

the present does not know that she requires any, and the other Eastern countries, while dimly conscious of the advantages of electric light and transportation, are apparently too inert to take the question up for themselves. It does appear, however, that live concerns going into the business as a specialty and covering the whole electrical field would be able to show good results, even at the present time, especially in small lines such as fans, bells, telephones, etc., the installation of ship plants, etc., with an occasional local plant, and perhaps an electric railway or two. The methods of selling electrical apparatus as at present carried on is very crude, large business houses handling the apparatus as they would hardware, without pushing sales, and being without the special knowledge which is required for this work, there are continual troubles with apparatus, and, generally speaking, there is no life in the trade. In many other lines the same methods prevail, and there is no effort made to thrust manufactures under the eyes of the customer and make trade. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company, in establishing the splendid steamship service to the East, has done

said, without injury to it or any portion of the electrical plant. The old power house which was destroyed was operated by steam, and was to have been used as an auxiliary to the new power plant.

The Ottawa Electric Company suffered the loss of their four sub-stations, including the arc light station. They estimate their loss at \$100,000. The work of rebuilding their plant is progressing rapidly, under the superintendence of Mr. A. A. Dion. Considering the great destruction, the customers of the company have suffered very little inconvenience, as new machines arrived the next day and were set up in a fire-proof building, owned by Mr. J. R. Booth, and once used as a saw mill. These machines are now being temporarily operated by two water wheels loaned for the purpose by Mr. Booth.

The destruction of a large portion of the plant of the Ottawa Electric Company has revived the agitation on behalf of certain members of the city council for the purchase and control of the plant by the municipality. Some months ago a special committee was appointed to report on the advisability of purchasing a municipal



GENERAL VIEW OF THE CHAUDIERE DISTRICT, SHOWING SEAT OF THE RECENT FIRE.

much for Canada and Canadian trade, and it is owing to this fact that most of the Europeans and many of the Orientals have crossed Canada, and its products are known and could be largely extended in this field where enterprising management is seldom met with.

THE HULL-OTTAWA FIRE.

PRESENTED herewith are some views bearing upon the disastrous fire which occurred in Ottawa and Hull on April 26th last by which the electrical interests of that city suffered severely. The first illustration will give the reader a general idea of the magnitude of the fire and of the extent of the fire-swept district. Figure 2 is a view from Parliament hill of the fire while in progress, while the third illustration shows the ruins of the burned power house of the Ottawa Street Railway. The Street Railway Company had two power houses, the one recently built being a fire-proof construction and containing a 1,200 kilowatt generator direct connected to Stillwell-Bierce horizontal turbines. The roof of this building was not built on an absolutely fire-proof plan, being of corrugated iron laid over wooden rafters. The intense heat caused the roof to melt, the blazing mass falling upon the generator, but, it is

plant. The price at which the Ottawa company offered to dispose of their property to the city did not meet with the approval of this committee, who contend that in some respects the plant was not up-to-date. Now that the company are installing new and modern machines, it is thought that the present is an opportune time to renew the negotiations.

Another possible result of the fire is said to be the establishment of a large central power house at the Chaudiere. A scheme is announced to be on the tapis, the object of which is to secure the amalgamation of the manufacturing interests for the purpose of erecting a large power house to supply electric energy to the various industries in Ottawa and Hull adjacent to the Chaudiere. It is pointed out that the carbide establishments will require considerable power, and it is thought that it would be possible to induce a number of new industries to locate there.

It has been announced that the Slave Lake Power Company, which purposes developing the water power at Slave Lake falls and transmitting electric power to Vancouver, B. C., have accepted the offer of the London Gold Fields Company to provide the necessary funds for the project. From this it appears that the proposition is likely to be carried to completion.