

EDISON'S NEW CARS COST LITTLE TO RUN

**Tests of His Battery Here Show
Only 4 3-10 Mills a Mile for
Operating Expenses.**

OLD STYLE DOOMED, HE SAYS

**Sixteen Storage Battery Cars Ordered
to Supplant Those at Present in Use
—Big Saving in Conduit Charges.**

The Edison storage battery street car which was brought to this city from West Orange a month ago for tests on the Twenty-eighth Street crosstown line has completed its experimental service.

The Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Street crosstown line officials, over whose tracks the car was operated, have been convinced, and they are going to use the cars. Sixteen of the storage battery cars have been ordered upon the showing made in the preliminary tests. Besides doing what was promised for it in making a day's run on a single charge, the car surprised even its friends by the cost for a running mile it maintained. Instead of the 2 cents a mile that its inventor said it would cost and the 10 cents that skeptical observers expected, it actually registered charges of less than half a cent—of 4.3 mills, to give the exact figure—for its full three weeks of steady work.

Ralph Beach, who brought the car over from the Edison factory, was much pleased last night at the prospect of turning out the first commercial order for the new equipment.

"There is no city like New York," he said, "when it comes to taking an interest in a new idea. Bankers and business men by the score came to watch this car work. And when Mr. Edison said ten years ago that he would one day produce a storage battery that would actually do the work, they laughed at him all over the country.

"And I want to announce now that his promise stands fulfilled, and its genuineness has been demonstrated on a transportation line where congestion of traffic is at a maximum, and where the difficulties of making a good showing cannot be exceeded. And a prophecy of Mr. Edison's made last January has also been fulfilled. He told me when I came over here with this car that 'it would be accepted by the public as a fact' and the order for sixteen more of them demonstrates that beyond a doubt.

"In the three weeks the experimental car has been making its daily runs it has left the car barn at 6:30 P. M. and has stayed constantly in operation on crowded streets until 8:30 o'clock at night. It has not missed a trip in the entire period, and not a single repair has been necessary except those regularly made to any street car. Its regular daily run was 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ miles, and there was life enough left in the charge at the end of each day to run it 20 miles further if it had been desired.

"I really have been surprised myself at the low cost; nothing like it ever appeared on rails before. It consumed \$53 watt hours a mile of electrical energy, which, translated into money value, means that while making fourteen crosstown trips a day loaded with passengers it cost 4 3-10 mills a running mile—less than 30 cents for the whole day's operation.

"The ordinary street car costs 5 cents a mile for electrical energy, which is ten times what this car costs, but of course the ordinary car has a larger passenger capacity. This one was built on the horse car size for the horse car traffic, and curves."

Mr. Beach was asked where he thought the greatest saving would make itself felt if the new car should be generally adopted here. He answered that it would be in eliminating the cost of the underground conduit. "It is a well known fact in traffic circles," he said, "that maintaining the underground conduit is what eats up the dividends. I have heard that the cost of conduit maintenance is \$15,000 per mile a year.

"Under this system there would be nothing to maintain but the rails, so I would say the \$15,000 a mile could be cut to \$1,000 or less."

HIS JAUNT MAY DEPORT HIM.

**Court to Decide Whether a Brief Drive
Into Canada Is "Leaving the Country."**

Whether a brief jaunt across the border into Canada can constitute a departure from the country within the meaning of the immigration laws Judge Hand in the United States District Court has to determine. The case involved is that of Joseph V. Uberall, who at the instance of the Austrian Consul has been arrested by the immigration officials and taken to Ellis Island.

According to the Consul, Uberall served a term in Austria for getting money under false pretenses, and is an undesirable citizen, but under the laws it is impossible to deport an alien who has been in this country for three years. Uberall came to New York in 1906. He did, however, while on a business trip to Buffalo in 1909, before the three years elapsed, make a side trip into Canada, while seeing Niagara Falls. On the strength of this information the Board of Special Inquiry has ruled that he has been out of the country and comes within the three-year limit of the deportation clause. He is at present ordered excluded, Washington having upheld the local board.

At the hearing before Judge Hand, when appeal was made to the United States District Court, two carriage drivers testified that Uberall drove across the Canadian border in a carriage and quickly returned. At the close of the testimony Judge Hand said that he would take the case under advisement, as there was another case pending in the courts which would have an influence on this. Uberall meantime has been admitted to bail.

In presenting the case Uberall's lawyer asked Judge Hand whether if an alien after being here a number of years went to the Battery and took a fishing boat going out beyond the three-mile limit such an alien could be charged officially with having left the country. The Judge said that this view of the case had also appealed to him.

If the man is deported the Government will have to pay his fare across the Atlantic to the port whence he came.

AGED WOMAN HELD FOR THEFT

**Member of a Jersey Church Charged
with Shoplifting.**

An aged woman, who said she was Mrs. Jane Thomas of Perth Amboy, but refused to tell anything concerning herself or her relatives, except that she was for twenty years a member of the Methodist Church there, was taken to the Night Court yesterday by Miss Mary Kunz, a detective in a Fourteenth Street department store, charged with stealing two lace veils and two lace collars, valued at \$5.50. The detective said the articles were found in the woman's pocket when searched. Mrs. Thomas pleaded not guilty, but through her son, who refused to give his name, waived examination and was held by Magistrate Corrigan in \$500 bail for Special Sessions.

Another woman, who said she was Mrs. Eva Braun, and after pleading that her husband should not be informed of her arrest, gave her address as 319 East Fifty-eighth Street, was charged by Miss Nora Bennett, a detective in a Broadway department store, with stealing five silk vests, two shirtwaists, and a hatpin, valued at \$20.25, from the store. The articles were found upon her when she was searched, according to the detective. The woman denied this, but was held in \$500 bail for examination.

Shackleton to Lecture in Brooklyn.

Sir Ernest H. Shackleton, who lectured on his explorations into the antarctic regions in Carnegie Hall last Tuesday night, will give a second lecture here after all. On Tuesday night, April 12, he will repeat the lecture in the Brooklyn Academy of Music. He spoke last night in Portland, Me.