

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

Projects, Construction and Betterments.

Brantford and Hamilton Ry.—A car service has been placed in operation between Hamilton and Ancaster, Ont., a two-hour service being maintained. When the line is completed through to Brantford, it is said that a car will be run in each direction every hour. (Jan., pg. 47).

British Columbia Electric Ry.—A delegation representing the Point Grey Improvement Association waited on the B.C. Government recently to urge the construction of an electric line to connect it with Vancouver. Some eighteen months ago the B.C.E.R. made a survey for such a line and asked for a subsidy of 30 acres of land in the district per mile of line. This is opposed by the owners, who have recently purchased land from the Government, which owns 35,000 acres there. (Jan., pg. 47).

Calgary, Alta.—A proposition for the construction of an electric line has been submitted to the city council by Alexander & Budd. A franchise for 15 years is asked, but it is proposed that a stipulation be inserted in any agreement made providing that the city may purchase the line at a valuation at any time during the currency of the franchise. British capital is said to be interested. (Dec., 1907, pg. 927).

Fort William, Ont.—Application will be made next session of the Ontario Legislature by the Fort William City Council for an act authorizing it among other things to construct, equip, operate and maintain an electric street railway over such streets as the council, with the assent of the ratepayers, may from time to time determine, and to authorize the issue of debentures to cover the cost of such railway, such debentures to be paid off within 30 years.

The Port Arthur City Council, at a meeting held Jan. 22, passed a resolution stating that it was not in the interests of the two places that there should be two separate street railways.

Grand Valley Ry.—Contracts for grading, masonry and timber work on the renewals and construction work of this railway have been let, and it is announced that further contracts will be placed in the spring for rails, rolling stock and general equipment. The system to be adopted has not yet been conclusively decided upon, but it is anticipated that the single phase principle will be adopted and estimates are being prepared for power and equipment on this basis. The inter-urban cars to be used will be 52 ft. long, and the city cars 23 ft. The plans of the company include the following renewals and extensions: the line from Brantford to Galt to be relaid with 80-lb. rails; the Brantford St. Ry. to be reconstructed, and seven miles of additional track to be laid; the reconstruction of the Woodstock, Thames Valley and Ingersoll Ry.; an extension of the Brantford-Galt line; and from Brantford through Mount Pleasant, Boston, Watford, Bloomsburg and Simcoe to Port Dover; from Brantford westward through Mount Vernon, Burford, Cathcart, and Eastwood to Woodstock; from Woodstock, through Embro and Beachville to Ingersoll, and from Ingersoll through Dorchester to London. Altogether, 42 miles of track will be reconstructed, and about 90 miles of new track built. On the Port Dover extension a steel trestle bridge about 1,200 ft. long will be constructed. (July, 1907, pg. 505, and Oct., 1907, pg. 759).

Guelph Radial Ry.—Application will be made next session of the Ontario Legislature for an act extending the time for the completion of the lines authorized to be constructed, and to give power to the company to increase its capital stock. D. Guthrie,

Guelph, is solicitor for the company, which is owned by the city. (Jan., 1907, pg. 45).

The International Power Co. has been incorporated under the British Columbia Companies Act, with a capital of \$250,000, for the purpose of developing water-powers and supplying electric energy for industrial purposes; constructing, equipping, operating and maintaining electric, cable, or other tramways or street railways for the conveyance of passengers and freight; constructing telegraph and telephone systems or lines, and for other purposes in connection therewith.

London Street Ry.—Negotiations are proceeding between the company and the city council with a view of arriving at a definite agreement as to the extension of lines to be constructed. (Jan., pg. 47).

Montreal and Southern Counties Ry.—The Montreal City Council, Jan. 14, passed a resolution asking the Minister of Railways, in deciding upon the right of the company to operate within the city limits, to provide that the company shall be subject and liable to the conditions of a by-law to be adopted by the city prior to the construction of the lines. A meeting of the shareholders for organization and other purposes was held in Montreal, Jan. 30. H. G. Elliott is acting as Secretary-treasurer. (Jan., pg. 47).

Mount McKay and Kakabeka Falls Ry.—Application will be made next session of the Ontario Legislature for an act defining and confirming the location of the projected line of railway, and declaring that it has power to construct the line on either the north or south side of the Kaministiquia River, or as to part on the north side and as to the balance on the south side; authorizing the company to use steam power for propelling cars and other vehicles during the construction of its line of railway and other works; approving and confirming by-law 514 of the city of Fort William, and the agreement made between the city and the company, dated July 17, 1907, whereby the company is given the right to construct and operate its railway on certain streets in the city; approving and confirming a by-law passed by the township of Neebing respecting aid to the company by guaranteeing the bonds of the company to an amount equal to \$10,000 a mile for every mile of railway constructed by the company or its assigns within the municipality during five years from the date of the passing of the by-law, and by exempting the property of the company from all municipal taxation, except school taxes, for a period of 21 years commencing 1908; extending the time for the completion of the company's railway until April 30, 1912, and for such other incidental rights, powers and authorities as may be necessary. (Nov., 1907, pg. 841).

Nipissing Central Electric Ry.—A report from Ottawa states that it is expected that the company will let a contract in May or June for the projected electric railway between Cobalt and New Liskeard, Ont. J. Fitzpatrick, Ottawa, is President, and F. H. Latchford, formerly Commissioner of Public Works in the Ontario Government, is interested. (See Cobalt District, Jan., pg. 47).

North Midland Ry.—The Ontario Legislature will be asked next session for an act extending the time for the commencement and completion of certain parts of the projected railway. T. H. Luscombe, London, Ont., is solicitor for the applicants, who are also interested in the South-Western Traction Co.

A meeting of shareholders has been called to be held at the offices, 169 Dundas St., London, Feb. 3, for the purpose of electing directors; passing and confirming by-laws; issuing paid-up stock to the promoters of the company; making a contract for the construction of the line, and arranging for the payment of the contractor in bonds and paid-up stock.

Press reports state that a contract has been let to A. E. Welch, London, Ont., for the construction of 35 miles of line to connect London and Stratford, and that the line will run via Bryanstown, Devizes, Cherry Hill, Wellburn, St. Mary's, and probably Avonton. It has also power to construct lines to serve Clinton, Mitchell, Exeter and other points in Huron, Perth and Middlesex counties. (Dec., 1907, pg. 927).

Ontario West Shore Electric Ry.—The by-law guaranteeing \$150,000 of the bonds of the O. and W.S.E.Ry. Co. was passed by the ratepayers of Goderich, Ont., Jan. 6. A press despatch states that this vote brings up the guarantee of the company's bonds by the local municipalities to a total of \$400,000. The proposal of the company is to construct an electric railway between Goderich and Kincardine. (Dec., 1907, pg. 927).

Quebec and Saguenay Ry.—A syndicate of British and French capitalists is reported to have undertaken the construction of this projected railway, from the terminus of the Quebec Ry., Light and Power Co.'s line to Murray Bay, Que. Other reports stated that the syndicate would construct an independent line into Quebec running nearer the residential district along the river front; and that the six electrical companies operating in Quebec were to be brought under one management and control. We are advised that no proposition having reference to any amalgamation of the Quebec Ry., Light and Power Co. with any other company, such as is indicated, has been made. (Aug., 1907, pg. 603).

Quebec Ry., Light and Power Co.—It is intended to construct a short switch at Mastai Junction for the accommodation of the traffic to the insane asylum, and it is also reported that a short branch will be constructed to connect the Kent House with the new dam at the Natural Steps. (Nov., 1907, pg. 841).

St. Vital, Man.—The by-law authorizing the municipality to construct and operate an electric railway, was carried at the recent election by a majority of 22 votes. (Jan., pg. 47).

South-Western Traction Co.—The Ontario Legislature will be asked next session for an act extending the time for the completion of certain parts of the line authorized to be constructed. (Dec., 1907, pg. 929).

Western Central Ry.—Application will be made next session of the Ontario Legislature for an act extending the time for the commencement and completion of the lines authorized to be constructed. A. T. Drummond, Toronto, is acting for the applicants. (Sept., 1906, pg. 549).

Windsor, Chatham and London Ry.—Application is being made at the current session of the Dominion Parliament for an act extending the time for the construction of this projected railway. M. Wilson, Chatham, Ont., is solicitor for the applicants. (June, 1906, pg. 345).

Windsor, Essex and Lake Shore Rapid Ry.—We are advised that the line is in operation between Windsor and Kingsville, Ont., and the grading between Kingsville and Leamington has been completed. Tracklaying is in progress, and it was expected that this work would be finished by Jan. 30. The electric locomotive ordered from the Canadian Westinghouse Co., Hamilton, Ont., was delivered Jan. 7, was expected to be delivered a few days thereafter. (Oct., 1907, pg. 761).

Winnipeg, Selkirk and Lake Winnipeg Ry.—The electrical equipment of this line is expected to be installed early in the current year, the power-house having been erected, and other preliminary work completed. At present the line, which extends from Winnipeg to Selkirk, Man., is being operated by steam power. (July, 1906, pg. 415).