

the Smart-Turner Machine Company, Limited, to be used in their shops here.

SAULT STE. MARIE.—It is stated that the negotiations which have been going on for some time for the purchase of the Algoma Central by the C.P.R. have definitely fallen through, owing to a disproportion between the price demanded and the possible benefits which the Transcontinental road could see through the acquisition of the smaller line.

TORONTO.—At the request of Mr. M. K. Cowan, solicitor for the G.T.R., the Board of Control extended the time for the commencement of the erection of the new Union Station three months. The time expires on August 22nd, and Mr. Cowan asked for a year's extension.

Manitoba.

WINNIPEG.—The J. D. McArthur Company has received instructions to proceed at once with the erection of the new roundhouse and turn-table for the National Transcontinental, in the yards on the Springfield Road, and expect to have a large gang of men at work in the course of a week. The first portion of the roundhouse to be erected will consist of only eighteen stalls, which is one quarter of the circle which will eventually be required, and this structure will be built of brick. It is to be situated near the centre of the yards.

Foreign.

DUNKIRK, N.Y.—The Brooks plant of the American Locomotive Company received an order for fifty locomotives from the Argentina railway. An increase in the working force of the plant will be necessary to take care of this order from South America and other business in sight.

LA PAZ, BOLIVIA.—The new railroad between Oruro, Bolivia, and Viacha, fifteen miles southwest of La Paz, is completed. The event marks an era of rapid progress in Bolivia.

TELEPHONY.

Manitoba.

CRANDALL.—At a council meeting, of Miniota, nearly all preliminaries were decided on for the new telephone system, and work will commence soon. The price as settled on for subscribers per year is \$18. When the vote was taken, it was to be \$12, but it got up to \$15 and then \$18, and may still go higher.

Saskatchewan.

REGINA.—The Province of Saskatchewan has taken steps to construct the following long distance lines: (1) A line running from Lumsden to Prince Albert, connecting with the towns along the C.N.R.; (2) a line to serve the towns and villages along the Arcola and Estevan branches of the C.P.R.; (3) branch lines east and west from Warman to the boundaries of the province and following the C.N.R.; (4) branch lines paralleling the Wolseley-Reston, Pheasant Hills, Weyburn and Stoughton railways; (5) a line eastward from Prince Albert, connecting Kinistino, Melfort, Star City, Tisdale, and other towns and villages; (6) a line crossing the province from north to south and connecting Alameda, Carlyle, Wapella, Yorkton and Saltcoats. Town and rural lines are to be built by local companies and many of these have already been organized.

REGINA.—The first indication of the telephone rates that will be secured under the Scott Government's policy to have local companies construct the lines for rural and town services to connect with the long distance lines to be built by the Government, comes from the town of Maple Creek. Under an agreement with the town, the Maple Creek Telephone Company agrees to the following rates: Business connections, \$2 per month; residences, \$1.25 per month. Maple Creek has granted the local company the use of the streets and alleys for twenty-one years for the erection of a telephone system. The cost of the system will be about \$6,000. No expense is being spared to install the telephones and a central equipment of the highest electrical efficiency in view of the fact that Maple Creek will be the most important Western terminal of the Scott Government's proposed long distance telephone system. The Maple Creek Company has

already 76 subscribers and it is anticipated that it will have 100 before the system is in operation. The Lumsden Radial Telephone Company is to install a service in the town of Lumsden to connect with the Government's long distances lines. The rates in Lumsden will be \$2 per month for business concerns and \$1.50 for residents. Both the Lumsden and Maple Creek systems will be connected after completion with rural systems to be constructed under the Scott Rural Telephone Act. The Government is furnishing the necessary poles free of cost.

Foreign.

SCRANTON, PA.—After a week's trial the Lackawanna Railroad has decided that the system of despatching trains by telephone instead of by the telegraph has proved entirely satisfactory. Trainmaster McCann said that although there were some misgivings at first the experiment has succeeded in every way. At present the telephones are operated by the telegraphers, but it is probable that after the system is in thorough working order there will be a considerable reduction in the number of operators.

MISCELLANEOUS.

New Brunswick.

ST. JOHN.—Mr. H. M. Davy, of the Public Works Department, is now ready and will at once begin the boring operations at Courtenay Bar.

Ontario.

ORILLIA.—Four surveyors in the employ of the Geological Survey Department at Ottawa are camped at Atherley, while engaged in working on the typographical map of the Lake Simcoe district. The map is expected to be ready in three years. The party will shortly move to Barrie to make that their headquarters. Last year they moved up the southern shore as far as Beaverton.

OMEMEE.—Plans have been completed for the most extensive drainage system ever undertaken in this part of the province. It has been found necessary by the Council of Ops Township in order to drain low-lying farm lands in the valley of Stony Creek. One cut, of nearly 800 feet, at the outlet, has an average depth of nearly eight feet, and a bottom width of twelve feet. The total cost of the outlet cuttings run up to over \$5,000. The scheme is calculated to give a good drainage outlet to 3,800 acres at a total cost of \$30,000.

ST. CATHARINES.—The city of St. Catharines has granted ten years exemption to the Whitman Barnes Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of the "Railroad Special" wrench. Ever since the company's Canadian plant, located in this city, was destroyed by fire last April many municipalities have been offering inducements to secure the plant.

SAULT STE. MARIE.—From semi-official source it was learned that the bidding in of the stocks and bonds of the Lake Superior Corporation at Philadelphia, July 28th, by which control passed from New York to the latter city, means that within a few days the plant of the Algoma Steel Company at the Canadian Soo, a subsidiary corporation of Lake Superior, will pass into control of the steel trust. Representatives of the Ontario Government, which guaranteed a loan of \$2,000,000 when Clergue's old Consolidated Lake Superior Co. collapsed, endeavored to have the sale postponed.

WOODSTOCK.—A great flow of natural gas has been struck at Innerkip by the Oxford Oil and Gas Company, who have been prospecting there, and in a few months the company say they will be supplying Woodstock, Ingersoll, London and other places to an unlimited extent. At a depth of a thousand feet, a flow was struck that will exceed one million feet of gas per day.

Manitoba.

BRANDON.—A special meeting of the City Council will be held shortly to reconsider the matter of the construction of the First Street bridge. It had been decided to build it of reinforced concrete, but the C.P.R., who are building the half over their own tracks, have decided their part shall be of steel, and there is a feeling now in the council that the city had better follow suit and build the remaining half over the river of the same material.