

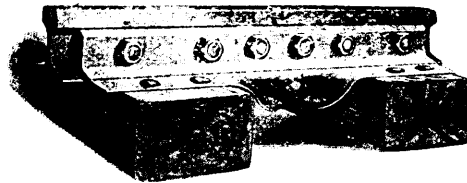
S.S.M. Ry. from J. Gerken and his associates, and to construct a line to the shores of Georgian Bay and Sault Ste. Marie, with branches to Barry's Bay, Mattawa, North Bay, Parry Sound or other points.

Members of the syndicate recently made an inspection of the line, and arrangements are being made for carrying out an extensive scheme of improvement. The work proposed to be done will consist of reducing some of the heavy grades, ballasting the greater part of the line, placing an additional 24,000 ties under the rails, renewing about a mile of track originally laid by the G.T.R., to connect that Co.'s line at Lyn Jct. with Lyn station; lengthening the sidings at Athens, Delta, Elgin, and Westport stations, from 4 to 8 car lengths; putting in a turntable at Brockville, repairing and completing the fences with woven wire fence instead of barbed wire, building snow fences, placing surface cattle guards at all crossings instead of the old pits, rebuilding two small bridges in Brockville yard, reducing the curve and putting an iron bridge over the creek at Lyn, repairing every station on the line, and probably taking down the Brockville station and rebuilding it in a more suitable position, erecting semaphores, switch lamps, and sign boards at all stations. Some preliminary surveys have been made for extensions on behalf of the syndicate, but nothing in the way of construction will be done until after the additional powers are obtained. The first section of the additional lines to be constructed, W. S. Buell, solicitor to the syndicate, says, will be from Westport to a junction with the Canada Atlantic Ry. at Barry's Bay. The syndicate also proposes to establish traffic relations with U.S. lines at Morristown, N.Y., either by a bridge over the St. Lawrence or a ferry. (Nov., 1902, pg. 380.)

The Canada Fish Co. is under an agreement with the Ontario Government either to "build or cause to be built" a railway from the C.P.R. to Lake Nepigon. It is proposed to enter into an arrangement with the Nepigon Ry. Co. to construct the line. Application will be made this year to the Dominion and the Ontario Governments for subsidies. A Mr. Noble, of Nepigon, Ont., and formerly of Collingwood, is one of the chief promoters of the C.F. Co. (Jan., pg. 19.)

Canadian Pacific Ry.—A contract is reported to have been let for double-tracking the line from Fort William to Rat Portage, Ont., 293.5 miles, to Foley Bros. & Co., St. Paul, Minn., who will commence work as soon as the camps can be started. For some three or four years past the Co. has been lengthening its sidings and other crossing places at different points on this section of the line to about a mile in length each, and so arranging them that they would form part of the double-tracking whenever it was decided to undertake it. At the same time the yards at Rat Portage were very greatly enlarged, a 20-stall roundhouse was erected, a modern coal-handling plant put up, and other improvements carried out which would provide for the rapid handling of freight trains at that point. Survey parties have been almost continuously at work on the line between Fort William and Rat Portage since this work was commenced, preparing for the double-tracking, and during the winter experimental freight trains have been run over the line with a view of determining to what extent gradients must be cut down to permit of the handling of such trains. All the data necessary having been obtained, E. H. McHenry, Chief Engineer, made a thorough inspection of the line, and the final plans were prepared and approved. The work will be pretty heavy all through, and will involve a large amount of rock-cutting, some long fills and trestle work. A representative of the contractors is in Win-

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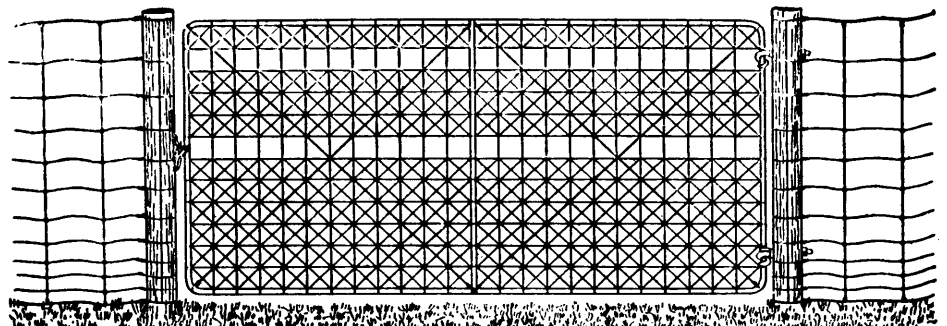
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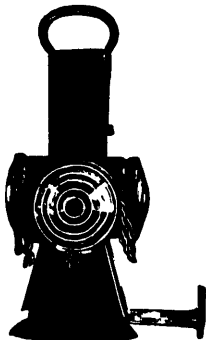
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