

March Birthdays.

Many happy returns of the day to
 P. S. Archibald, C.E., General Manager
 Elgin and Havelock Ry., at Moncton, N.B.,
 born at Truro, N.S., Mar. 21, 1848.
 C. N. Armstrong, ex-General Manager At-
 lantic and Lake Superior Ry., at Montreal,
 Que., born at Maskinonge, Que., Mar.
 19, 1850.
 Hon. A. G. Blair, ex-Chief Railway Com-
 missioner for Canada, Ottawa, born at
 Fredericton, N.B., Mar. 7, 1844.
 D. E. Brown, General Agent C.P.R. for
 China, Japan, etc., at Hong Kong, born at
 Owen Sound, Ont., Mar. 20, 1855.
 G. J. Bury, General Superintendent Central
 division C.P.R. at Winnipeg, Man., born at
 Montreal, Que., Mar. 6, 1866.
 J. A. Cameron, ex-Superintendent C.P.R.
 at Cranbrook, B.C., born at Pictou, N.S.,
 Mar. 5, 1855.
 F. G. J. Comeau, General Freight Agent
 Dominion Atlantic Ry. at Halifax, N.S., born
 at Meteghan River, N.S., Mar. 10, 1859.
 A. E. Cox, Storekeeper Canadian Northern
 Ry. at Winnipeg, Man., born at Hudders-
 field, Eng., Mar. 12, 1863.
 H. B. Curtis, General Superintendent New-
 foundland Express Co. at St. John's, Nfld.,
 born at Adrian, Ohio, Mar. 21, 1848.
 Hon. L. J. Forget, President Montreal
 Street Ry. Co., born at Terrebonne, Que.,
 Mar. 11, 1853.
 C. O. Foss, on survey National Transconti-
 nental Ry., in New Brunswick, born at Went-
 worth, N.H., Mar. 20, 1852.
 H. W. Gays, General Manager New York
 and Ottawa Line at Ottawa, Ont., born at
 Brant, Erie co., N.Y., Mar. 21, 1848.
 F. Grundy, Vice-President and General
 Manager Quebec Central Ry., at Sherbrooke,
 Que., and President Temiscouata Ry., born
 at Bury, Lanc., Eng., Mar. 28, 1836.
 J. Halstead, chief clerk to Assistant Gen-
 eral Freight Agent C.P.R. at Vancouver, B.C.,
 born at Bracebridge, Ont., Mar. 2, 1877.
 R. M. Hannaford, Engineer Permanent
 Way, Buildings and Bridges, Montreal Street
 Ry., Montreal, born there, Mar. 22, 1865.
 W. Harty, M.P., President Canadian Loco-
 motive Co., Kingston, Ont., born in Biddulph
 tp., Middlesex, Ont., Mar. 8, 1847.
 C. A. Hayes, Assistant General Freight
 Agent G.T.R., Chicago, Ill., born at West
 Springfield, Mass., Mar. 10, 1865.
 H. S. Heydon, General Agent Canada
 Atlantic Ry., at New York city, born at
 Newark, N.Y., Mar. 28, 1861.
 C. B. Hibbard, General Manager Quebec
 Southern Ry., Montreal, born at St. John's,
 Que., Mar. 31, 1858.
 J. Hobson, Chief Engineer G.T.R. at Mon-
 treal, born at Guelph, Ont., Mar., 1834.
 T. M. Kirkwood, director Central Ontario
 Ry., born at Toronto, Mar. 23, 1859.
 F. Lee, Assistant Engineer, C.P.R., Winni-
 peg, born at Chicago, Ill., Mar. 7, 1873.
 R. W. Long, Division Freight Agent G.T.R.,
 at Stratford, Ont., born at Appin, Ont., Mar.
 20, 1873.
 C. E. Lytle, General Superintendent Duluth,
 South Shore and Atlantic Ry., at Marquette,
 Mich., born at Newark, Ohio, Mar. 2, 1859.
 D. D. Mann, of Mackenzie, Mann & Co.,
 and 1st Vice-President Canadian Northern
 Ry. Co., Toronto, born at Acton, Ont., Mar.
 23, 1853.
 Owen McKay, Assistant Engineer, Pere
 Marquette Rd., St. Thomas, Ont., born in
 Ross tp., Renfrew co., Ont., Mar. 13, 1848.
 W. C. Orchard, chief Freight Tariff Bureau
 C.P.R., at Montreal, born in London, Eng.,
 Mar. 16, 1865.
 H. Parry, General Agent Passenger Depart-
 ment, New York Central Rd., at Buffalo, N.Y.,
 born at Hamilton, Ont., Mar. 27, 1865.
 R. Patterson, Master Mechanic G.T.R. at
 Stratford, Ont., born at Brantford, Ont.,
 Mar. 13, 1860.

J. Ritchie, General Eastern Agent Canada
 Atlantic Ry., Boston, Mass., born Mar. 16,
 1860.

J. A. Sheffield, ex-Superintendent Sleeping
 and Dining Cars, C.P.R., at Montreal, born
 at Columbus, Ohio, Mar. 16, 1845.

J. F. Slocum, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
 International Ry. Co., Buffalo, N.Y., born at
 Geneva, N.Y., Mar. 25, 1876.

C. J. Smith, General Manager Richelieu
 and Ontario Navigation Co., at Montreal,
 born at Hamilton, Ont., Mar. 10, 1862.

W. Y. Soper, director Ottawa Electric Ry.
 Co., Ottawa, Ont., born at Oldtown, Me.,
 Mar. 9, 1854.

W. F. Tye, Chief Engineer C.P.R. at Mon-
 treal, born at Haysville, Ont., Mar. 5, 1861.

H. Wallis, ex-Chief Mechanical Superin-
 tendent G.T.R., Montreal, born at Derby,
 Eng., Mar. 10, 1844.

D. O. Wood, Western Agent at Toronto for
 Robert Reford Co., Steamship Agents, Mon-
 treal, born at Kleinburg, Ont., Mar. 16, 1864.

Steam Railway Statistics.—On June 30,
 1904, the mileage of steam railways in the
 Dominion was 19,611, compared with 19,077
 on the same date in 1903, an increase of 534
 miles. The miles of railway in operation
 numbered 19,431, an increase of 443 over the
 previous year. The paid-up capital, includ-
 ing Dominion and Provincial subsidies and
 loans and municipal aid, was \$1,186,546,918,
 an increase of \$39,996,149 over 1903. The
 gross earnings of all the steam railways aggre-
 gated \$100,219,436, a gain of \$4,154,909.
 The working expenses were \$74,563,162, an
 increase of \$7,081,63, but the net earnings
 show a falling off of \$2,927,729, the total for
 the year being \$25,656,274. The railways
 carried 23,640,765 passengers, an increase of
 1,492,023, and 48,097,519 tons of freight, a
 gain of 724,102 tons. Twenty-five passen-
 gers were killed, 28 less than in the year
 previous.

**The Canadian Railway Club's Annual Din-
 ner** was held at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal,
 Jan. 26, President S. King, Assistant Master
 Car Builder, C.P.R., in the chair. The toasts
 were "The Railways," proposed by Second
 Vice-President W. D. Robb, Superintendent
 of Motive Power, G.T.R., and responded to
 by H. H. Vaughan, Superintendent of Motive
 Power, C.P.R., and R. Patterson, Master
 Mechanic G.T.R., Stratford, Ont.; "Our
 Guests," proposed by L. H. Johnson,
 Assistant Superintendent Motive Power,
 C.P.R., and responded to by Prof. Durlay, of
 McGill University; R. S. Thomas, of the New
 York Railway Club, and J. Temple, of the
 Pullman Co.; "The Railway Supply Man,"
 proposed by T. McHattie, Master Mechanic,
 G.T.R., and responded to by A. Lichtenhein,
 of the Galena Signal Oil Co. At the regular
 monthly meeting of the Club on Feb. 7, W. S.
 Blyth, travelling engineer, Canada Atlantic
 Ry., read a paper on locomotive and train
 handling. T. McHattie, Master Mechanic
 G.T.R., Montreal, was elected a member of
 the executive committee, vice J. Powell,
 appointed Secretary. At the next meeting,
 Mar. 7, A. A. Maver, Master Mechanic G.T.R.,
 will read a paper on the hot water heating
 system as applied to roundhouses and shops.

Gillies & Co. (Ltd.), at present trading as
 a joint stock company under the Dominion
 Companies' Act, is applying for an act, at the
 current session of the Dominion Parliament,
 authorizing an increase of capital, and giving
 power to own steamers and carry on a general
 navigation business; to engage in the con-
 struction of docks, wharves, tramways,
 bridges, locomotives, cars, and ships, and to
 construct in connection with its works rail-
 way sidings, etc., not exceeding ten miles in
 length, and to connect the same with any line
 of railway; as well as to engage in a number
 of other businesses. McGivern and Haydon,
 Ottawa, are solicitors for the company.

The Board of Railway Commissioners.

The appointment of A. C. Killam, K.C.,
 heretofore a Justice of the Supreme Court, as
 Chief Commissioner of the Board of Railway
 Commissioners for Canada, was formally
 made Feb. 6. He took his seat as Chief
 Commissioner Feb. 7, and received the con-
 gratulations of M. K. Cowan, K.C., on behalf
 of the G.T.R., and C. Drinkwater on behalf
 of the C.P.R., on his appointment. Some
 matters were attended to, and arrangements
 were made by which the Commissioners will
 give judgment on cases already heard, upon
 the transcript of the notes of evidence and
 argument taken at the time, and for the re-
 hearing of other applications.

The Commission sat in Toronto, Feb. 16,
 and heard arguments upon the application
 for the expropriation of the burned-out dis-
 trict. An interim order has since been issued,
 which is referred to under the heading of
 Toronto Union Station, on pg. 95. The
 Commissioners subsequently visited Guelph,
 to look into the question of the application
 of the G.T.R. to take over some park land
 there for station purposes; and Hamilton, to
 hear evidence in regard to a number of
 matters.

Railways and Special Freight Rates.

The Board of Railway Commissioners
 issued the following orders on Feb. 9, relative
 to freight matters:—

Upon the application of the G.T.R. and the
 C.P.R. companies, under section 275 of the
 Railway Act, for permission to issue special
 rate notices, in certain cases, without previ-
 ous application to the Board, prescribing tolls
 lower than the tolls in force upon the railway,
 to be charged for specific shipments between
 points upon the railway, not being com-
 petitive points, where the said companies,
 or either of them, and the Board consider
 the charging of the special tolls mentioned in
 any such notices will help to create trade or
 develop business, or be in the public interest,
 and not otherwise contrary to the provisions
 of the Act. The application sets forth cer-
 tain contingencies which the companies con-
 sider they should be allowed to provide for
 by special rate notices, and which only are
 considered in the order made. The Board
 orders that the railway companies, subject
 to the act, be authorized to issue special rate
 notices under the restrictions prescribed in
 section 275, subsection 4, of the Railway
 Act, in the following cases, namely: (a) To
 provide for the prompt shipment of any
 freight which may unexpectedly offer and
 for which no suitable tariffs have been pre-
 pared, on condition that the filing and pub-
 lication of such tariffs be immediately pro-
 ceeded with. (b) To provide for the dis-
 position of shipments which may have been
 forwarded to the wrong destination, or which
 may have been refused by the consignees, by
 returning them to the original point of ship-
 ment at less than the ordinary tariff rate, or
 by reforwarding at a reduced rate from the
 first to a second destination, in which case the
 published rate from the point of shipment to
 the first destination, added to the reduced
 rate from the first destination to the second,
 shall not be less than the published rate for
 a through haul from the original shipping
 point to the second, or final, destination. (c) To
 provide for the carriage of small
 sample or trial shipments for testing pur-
 poses, with a view to opening up business,
 as, for example, a trial shipment of ore
 from a new mine to the smelter, at actual
 weight at the carload rate. (d) To pro-
 vide for the removal of live stock by rail
 from exhaustive grazing grounds to new
 pastures on the ranches of the Northwest,
 for subsequent reshipment to the mar-
 kets. Every such special rate notice
 referred to above must be filed with the Board,