

December Birthdays.

Many happy returns of the day to—

A. H. Anderson, Cashier, Paymaster, and Purchasing Agent, Quebec Central Ry., Sherbrooke, Que., born at Cookshire, Que., Dec. 19, 1859.

J. H. Barber, Division Engineer, C.P.R., St. John, N.B., born at Cobourg, Ont., Dec. 20, 1856.

E. T. Boland, General Agent Dominion Steamship Line, Toronto, born there, Dec. 20, 1869.

N. E. Brooks, C.P.R., Division Engineer, Calgary, Alta., born at Sherbrooke, Que., Dec. 25, 1866.

D. Brown, ex-Manager Milwaukee and Michigan Line and Grand Trunk Despatch, at Detroit, Mich., now at Chicago, Ill., born at Glasgow, Scotland, Dec. 21, 1843.

J. C. M. Buntzen, Managing Director British Columbia Electric Ry. Co., London, Eng., born at Copenhagen, Denmark, Dec. 16, 1859.

P. E. Demers, Trainmaster Central Vermont Ry., Farnham, Que., born there Dec. 10, 1859.

W. N. Dietrich, Electrical Engineer C.P.R., Montreal, born at Perth, Ont., Dec. 23, 1872.

J. W. Donald, District Passenger Agent, Chicago and Alton Rd., Detroit, Mich., born at St. John, N.B., Dec. 22, 1857.

H. P. Dwight, President Great Northwest-ern Telegraph Co., Toronto, born at Belleville, Jefferson Co., N.Y., Dec. 23, 1828.

R. Forget, M.P., President Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co., Montreal, born at Terrebonne, Que., Dec. 10, 1861.

P. Giffkins, General Manager Dominion Atlantic Ry., Kentville, N.S., born at Harpenden, Herts., England, Dec. 25, 1850.

H. H. Gildersleeve, Manager Northern Navigation Co. of Ontario, Collingwood, born at Kingston, Ont., Dec. 15, 1865.

A. J. Gorrie, General Superintendent Great Northern Ry. of Canada, Montreal, born at Raith, Kirkcaldy, Scotland, Dec. 10, 1868.

D. B. Hanna, Third Vice-President Canadian Northern Ry., Toronto, born at Thornliebank, Scotland, Dec. 20, 1858.

S. P. Howard, General Freight Agent Eastern and Lake Superior Divisions C.P.R., Montreal, born there, Dec. 30, 1865.

R. R. Jamieson, General Superintendent Western Division C.P.R., Calgary, Alta., born at Westover, Ont., Dec. 12, 1856.

B. B. Kelliher, Chief Engineer Grand Trunk Pacific Ry., Montreal, born in Ireland, Dec. 26, 1862.

W. Kennedy, Master Mechanic Middle Division, G.T.R., Toronto, born at Belleville, Ont., Dec. 23, 1869.

L. Macdonald, Division Freight Agent G.T.R., Hamilton, Ont., born at Montreal, Dec. 10, 1871.

L. McLean, Superintendent Sydney and Louisburg Ry., Glace Bay, N.S., born there, Dec. 10, 1867.

J. Niblock, Superintendent C.P.R., Calgary, Alta., born in York county, Ont., Dec. 21, 1849.

E. C. Oviatt, Travelling Passenger Agent, C.P.R., at Battle Creek, Mich., born at Hudson, Ohio, Dec. 3, 1852.

J. V. Paul, Locomotive Fuel Inspector C.P.R., Montreal, born at Mokelumne Hill, Cal., Dec. 29, 1863.

A. Price, Superintendent of Transportation Western Lines, C.P.R., Winnipeg, born at Toronto, Dec. 6, 1861.

C. Schrieber, C.M.G., Consulting Engineer Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, Ont., born at Bradwell, Essex, Eng., Dec. 14, 1831.

F. P. Smith, Secretary Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co., Montreal, born there, Dec. 23, 1873.

C. E. E. Ussher, General Passenger Agent

C.P.R. Eastern Lines, Montreal, born at Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 29, 1857.

H. H. Vaughan, Superintendent of Motive Power, C.P.R. Eastern Lines, Montreal, born at Forest Hill, Essex, England, Dec. 26, 1868.

B. D. Webber, General Manager Canadian Pacific Despatch, Boston, Mass., born at Beverley, Mass., Dec. 3, 1851.

W. Wood, locomotive foreman, C.P.R., Megantic, Que., born at Montreal, Dec. 6, 1863.

Thanks from the Ticket Agents.

Secretary de la Hooke sent the following letter on behalf of the Canadian Ticket Agents' Association to Chairman R. W. Scott and other members of the reception committee at Portland, Me.:—

"After a week of unalloyed pleasure, and having to a limited extent persuaded myself that I am not a gentleman of leisure, but, on the contrary, have work to perform, it is my intention to accomplish it by first discharging those duties which on account of their pleasant character become closely allied to gratification. Under these circumstances, will I make an effort, feeble though it be, to express to you as instructed by the members of our association so lately visiting the city of Portland, their unqualified thanks for the excellent programme you arranged for their entertainment, and for the thorough and unwearied manner in which it was carried through—not a hitch occurred—and the fact that every item was participated in by the entire party was proof positive of the completeness, variety and popularity.

"Even had I the pen of a ready writer, I could not satisfactorily recount the many expressions of pleasure and appreciation made on the hearty reception and kindly welcome accorded. Not a dull hour was experienced—for when members of the committee were not in attendance, which was I think only when we ought to have been asleep, the roomers at no. 21 were equal to the occasion and kept the ball rolling. You must have given up much time in preparing for our visit, and much more when we were with you. In return please know that you sent home a most satisfied and delighted crowd. Your hospitality was unbounded and your attention unflinching.

"The annual dinner with its cold water accompaniment was a revelation, but the beverage was of such a pure and sparkling nature, and so sweetened by the smiles of mine host of the Falmouth, that there being no headaches in the morning was rather a matter of congratulation than of surprise.

"To the ladies of Portland are thanks due, and now ungrudgingly tendered, for their frequent presence with and constant attention to the ladies of our party, laying particular stress on their journey to St. Johnsbury, which could not have been arranged but with considerable inconvenience and self-sacrifice.

"To the members of the press we are much indebted; they heralded our advent, chronicled our doings, recorded our departure, and were ever ready to say nice things about us.

"The meeting at Portland will long be remembered as a red-letter event in the annals of our association. On its behalf, I wish one and all health and prosperity, and for the city of Portland progress and success."

The John Bertram & Sons Co., Dundas, Ont., has passed a by-law increasing the number of its directors from five to seven.

The Great Northern Construction Co., which was incorporated in the State of West Virginia, but which did business in Quebec, is being wound up under liquidation proceedings.

Seed Trains in Western Canada.

R. McKenzie, Secretary-Treasurer of the Manitoba and Northwest Territory Grain Growers' Association, has issued a circular to members of the association respecting the project to run seed trains throughout the west. The circular sets forth that early in the summer W. Whyte, 2nd Vice-President C.P.R., submitted to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, a proposition suggesting joint action on the part of the Dominion Government and C.P.R. in promoting a vigorous campaign with a view of interesting grain growers in the importance of sowing pure seed. This correspondence led up to a conference being held in Mr. Whyte's office between representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa; C.P.R., Canadian Northern Ry., Manitoba and Northwest Territory Grain Growers' Association, Department of Agriculture of the Northwest Territories and other interests concerned to consider the scheme, and if deemed advisable, take action. All present, in view of the magnitude of the grain-growing industry, and that its ultimate success depends on right cultivation of the soil and sowing pure seed, were strongly in favor of the scheme. The intention is to start demonstration trains early in January of next year in Alberta, coming down through Saskatchewan and Manitoba, stopping at every grain-growing point and giving in two cars, fitted out for that purpose, demonstrations on the importance of sowing good seed, how to secure seed, and the importance of its selection and improvement. Besides this there will be practical lectures and demonstrations on the decrease in value per acre, and the decrease in revenue per acre, to the farmer, of allowing the seed to depreciate. Cabinets will be fitted up showing samples of grain sown under perfect seed conditions and samples taken from fields where the seed has been allowed to deteriorate, showing the deterioration in yield and weight, and the loss in revenue per acre to the farmer. Samples of wheat pests will also be shown, and practical information given how to eradicate them. The railways supply and pay all expenses of trains and the Dominion Government all expenses in connection with the lectures and demonstrations and cost of advertising.

New Regulations Respecting Bonding.

A Dominion Order-in-Council has recently been promulgated, which was passed on July 26 last, as follows:—Section 13, sub-section e of section 14 and section 15 of the Regulations respecting Bonding Warehouses in Canada, established by Order-in-Council of June 14, 1875, will be repealed on Jan. 1, 1906, and the following regulations under the provisions of The Customs Act and amending acts, will take effect Jan. 1, 1906:

Sec. 13. The fees for the privilege of Customs warehouses of class 2 and 3 shall be classed as charges for Customs special services, and the amount and scale of charges in respect thereof, taking into consideration the cost of Customs attendance, shall be determined from time to time by the Minister of Customs. The proprietor of every warehouse of class 2 and 3 shall pay to the Collector of Customs the sum determined by the Minister for the privilege granted him for the use of such warehouse, in payments in advance for the period during each quarterly term ending Mar. 31, June 30, Sept. 30 and Dec. 31.

The charges for bonded warehouses established for feeding and pasturage shall be paid in respect of each animal upon entry thereof for warehouse.

Sec. 15. The Collector of Customs will cause