

ously between New Westminster & Blaine, along the line of the Great Northern Ry. From Blaine the line will run via Fairhaven to Wooley, Wash., where connection will be made with existing Western Union lines. See June issue, pg. 111).

The Minister of Public Works, Mr. Tarte, recently visited Father Point, Que., & promised to have the signal station placed in direct telegraphic communication with all the lower signal stations, & thus remove the grievance that is so loudly complained of by steamship owners, captains & pilots, & which is the cause of so much detention to steamers. Father Point, though the most important station of the system, is cut off from direct telegraphic communication with the other stations, an anomalous & absurd state of things, & no news is obtainable there for passing vessels. The Minister expressed surprise at the existing state of affairs & promised immediate action that would place Father Point station in a position to be able to obtain & supply mariners with all the latest necessary information regarding shipping.

### EXPRESS.

#### Dominion Company's Notices.

W. A. Whitaker represents this Co. at Liverpool, Eng., vice T. B. Evans, deceased.

W. J. Kirby has been appointed Route Agent, with headquarters removed to Vancouver, B.C., & will have charge of all territory west of Revelstoke, B.C., including State of Washington, vice A. W. Lee, transferred to agency at Seattle, Wash.

A. Devitt, Route Agent, with headquarters at Revelstoke, B.C., has charge of the following territory: All offices on main line of C.P.R., west of Moose Jaw, Assa., to & including Revelstoke, B.C., Edmonton branch, Lethbridge branch, McLeod branch, & all offices in Kootenay District.

H. F. Maley has been appointed Acting Route Agent, with headquarters at Winnipeg, Man., & will have charge of all territory between Moose Jaw, Assa., & Fort William, Ont., inclusive, & all branch intermediate lines.

Agents at exclusive offices of this Co. will Way-bill all matter for Pacific Express offices in Canada, also matter for Buffalo, N.Y., & Niagara Falls, N.Y., to St. Thomas, Ont., for transfer to Pacific Express.

### Rates To Alaska:

Following are the rates between Seattle, Wash., & Dawson City, via Alaska Pacific Express Co. On merchandise when valued \$50 or under:

Weight	Minimum charge, \$2.00
Over 2 lbs. & under 3 lbs.	2.25
Over 3 lbs. & under 4 lbs.	2.50
" 4 " " 5 "	2.75
" 5 " " 7 "	3.00
" 7 " " 10 "	3.50
" 10 " " 15 "	4.00
" 15 " " 20 "	4.50
" 20 " " 25 "	5.00
" 25 " " 30 "	6.00
" 30 " " 35 "	7.00
" 35 " " 40 "	8.00
" 40 " " 45 "	9.00
" 45 " " 50 "	10.00

Over 50 lbs., 50c. a pound, or \$20 per 100 lbs.

When value of shipments is over \$50, charge in addition to the above, 2% for valuation. Marine insurance cannot be effected beyond St. Michael's, & the present rate is 1½%, which is subject to change at any time. All charges must be prepaid.

General Manager Stout, of the Dominion Express Co., has been making an extended inspection trip extending as far west as the Pacific Coast.

The express companies have established an uptown office in St. Catherine's Street, Mon-

tréal, for the accommodation of residents & shopkeepers in that part of the city.

The management & accommodation of the B.C. Express Co., one of the longest stage lines in America, has always kept up prompt connections with Cariboo & Lillooet, & often under great disadvantages. To make a 280-mile trip, regardless of weather or roads, in 4 days, is good work. The stage leaves regularly on Monday mornings, & but few times since the railway was built has it failed to bring in Cariboo mail, express, & passengers by 6 on Tuesday evenings.—Ashcroft Journal.

On June 6 the Pacific Express Co. opened offices at the following points in Ontario, reached over the Detroit-Buffalo line of the Wabash Railroad, operating over the Southern Division of the G.T.R.: Aylmer, Belle River, Bothwell, Canfield, Cayuga, Chatham, Corinth, Courtland, Delhi, Fort Erie, Glencoe, Jarvis, Jennett's Creek, Lawrence, Lewisville, Middlemiss, Nelles Corners, Newbury, Nixon, Port Robinson, St. Thomas, Simcoe, Stoney Point, Tecumseh, Thamesville, Tilsonburg, Walkerville, Welland, Windsor.

### TELEPHONES.

#### London People's Telephone Co.

The People's Telephone Co., of London, Ont., has been incorporated under the Ontario Joint Stock Companies' Act, with a capital stock of \$100,000, to carry on in London & the County of Middlesex a general telephone business. The incorporators are R. H. Evans & H. Walters, of Detroit, Mich., & R. A. Bayly, T. H. Purdon, M. Masuret, R. Fox, F. B. Leys, T. H. Smallman, J. Milne & J. R. Minhinick, of London. The Company made application to the city council for a franchise, offering to provide a day & night service & a Sunday service, with modern appliances, including metallic circuits & double-battery, long-distance instruments, the whole system to be in operation by Jan. 1, next. The rates offered are these: For unlimited services under 5-year contracts for offices or business houses, \$26 a year; for unlimited services under 5-year contracts for private dwellings, \$18 a year, & \$42 a year for offices & residences combined. In the case of very large users, whose calls exceed 10,000 conversations a year on the average, the Co. reserves the right to make an extra charge or to compel the subscribers to use & pay for 2 or more lines in the place of one. The Co. agrees to keep the top cross-arm of all poles for the use of the city fire alarm wires, & to make no claim against the city for damages on account of the interference with the service or property (unless caused by an agent or servant of the city), or by reason of the wires being injured by firemen while working at fires. It is also stipulated that if the Co. fails to supply an efficient service, the city may, at its option, put an end to the agreement, by giving a month's notice, all rights & privileges then ceasing. The council has given the Co. a 15 years' franchise to operate in the city.

#### Bell Telephone Co.'s Assessment.

Last year the plant of the Bell Telephone Company in Hamilton was assessed by that city. The assessment was disputed on various grounds, among others, that a wrong principle of valuation had been adopted. It was contended by the city that the poles & wires in a certain ward should be valued as part of the plant as a whole, considered as a going concern. The Co. contended that the plant in a certain ward should be valued for what it was worth as material to be used by a purchaser in any way he thought fit, but must be valued without regard to whether it belonged to the Bell Telephone Co. or not, or

whether it was part of a going concern or not. The assessable value would be what the plant would bring when sold in the open market, without regard to whom its present owner happened to be, or for what purpose it was at present used. The case was carried to the Court of Appeal by the Telephone Co. In Toronto an agreement was arranged this year between the Co. & the Assessment Department whereby, in view of this pending case, the assessment against the Co. should be held over until the latest date, in the hope that in the meanwhile the Court of Appeal would render judgment, which would be of value in making the assessment upon the proper principle. The Court of Appeal recently gave judgment in favor of the Bell Co.'s contention, reducing the Hamilton assessment to the amount admitted by the Co. there as proper & reasonable.

### Telephone Items.

At the recent annual meeting of the St. Martins, N.B., Telephone Co., the former board of directors & officers were re-elected.

It is said at Vancouver, B.C., that English capitalists have secured the controlling interest in the New Westminster & Burrard Telephone Co.

The Central Electric Light Co., Portage la Prairie, Man., is said to have under consideration the equipment of a telephone exchange, in opposition to the present company.]

The People's Telephone Co., of Windsor, Ont., the incorporation of which was reported in our June issue, pg. 112, has been granted a 20-year franchise by the Windsor City Council.

The Spokane Falls & Northern Telephone Co. expects to have its line completed to the International Boundary Line almost immediately. At that point the line will be connected with that of the Nelson & Vernon Co., which has consented to construct a line from the Boundary Line through Cascade City, Grand Forks & Greenwood to Midway, B.C.

The New Brunswick Telephone Co. recently elected the following directors: Hon. A. G. Blair, President; F. P. Thompson, Managing Director; J. L. Black, Vice-President; W. E. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; Dr. A. A. Stockton, Chas. Fawcett, C. F. Sise, W. T. Whitehead. The directors have decided to replace the wire on the trunk system between Fredericton & St. John & Amherst, N.S., with copper wire.

Some experiments were recently made with the telephone circuit between Manchester, Eng., & Brussels, by putting the operators at the two cities in direct communication with each other. Additional interest attaches to the experiments from the fact that land & sea wires had to be utilized, the wires running from Brussels through Coutraï & Lille to Calais, where they were connected with the London-Paris telephone cable under the Straits of Dover. The experiments were successful, the conversations being distinctly heard.

At the annual meeting of the Canadian Telephone Co. at Sawyerville, Que., June 27, the following were elected directors: J. Laroche, Sawyerville; A. Adam, Paquetteville; J. Lemieux, St. Malo; P. A. Barbeau, Cookshire; J. Hunt, M.L.A., Bury; F. F. Willard, Angus; E. Roberge, Notre Dame des Bois; N. P. Tanguay, Weedon; & M. Matheson, Lake Megantic. H. Laroche was re-elected President, J. Lemieux General Manager, & J. Fournier Secretary-Treasurer. A dividend of 5% for the past year was declared. The report stated that the Co. had built during the past year 60 miles of poles, with 114 miles of wire, & owned 220 miles of poles & 347 miles of wire. The Co. has 12 exchanges, with 322 subscribers.