

position of traffic manager for the newly-organized Inland Navigation Company.

MR. P. W. SOTHMAN, Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, who recently made an investigation of a large 100,000 volt transmission system of the Grand Rapids Muskegon Power Company at Muskegon, Mich., has returned home.

MR. A. H. BEARS, C.P.R. bridge and building master, of Winnipeg and district, has been transferred to another division, with headquarters at Saskatoon, to which point he will shortly remove. Mr. Bears is at present enjoying a vacation preparatory to assuming the duties of his new position.

MR. E. E. KELLER, for over twenty years connected with the Westinghouse interests and for fourteen years vice-president of the Westinghouse Machine Co., having completed his duties as receiver and general manager, severed his connection with the management of that Company on the 1st of this month.

### OBITUARY.

Stephen Tomlinson, who has been superintendent of the Brantford Waterworks Department for thirty years, died suddenly at his home in that city on April 8th. He was about seventy years of age, and was in charge of the waterworks before the city took them over as a municipal service.

### SOCIETY NOTES.

#### Regina Architectural Association.

The following officers have been elected by the Regina Architectural Association:—President, F. Chapman Clemesha; vice-president, E. M. Storey; secretary-treasurer, W. B. Van Egmond; committee, W. W. Hilton, George E. Hutchison, Walter J. Colman.

#### Engineers' Club, Toronto.

At the last meeting the subject for discussion was Canadian Forestry Problems. Dr. Galbraith, who introduced the subject, spoke of the character of the trees, denoting the average character of the country. The reforestation of the prairies was one of the problems. There should be some method of planting the trees that will baffle or moderate the winds that now have a full sweep across the prairies, another thing was to prevent forest fires, which were the cause of great loss. One of the principal causes of fires was the way the bush was left by the lumbermen, and the railway passing through the forests were perhaps more dangerous than careless lumbermen. Fires are infrequent where lumbermen and railways are not present. Great fires do sometimes occur, but fires in north are exceptional. The coal-burning locomotives now seemed to be as dangerous as the old style that burned wood. Government rangers were taking steps as far as possible to prevent fires. Time will come if we wish to reforest our country, we will have to be assisted by men with scientific training.

Prof. Louis B. Steward also spoke on the danger and prevention of forest fires. While working in the neighborhood of Cedar Lake he found it unwise to light fires on moss-covered ground. Even when drenched with water it will smoulder for days and spring up again. It seemed almost impossible to put it out. Fires should always be lighted on bare ground.

Mr. J. G. Sing said that his impression when in the North-West was that it had all been forest, on banks of streams, or in deep ravines, where naturally protected timber was still growing, otherwise fires had entirely destroyed the timber.

Mr. F. L. Somerville did not think that Profs. Galbraith or Steward had touched on the vital question. In his opinion, we as citizens of Ontario, are more deeply interested in the forests than the lumbermen. He had read that morning, that the country (China), we consider the most backward in estab-

lishing a school of forestry and proposing to replant vast stretches of country so they can take care of the water supply, which was more important than lumbering and pulpwood. With us it was a question of reforesting those parts of Canada good for nothing else. Preserve the forests round the head waters of our rivers. There should be a systematic and scientific system of lumbering. Trees as they approached maturity should be cut down, removed, and brush destroyed, not denude the country of forests for the sake of a few dollars an acre and leave the land bare so that in the spring when the snow melts the water all runs down at once, washing away the soil, and the rest of the year what should be considerable streams are nothing but trickling rills. He emphasized the necessity of protecting the head waters by reforestation and benefit every farmer and every town through which the stream passes.

Mr. S. Gagne spoke briefly of the pulpwood industry in China where they cultivated a special growth for that purpose. He said:—"We will have a supply of pulpwood to supply the world if our forests are properly taken care of. Swamps should have been preserved as forests. Head waters of the rivers in these swamps, and should not have been settled. The land is not good for anything else. In the driving season in the lumber camps the men had orders always to light their fires on clear ground. Confirmed Prof. Galbraith's statement that railways were the source of great danger to the forests, and Prof. Steward's remarks with regard to people who made fires in the moss. Lightning also a source of forest fires, the striking of a dry birch would set the whole forest on fire. The Government, he understood, was to spend twenty-five to thirty thousand dollars to elaborate a forestry scheme. In Germany every man who wanted to plant trees on his property was furnished with the trees free of cost to encourage individual effort. He had seen two planted forests, one of 500 acres and one of 100 acres. The cost is very great with no immediate returns. The kind of trees suited to the land were planted about 4 feet apart and afterwards thinned out. Much was to be done in the way of scientific lumbering. In Quebec, where people own large tracts they could be made perpetual producers. Would entail more cost at first but in the long run would be much cheaper than every year buying more limits to replace those spoiled.

Mr. J. C. Sieman gave a description of forestry in Germany. No stumps were left and they set to work to replant as soon as the trees were cut down. From forests the German Government had millions of dollars of revenue. During recent visit to Germany where his uncle was chief ranger, he had found the whole country dotted with forests, not only beautiful but protected the streams, and were of great benefit to the country. We must go ahead without looking for immediate returns to present generation, but would be an immense boon to generations to come. The supply in the United States was approaching exhaustion, and they were looking to Canada to supply lumber for manufacturing purposes. In Mexico there were no forest fires, owing to the perpetual green growth all the year. In Europe there were no forest fires because the forests were kept clean. Wood was so valuable that every stick was picked up. There was not enough capital in this country to develop it as it should, but every young man should be willing to help, and it could not be started too soon. In the north when he was a boy, there were rich, strong streams in which he used to go fishing, were now little bits of ditches with no water, owing to the forests being cut down and consequently the country dried up.

Prof. Galbraith spoke of a forest he had seen of jack pine, varying in size from a pipe-stem to an inch in diameter, and growing as thick as hay, so close that a rabbit could not get through. His theory was that it was once a fine forest and the cones on the ground had escaped the fire and sprung into life.

Mr. T. C. Irving, Jr., spoke of the millions of dollars being spent by the State of Ohio on building dams and conserving the water supply.

Mr. T. Aird Murray, C.E., of Leeds, England, who said that with Mr. Charles Hensall, engineer for Leeds City Council, he