

SPARKS.

Some of the residents of Thessalon, Ont., are in favor of taking steps to introduce the electric light.

The capital stock of the Imperial Oil Co., Petrolia, Ont., has been increased from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000.

A project is on foot to build an electric railway between Trenton and Westville, N.S., via New Glasgow and Stellarton.

The merchants of Souris, P. E. I., are considering the advisability of having the town lighted by electricity. Oil lamps are now used.

Mr. J. M. Clark is a farmer just outside the town of Smith's Falls, Ont., who has just had his buildings wired for electric light.

The town of Barrie, Ont., has entered into an agreement to take over the plant of the Barrie Electric Light Co., at the price of \$22,501.

Mr. Thomas Clater, chief engineer for the Windsor Electric Light Co., Windsor, Ont., was caught by a shaft and slightly injured recently.

The by-law to raise \$5,000 for the extension of the electric light plant at Thorold, Ont., was defeated by the ratepayers at the municipal elections.

The first narrow gauge railway train operated by electricity in Europe was given a trial on a short road between Dusseldorf and Kerfeld, Germany.

The C.P.R. steamship fleet will receive a general overhauling at Owen Sound, Ont., during this winter. An electric light plant will be installed on the "Alberta."

The Wallaceburg Electric Light Co., of Wallaceburg, Ont., has been granted an extension of time to February 1st, for the installation of an incandescent lighting plant.

At a meeting of the directors of the St. Catharines Electric Light Co., held on December 30th, it was decided to add to the plant a new engine and boiler, at a cost of \$6,000.

The Lake Megantic Pulp Company, of Lake Megantic, Que., will ask the government for an increase of its powers, with a view to supplying electric light and power and constructing tramways.

The first annual dinner of the employees of the Winnipeg Street Railway was held in Winnipeg on January 2nd. In order that most of the employees might attend, the dinner was held at midnight.

The electric light plant at Stanbridge East, Que., will be in operation in a few days. The feeder pipe for water wheel is now being laid in, and the Crocker turbine, furnished by the Jenckes Machine Company, of Sherbrooke, Que., has arrived.

Tenders for the electric wiring for the new city hall at St. Thomas, Ont., were received as follows: Rogers & Co., London, \$395; H. L. Gray, Toronto, \$409; Matthew Stearns & Son, St. Thomas, \$568. The tender of H. L. Gray was accepted.

It is reported that the widow of the late John W. Keeley has entrusted to a former Canadian, in the person of Mr. T. Rurton Kinread, late of Moncton, N. B., the task of completing and perfecting the Keeley motor. Mr. Kinread is now located in Boston, Mass.

Mr. Charles MacBeth has established business in the Masonic Temple building, London, Ont., under the name of the Ontario Electric Company. The new firm will keep in stock a supply of electrical apparatus, and will give special attention to electric wiring.

The electric lighting plant recently sold to the corporation of the town of Campbellton was started up for Christmas lighting. The driving power is water, and the electrical apparatus is of the Royal Electric Company's "S.K.C." two phase type, for arc and incandescent lighting and power.

The Niagara Falls Park & River Railway Co. have brought action against the town of Niagara Falls, Ont., to recover the sum of \$124.42, paid as taxes by them to the corporation on a \$6,000 assessment on their roadway. The company claim that the property is a public highway and therefore exempt.

The Chicago Record states that the Count de Jotemps, of Jaris, France, has closed a contract with the Fischer Equipment Co., of Chicago, under which the latter agrees to furnish 500 horseless vehicles each year for the next ten years. It is also said that the count has closed other contracts for 1,500 vehicles.

The General Electric Co., of Schenectady, N.Y., has received an order from the company which is constructing the underground street railway in Paris, for eight electric locomotives and necessary equipment. The locomotives will be of the same type

as those or the Central London Underground Railway. The length of the Paris road is three miles.

The Gendron Manufacturing Company, of Toronto, recently decided to install a direct-connected 600 light generator for lighting their factory. The order was placed with the W. A. Johnson Electric Company for a generator and the wiring of factory. They will use a 10 x 10 Ideal engine, manufactured by the Goldie & McCulloch Company, of Galt, Ont.

The corporation of Beeton, Ont., recently decided to install an electric light plant. It was put in about two months ago, and since then the number of lights has increased to nearly the capacity of their present machine, which is one of the W. A. Johnson Electric Company's inductor type of alternator, suitable for a plant where a repair shop is not near by.

The council of the town of Dartmouth, N. S., will ask power from the provincial legislature to issue \$150,000 of bonds for the purpose of operating a street railway in Dartmouth and vicinity. A bill will also be submitted empowering the issuing of bonds to the amount of \$50,000 to establish an electric light plant for lighting the streets and public buildings.

The Wallaceburg Electric Light Company, of Wallaceburg, Ont., have been supplying arc lights for the town of Wallaceburg for a number of years. Now they have decided to go into the incandescent lighting business, and have placed their order with the Royal Electric Company for a 30 k.w. alternator and 900 light capacity in "S.K.C." transformers and material.

A rumor has been current that the street railway at Sherbrooke, Que., had been purchased by Messrs. Frank Thompson & Co., financial agents of that city. This company is said to have secured the Brompton Falls water power, and to have decided to proceed at once to extend the line to North Hatley and other points. The report, however, has not yet been confirmed.

The ratepayers of the city of Hull, Que., carried a by-law on January 2nd to raise \$8,000 for the installation of an electric light plant for street and city lighting. The plant will include two 50-light dynamos, seventy-five 1,200 c.p. arc lamps, and some eight miles of line. Tenders for same will be invited and the work proceeded with at once. The city owns a suitable water power, which will be utilized for the purpose.

At the ensuing session of parliament, Mr. George E. Kidd, of Ottawa, acting for a syndicate, will apply for a charter incorporating a company to construct a steam or electric railway from the city of Ottawa to Meach's Lake, with branches to Graham's Bay, Aylmer and Hull. Should a charter be granted, the work of construction will be commenced in the spring. The capital stock of the company is placed at \$500,000.

Mr. Percy Domville, of Hamilton, Ont., has presented to the city council of St. Thomas, his report on the cost of installing a civic lighting plant. His estimates for 100 arc-light plant are as follows: Steam plant, \$7,550; electric plant, \$13,571.50; buildings, \$9,300; duplication of plants, \$8,000. For installing in connection therewith an incandescent plant of 3,000 lights the cost is given as follows: Steam plant, \$9,550; electric plant, \$18,225.

There is an arrangement between the Dominion government and the street railway companies operating in most of the large cities in Canada, by which the letter-carriers use the street cars in the performance of their duties. For this consideration the Montreal Street Railway Co. have been paid the sum of \$200 per month, but the Postmaster-General was notified some time ago that the service would not be continued upon this basis. The company claim that a record of the work performed shows that at regular fares the sum to be charged would be over \$1,000 per month, and hence their refusal to renew the contract on the former terms. In Toronto the price paid is said to be \$400 per month.

In the December number of the Street Railway Journal, of New York, appears an article by Mr. William Banks, of the Toronto Railway Co., dealing with the methods of increasing street railway traffic. After referring to the necessity of creating traffic by establishing parks and other places of amusement, Mr. Banks says: "This city has an extensive water front and a beautiful island summer resort within the city limits, and it is anticipated that at no distant date boat trolleys will be placed in operation along the water front by our company to carry passengers to and from and around the island." Mr. Banks describes methods of co-operating with steam railways and boats to handle excursion parties and people arriving to attend unusual entertainments,