

TELEPHONE communication between Sydney and Victoria, B.C., was formally opened about the middle of last month.

E. W. SAYER has been elected president, and W. Sutton, vice-president of the Montreal Junior Electric Club. The secretary is H. O. J. Overton, Montreal.

VICTORIA, B.C., city council has called in an expert to report as to the condition of their electric light plant, with a view to its being put into a more efficient condition.

A 13-STATION Eco Watchman's Regulator has been installed in Mair, Son & Co.'s confectionery factory, Halifax, by John Starr, Son & Co., manufacturers of electrical supplies of that city.

JOHN STARR, SON & CO., Halifax have sold between 45,000 and 50,000 of their make of incandescent lamps in Canada, and the "Star" trade mark is now quite a familiar sign on electric lamps.

THE Montreal Street Railway Co. have been authorized by Cote St. Antoine Council to put a double track through Glen Bridge to connect the St. Catherine Street and Notre Dame Street lines.

EUGENE BALDWIN, to whom we have referred in a recent number, has succeeded in regulating the electric current produced by wind power. He has now fitted up his residence with the electric light.

A. A. WRIGHT & CO.'s electric light station, at Renfrew, Ont., has been undergoing renovations, and is described by the *Mercury* as being the neatest and best-kept dynamo rooms now in the Province.

IT has at length been decided at Cote St. Antoine that the route of the proposed Mountain Electric Railway shall be by Mountain Avenue, from Sherbrooke street to the Boulevard, and thence to Montarville.

THE Hamilton Radial Electric Street Railway Co. are applying to Legislature to increase their capital stock from one to two million dollars for the purpose of extending their lines to Mimico, Elmira and other places.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made to connect New Westminster with Steveston, Lulu Island, by an electric tramway. It will be of great benefit, says the *B.C. Commercial Journal*, to the farmers on the island and also to the cannerymen.

JOHN STARR, SON & CO., manufacturers of telephones, Halifax, have fitted up a new warehouse system of telephones in Stair, Son & Morrow's new establishment, Halifax, also a similar system in G. H. Hamilton & Co.'s large biscuit factory, Pictou, N. S.

THE Spring Bank Electric Railway Co., who propose to construct an electric railway from London, Ont., to some point on the River Thames, where a hotel and recreation grounds will be laid out, are applying for incorporation. The leading spirits in the enterprise are H. A. Everitt and S. R. Brake.

THE storage batteries and electric light plant of 17 h.p. at Mimico Asylum, which is capable of supplying 175 lights, are in a ruinous condition. We understand that Bennett & Wright have received the contract for a new plant of 60 horse power, capable of giving 600 lights. The cost is stated to be \$14,000.

THE Montreal Park and Island Railway Co. propose to establish a night freight service to run between midnight and 5 a.m. to Back River. They think they could bring dairy products to the city and take coal and manufactured articles to the former at cheaper rates than those at present in force on the C.P.R.

CARLETON PLACE, Ont., council are discussing the granting of a bonus to T. W. Ness & Co., Montreal, in return for this firm's operating an establishment there for the manufacture of electrical apparatus, employing an average of 100 men per year. The bonus asked for consists in property valued at \$20,000 and exemption from taxation for fifteen years.

IT has been decided by the directors of the Galt and Preston Railway to make the rails of the ordinary weight in use in regular railway construction, and the gauge the same. The rolling stock also is to be such as is used on ordinary railways, and close connection is to be observed with the trains on the main line. The scheme thus makes the electric railway a sort of branch of the other, thus saving the trouble of transshipment.

FROM the annual report of the Bell Telephone Co. of Canada, it appears that 2,639 subscribers were added last year, the total number of instruments in use being 26,806. The company now owns 275 exchanges and 256 agencies. Over 1,600 miles of wire were added to their long-distance system during the year, the total long distance system now in operation being 12,071 miles of wire on 5,068 miles of poles. It has also now made exclusive contracts with all the larger towns in Ontario. The report was considered highly satisfactory by shareholders.

THE Royal Electric Company, Montreal, have brought an action against the Electric Street Railway Company for \$27,526, on the ground that the railway company's action in placing the return wires in their system under ground had rendered their own wires useless. The Royal Electric Company claim as damages the expense of placing new return wires above ground.

THE new power-house to be built at Stoney Creek for the Hamilton, Beamsville and Grimsby Electric Railway, will be of brick and stone with asphalt roof. The engine and dynamo room will measure 40 x 60 feet, and the boiler-room 40 x 30. There will be two dynamos and two boilers, provision being made for an additional boiler. The stack will be 115 feet high.

A GOOD many people have expressed surprise at the title of the Boynton Bicycle Electric Railway, reference to which was made in our last number. To such, the following, being Mr. Boynton's claim for his invention, will give fuller information: 1st—A railway line constructed with a single supporting or bed rail supported by a suitable structure for retaining the rolling stock on the bed rail. 2nd—A railway structure open on one side and adapted to support and guide rolling stock. 3rd—A railway structure adapted to support and guide rolling stock, formed of bent rails or beams to encircle the train. 4th—A railway structure adapted for a quadruple single rail line, two of which are surface tracks. 5th—A railway structure adapted to support and guide "bicycle" rolling stock, the overhead guide rail being so placed at the curve as to tilt the train towards the radius of the same, for the purpose, and substantially as set forth. 6th—A railway switch constructed and operated to shift the bed rail and guide rail simultaneously.

LITERARY NOTES.

We are glad to welcome a new and nicely gotten-up periodical called the *Technical World*, the publishers of which propose to give abstracts of chemical information from trade and scientific journals. The new journal will endeavor to glean the scientific field thoroughly, to separate the wheat from the chaff; but at the same time it does not pretend to render the original sources of its information unnecessary. It will merely draw the reader's attention to subjects in which he may be interested, and then tell him in an accurate manner where further information may be obtained. The *Technical World* is published at 1410 G Street N.W., Washington, D.C.

The *Halifax Critic*, which built up an enviable reputation as the exponent of the mining, manufacturing and commercial interests of the Maritime Provinces, has entered upon an advanced field of usefulness, having made its last appearance as *The Critic* with its issue of February 9th. It has been absorbed by a limited company with capital and influence to maintain and rapidly promote the high aims of the founder of that journal, and it will hereafter appear as the "Canadian Colliery Guardian, Critic, and Journal of the Iron and Steel Trades." No doubt the *Guardian* will have even a wider circulation than it had in its old form. The subscription price is \$1. or \$1.50 when not paid in advance.

We are in receipt of the "Papers read before the Engineering Society of the School of Practical Science, Toronto," published (by order of the society) by the J. E. Bryant Company, Toronto. The papers have mostly been contributed by students and graduates of the school, and are upon such interesting subjects as "Bridge Specifications," "Sewage Filtration," "Electric Traction," etc.

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