

Work has been commenced on the Owen Sound and Meaford Company's new road, connecting these two towns.

A big merger has been put through which will bring under one management the Montreal Park and Island Railway, the Terminal Railway, and the Montreal and Suburban Railway.

The promoters of the Hamilton & Brantford Railway realize that they cannot complete the road by November 1st, as the franchise calls for, and they have asked for an extension of time till July next.

The Grand Trunk Railway has awarded the contract for the construction of twenty large passenger locomotives to the American Locomotive and Machine Company. Ten of the locomotives will be built at the company's Canadian plant at Longue Point, and the remainder at Schenectady, N. Y. The locomotives will cost \$350,000.

On May 11th the Western Ontario Pacific Railroad Company received their charter from the Dominion Government permitting them to build a line of railway from some point at or near London, passing through the counties of Middlesex, Perth, Huron and Bruce with terminus on Lake Huron, at some point in Bruce County.

Plans have been perfected by the Canadian Pacific to construct a bridge near Lethbridge, Alberta, which will be an engineering marvel, and probably will be ranked as one of the world's wonders. The plans call for a structure slightly more than a mile long and 300 feet above the water level. The Canadian Pacific bridge will span the Belly River, and is to be built for the purpose of shortening the route between Lethbridge and Macleod.

It is reported that the Great Northern and Northern Pacific are to join in building a mammoth hotel in Vancouver to cost three-quarters of a million, each paying half.

It is rumored in well-informed political circles that the Provincial Government realizing the great importance of opening up Northern Quebec had under serious consideration the assisting of the construction of a railway to James Bay that would pass through and tend to develop the mineral resources of the Chibugamoo district north of Roberval. It is said that the Government is now awaiting the full reports in regard to the mineral discoveries of the Chibugamoo, together with the result of Hon. J. B. Prevost's investigation of the county, who will leave Quebec during the first week of August on the trip.

Two of the eight parties engaged in the survey of the two routes for the National Trans-continental through New Brunswick have reported, and the others are expected to turn in the results of their work shortly. It will take some time for the engineers to reduce the field notes to a statement of quantities and estimates of cost so that a choice can be made between the "river route" and the "back route." It is expected that late in September or early in October the commissioners will be in a position to recommend to the Government the letting of a contract on one of the routes. About the same time it is probable tenders will be invited for the construction on another section of the line between Winnipeg and Quebec. This will be to the north of Lake Superior, where the facilities for getting the supplies in are considered fairly good.

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## MINING MATTERS.

The output of the Dominion Coal Company for June was not up to expectations, accounted for in chief part by the scarcity of labor, or to be specific, of loaders in the mines.

All authorities agree that the Yukon output for the present year will beat all records for the camp and many are of the opinion it will amount to \$25,000,000 worth of gold. Latest advices from the outlying camps show that the season so far has been a most favorable one and the clean-ups are realizing far more than was expected.

The iron ore deposits at Arisaig, N.S., and vicinity, are to be thoroughly explored by an expert for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the beds.

Gold finds are reported from Lake Opasatica, almost eighty miles due north of Cobalt. Dozens of prospectors have gone up from Cobalt and hundreds are rushing in from all points of the compass.

Within the past few months more money has been expended on additions and improvements at Reserve Mines than during all the years the Dominion Coal Company has held the property. The expenditure in effecting the improvements lately completed will foot up about \$80,000.

Messrs. Arthur J. Lippens, of London, and H. M. Lippens, of Paris, with Mr. A. Fieux, a French engineer, state that they have found the precious metal, radium, in the mica district around Murray Bay. The syndicate purchased an extensive mica property in that district from an American syndicate.

One of the most encouraging finds of the season was made recently about three-quarters of a mile east of Portage Bay in the Montreal River. This is in the famous Coleman township. The samples brought in were pure native silver. A small find of ruby silver has also been made on the Montreal River, between Gillies' depot and Latchford.

The Canadian Consolidated Mines at Trail, B. C., are now using a Westinghouse electric locomotive for hauling cars to and from the mines, as well as three Westinghouse 1,250 k. w. transformers. The company find that the use of electricity for power and haulage increases the output of the mines, and actually decreases the operating expenses.

There is every probability that cobalt will be discovered on Vancouver Island. The recent finds of silver-cobalt ores on Wallace mountain, west fork of Kettle River, lead to this supposition as every other mineral so far found in British Columbia has been located in that semi-submerged range of mountains of which Vancouver, Queen Charlotte and adjacent islands are merely the apexes rising above the sea.

The work of the opening of a new iron mine at the eastern end of Belle Island began a short time ago, several men being engaged on the work. There is a big deposit of ore there, but the companies are short of men, and the work cannot be rushed as they would wish. There are 1,500 men engaged with the two companies, but they could take 1,000 more. Kem Lee is bossing the 32 Chinamen on the island.

A deal involving the Alpha, Beta, Black Bear, and Blue Grouse copper claims on Vancouver Island is pending and will be completed within the next twenty days, says the Nanaimo "Herald." Through Messrs. F. G. Amess & Company some New York capitalists have obtained the option of purchasing the claims for \$100,000. The ore which has been assayed was taken from the surface and runs \$34 to the ton in copper. The expert who examined the mine for people who hold the option on the claims, says they are the richest he has seen, and that the main body of ore will average 23 per cent. copper. One also carries gold and silver in small proportions. If the New York men buy the claims, a smelter will be erected to treat the ore at the mines. This will be easy to do as the ore has been pronounced self-fluxing by the assayer.

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## LIGHT, HEAT, POWER, ETC.

Electric power is now being delivered in Syracuse, from Niagara Falls, a distance of 150 miles.

The International Railway Company has petitioned the Dominion Government for permission to develop 10,000 H.P. at its local station, and also be allowed to transmit the power to the American side. The waterworks board of Niagara Falls has also applied to the Government for a similar grant.