

COAST TO COAST.

Ottawa, Ont.—A sub-committee of the Dominion cabinet council has been appointed to consider the recommendation of the Royal Society of Canada for the establishment of a system of research stations throughout the country.

Vancouver, B.C.—By a vote of 37 to 24 the Vancouver Board of Trade rejected the report of the special committee which recommended that the Canadian Northern Railway be required to pay the city at least \$2,000,000 for its terminals at False Creek.

London, Ont.—Scarcity of labor is proving a serious handicap to the extension work now being carried on by the Street Railway Company and they have notified the civic officials that they will be unable to complete their agreement by December 1st.

Saskatoon, Sask.—The Roberts filtration plant recently installed in Saskatoon is giving satisfactory results. The water is not only pure, but the bacterial contents are reduced to an infinitesimal point, with the result that the water is practically sterile.

Province of British Columbia.—The pay-roll of the Canadian Northern Railway for the month of September on account of construction work carried out in this province amounted to \$1,454,000. The previous record for abnormal pay-rolls came to \$1,100,000.

London, Ont.—Hon. Adam Beck is reported to have said that a friendly suit will be started against the Dominion Government in an endeavor to secure for the Hydro-Electric Commission control of all rivers in the province and of surplus water in the canals.

Athabasca Landing, Alta.—What is reported to be the heaviest flow of natural gas in the Peace River District has been located at this point. A pressure of 600 pounds to the square inch has been recorded so far and great precaution is taken to guard against accidental ignition.

Portage la Prairie, Man.—Mr. Hobbs, a civil engineer of Winnipeg, has arrived here to begin the work of locating a route for the proposed boat canal between here and Lake Manitoba. Some of the deep creeks extending into the prairie from the lake towards this place will be utilized in connection with the scheme.

Fort William, Ont.—The new million-dollar dock of the Canadian Pacific Railway has been placed in commission and the first freighter, laden with coal, will steam up the well-dredged McKellar River. A freighter laden with ten thousand tons of coal can be completely unloaded in ten hours at this new dock.

Outlook, Sask.—The bridge of the Canadian Pacific Railway across the Saskatchewan River at this point was sufficiently completed a day or two ago to allow trains on the main line between Edmonton and Minneapolis to pass. This bridge is a little over three thousand feet long and 156 feet high.

Sydney, C.B., N.S.—The "Duke of Connaught," the large drydock for Montreal, has been safely brought to this port. The trip across the Atlantic was made with difficulty, the towing cables parting five times. On one break the huge dock drifted thirty-five miles before it could be again secured to the tugs.

Quebec, Que.—Word has been received that Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Tremblay, of St. Jerome, Lake St. John, and Mr. Bedard, of Cape Bouge, three members of the expedition sent from Quebec in July by the government to survey the proposed James Bay route, were drowned in the Nottawa River during their journey.

Regina, Sask.—The commissioner of public health of Saskatchewan has strongly recommended the city of Regina

to install a chlorinization plant for the purpose of treating the city water. This treatment of water by chloride of lime destroys typhoid bacteria without in any way injuriously affecting the water. While the source of Regina's water supply remains unprotected, it is the duty of the city to thus treat its water supply, thereby making it perfectly safe to drink. The water has been found by the city health officer to be polluted. He has recommended that it be boiled, but this is not always practicable. A chlorinization plant is very inexpensive to install and easy to operate.

Montreal, Que.—Judgment has been handed down by the Public Utilities Commission giving a general approval to the plans submitted by the Montreal Electrical Commission for the placing of the wires on St. Catherine Street, from Guy to Mance, underground. This approval is not, however, final, as certain modifications may be found necessary later, and the Electrical Commission can submit further recommendations and suggestions on which the Utilities Commission may act on its own responsibility without another inquiry. Work will be started next spring, and all the wires on this section of St. Catherine Street are expected to be safely stowed away in the conduit by the end of 1913. The conduits will be under the sidewalk at both sides of the street, ready access being given by large manholes at street intersections, and service manholes for making connections at various points. Sufficient space for all the wires will be provided, the conduits being 26 inches wide and 26 inches high. When the work is finished the appearance of Montreal's great shopping thoroughfare will be completely changed.

Regina, Sask.—Under an amendment to the Public Works Act of Saskatchewan, the Minister of Public Works was given power to make regulations governing townsites and subdivisions, and in accordance with this amendment regulations were brought into force on July 19, 1911. These regulations have undoubtedly accomplished a large amount of good in stopping undesirable subdivisions from going on the market and the selling of lots entirely unsuited for building purposes. The government sees that if a lot is sold a house can be built upon it, that there is proper access to it, and that the land is dry. A school site of at least one acre in every subdivision is insisted upon, and other provisions safeguarding the public interest are inserted in the regulations. The government, however, does not try to force any particular theory of town planning upon those laying out annexes. During the twelve months prior to February 29, 1912, there were 562 plans of subdivisions registered in the survey branch, as against 272 for the previous year. The fees to cover inspection and other services rendered by the department are about \$4 per acre, and have resulted in the addition of about \$60,000 to the revenue during the past year.

MEETINGS.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA.

Research work was the main theme in an address given by Dr. A. H. R. Buller at the opening session of the University of Manitoba. No university, he stated, could live to itself alone. It would indeed be shameful for the University of Manitoba to acquire all its knowledge from without and to contribute nothing. Besides this, there remained the consideration that the best teaching is always done in an atmosphere of research. To encourage research, professors should be free from lectures for at least half of every day. The question might be asked, what is the practical value of research work? Dr. Buller's reply was that the dollar was not the only form of wealth, and that intellectual wealth is the most valuable possession of any people.