

taken, when messages were carried over a wire two miles long. The commercial success of the telephone was then assured.

Dr. Bell and his assistant possibly have seen the greatest scientific development along any one line that has been the satisfaction of any inventor to see. From the little imperfect room-to-room telephone line they have seen the wonderful lines over which it is possible to converse from Montreal to San Francisco. They have seen the great commercial development due to no small extent to the great inventor by which commercial enterprises have been connected in one great network of wires. It has seldom been the experience of an inventor to see his invention so developed, more especially by himself. It is to be lamented that inventors very often, who make an invention, find it enlarged upon by some other inventor who gets the greater amount of credit and profit. It is to be hoped that Dr. Bell has seen his ideas fully developed and has received all the satisfaction and benefit which he deserves for his great invention.

The blessings which have followed in the wake of Dr. Bell's discovery it would be well near impossible to describe. The world has been made smaller and more neighborly—business has been facilitated to an enormous extent. It is doubtful if any one single invention has contributed so generally to the enjoyment of the people as has the telephone. One can only realize the value and convenience of the telephone when, after having used one for years, he is placed in a position where he cannot have access to it. It is like an insurance policy, "'Tis better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it."

### PERSONAL.

G. L. PEARSONS has been appointed secretary and general manager of the Goderich Elevator & Transit Company, Goderich, Ont.

H. G. GIRVIN, chief chemist of the Steel Company of Canada, delivered an address to the Hamilton Technical School a few days ago. His subject was "Iron and Steel."

Capt. F. C. KILBURN, of the Signal Corps, Royal Canadian Engineers, who is now in France, has been promoted to the rank of major. Capt. Kilburn was recently recommended for the D.S.M.

W. J. CURLE, of Toronto, has been appointed general manager of the C., W. & L. E. Railway, to succeed the late William Norris. Mr. Curle was formerly connected with the C.P.R. and C.N.R., the latter road having control of the C., W. & L. E. Railway.

MARK WORKMAN, president of the Dominion Steel Corporation, has left Montreal on a trip of inspection to the company's coal and steel properties in the east. He will be away for some time, his intention being to make a thorough survey of the properties, particularly the recent extensions.

Recent changes among the superintendents of the Canadian Pacific Railway are as follows: A. Halkett, superintendent, Kenora, transferred to Moose Jaw; H. H. Boyd, transferred from Moose Jaw to Vancouver; C. A. Cotterell, transferred from Vancouver to Lethbridge; J. M. MacArthur, at present acting superintendent at Lethbridge, is appointed superintendent at Kenora. The officials took charge of their new districts on April 1st.

### OBITUARY.

JOHN FLOOK, a well-known contractor of Chatham, Ont., died at his home there last week.

ROBERT DAVIES, proprietor of the Don Valley Brick Works, Toronto, Ont., died on March 22, aged 67.

WILLIAM R. WAGHORNE, manager of the Hydro-Electric System at Wallaceburg, Ont., died on March 23.

GEORGE SMITH, town engineer of Lindsay, Ont., died of heart failure last week while visiting friends in Toronto.

RICHARD FOX, for many years superintendent of the electric light system in Port Arthur, died recently at his home there.

### VICTORIA BRANCH, CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

At the regular meeting of the branch last month an interesting lecture on "The Bridges of the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway" was given by J. L. Harrington, M. Can. Soc. C. E., of the firm of Waddell & Harrington, consulting engineers. He described in detail many of the bridges he had designed, making special mention of lift bridges, where the span lifts up vertically, allowing the ship to pass underneath, instead of having the turntable. The lecture was illustrated by a number of excellent lantern slides, showing the completed bridges, the work in course of construction, and details of the work.

### EDMONTON BRANCH, CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The "Panama Pacific Exposition" was the subject of an illustrated lecture before the Edmonton Branch, Canadian Society of Civil Engineers at their regular meeting on March 24. The lantern slides used were loaned to the branch through the kindness of the National Electric Light Association of New York, and showed the wonderful lighting effects secured at the Exposition.

Dr. J. A. Allan, of the University of Alberta, who spent some weeks at the Exposition, explained very clearly the various slides as they were shown.

### TORONTO BRANCH, CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The regular monthly meeting of the Toronto Branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers will be held in the Chemistry and Mining Building of the University of Toronto, on Thursday, April 13th, 1916.

Professor A. P. Coleman, Ph.D., will give an illustrated address on "A Visit to the Mountains of Northern Labrador."

A large attendance is requested to hear this very excellent address.

### COMING MEETINGS.

AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION.—Thirty-sixth annual convention to be held in New York City, June 4th to 8th. Secretary, J. M. Diven, 47 State Street, Troy, N.Y.