

June, received the assurance of the Department that the matter would receive its immediate attention. Notwithstanding this, no action has apparently yet been taken, and though this line of railway has been operated for some years, the people, resident in the districts adjacent thereto, still receive their mail by stage delivered to post offices not on the line. Your Council recommend that this matter be again taken up with the Post Master General, and that the co-operation of the Portage la Prairie Board be sought, as that body has also been taking an active interest in the matter.

**MAILS ON THE MANITOBA & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY,
AND LAKE DAUPHIN RAILWAY.**

On the 16th of April, 1897, the Post Master General was petitioned to extend a mail service on the Manitoba and North Western Railway so that the train westward from Minnedosa on each Thursday should carry the ordinary mails. After some delay, this service was authorized.

On the same date, the Hon. the Post Master General was petitioned to at once arrange for the carriage of mails over the Lake Dauphin Railway and Canal Company's line to Dauphin, Manitoba, and intermediate points. The Council regrets to report, that notwithstanding the fact that regular trains ran on this new line, that the mail service was not inaugurated until late in the fall, owing, it is understood, to the fact that some stage line contract did not expire until that time. It would seem that some arrangement might have been made to cancel the stage contract and permit of the mails being carried by rail over a line some 100 miles in length, extending into a rapidly developing district.