

**SPARKS.**

At Perth, Ont., a scheme is on foot to build an electric railway between Perth and Lanark, outside parties to furnish capital and own the road.

The promoters of the proposed electric railway between Hamilton and Grimsby will take no steps towards building the road until the city council of Hamilton grants their application for permission to use the streets.

With the aid of electric snow sweepers the management of the Ottawa Electric Street Railway have succeeded in keeping the road in excellent working order, and more than this, the streets traversed by the road are said to be in good condition for sleighing.

A Ball plant has lately been installed in Weller Bros. furniture factory, Victoria, B. C. It consists of a Ball dynamo, wound for a low-tension circuit to carry fifty 16-c. p. incandescent lamps, switch boards, rheostats, meters, etc. Power for the dynamo will be supplied by the engine which operates the factory.

The courts have decided to suspend until April further proceedings in the case of Leonard vs. the Royal Electric Company, which is an action to recover \$8,000 as the price of machinery furnished the defendant to establish its system in Three Rivers. This is to allow of action being taken by the defendant against the city of Three Rivers, which refused to accept the machinery.

Messrs. Drake, Jackson and Helweken, and Mr. John Campbell, are applying to the Legislature of British Columbia on behalf of two distinct companies for incorporation for the privilege of building and operating tramway lines between and within the cities of Vancouver and New Westminster. The company which Mr. Campbell represents also proposes erecting and operating a telephone and telegraph system in each of the cities mentioned.

**THERE IS BUT ONE PORTLAND**

Oregon, and it is best reached via Chicago and St. Paul over the through Sleeping Car Line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Northern Pacific Railways. For further information apply to the nearest ticket agent or address, A. J. Taylor, Canadian Pass. Agent, 4 Palmer House Block, Toronto, Ont.

The example set by the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce has now been followed by the Halifax and Bedford Chambers, who have proposed resolutions calling upon the government to buy up the telephones of the country.

The proposition is being made to construct an electric railway from St. Petersburg to Archangel, a well known port on the White Sea, and a distance of 800 kilometres, or 500 miles. The electric current is to be supplied by a series of generating stations, placed at intervals along the entire route. If 500 miles can be covered, why not 1,000 miles, or even across our own continent? Such will be the result before many years.

Two Edison phonographs have been placed in the Department of the Interior at Ottawa, and are being used there with great success for corresponding purposes. The letters are dictated into cylinders on the machine in the deputy's room and are reproduced on another phonograph in the correspondence room and typewritten. The transcripts can be verified, as the cylinders can be reproduced as often as may be desired. When the work of transcription is completed, the cylinders are pared off and are ready for use again.

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