Intended to keep in the town line after leaving Balderson and cross the Mississippi at that point, then run to Lanark village with some deviations to avoid difficult places on the straight route. The voting will take place on the 5th of August.

Notice:

BY-LAW No.

By-Law to aid and assist the Lanark County Electric Railway Company to Build and operate a line of Railway from Perth to Lanark, by a grant of a bonus of Seven Thousand Five Hundred, dollars and to authorize the levying of a special rate therefor.

Passed the day of 1898.

[full text followed]

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY BY-LAW DEFEATED The by-law proposing to grant a bonus to the Lanark County Electric Railway came to a vote of the freeholders of the town on Friday last, and sustained a defeat by a narrow majority of the votes polled, and also failed to carry by a considerable shortage the necessary one-third of the full vote in the town. There was little excitement over the matter, though the liveries were all at work, mostly, though not all, in the interests of the opposition. Mr. Fowler, promoter, was active in getting out the vote in favor of the by-law, and in this he was assisted somewhat by local friends of the railway, but the enthusiasm, either for or against was not very apparent.

It is quite evident the people of the town, as a whole, are either indifferent or opposed to granting a bonus of this amount to the road. There are some who are opposed to the construction of the road at all; others who were unfriendly because the amount of bonus was raised from \$5,000 to \$7,500, and still others were opposed to granting bonuses to any project whatever. There were some who were apprehensive that their personal interests would be affected by the route being along the toll-road line, and they not unnaturally were adverse to the by-law carrying. Still there was practically a good solid half of the freehold vote who wanted the road in the interests of the town, and were willing to pay what the promoters asked as the town's share. A few public meetings held would likely have added to their number, for a large vote remained unpolled. The following is the vote by subdivisions on the question :-

EAST WARD	Court House	For	30	Against 39
EAST WARD	Engine House	For	27	Against 28
CENTRE WARD	Town Hall	For	11	Against 26
CENTRE WARD	Tay Steamer	For	8	Against 6
WEST WARD	Music Hall	For	34	Against 32
WEST WARD	Allan's store	For	42	Against 30

Total For 158 Against 161
Majority Against 3

Mr. Fowler, formerly of Carleton Place and Arnprior, once so well known as the promoter of the Perth and Lanark Electric Railway scheme, is on a directorate of capitalists at Toronto, who are promoting a million dollar company for the manufacture of beet roots sugar in Ontario.