

necting link with the eastern end of the province. The former road will probably be extended to some point on Northumberland Strait, from which a line of steamers to Prince Edward Island will be operated.

The Canadian Street Railway Association was organized in Montreal last month. W. G. Ross, of the Montreal Street Railway, is president, and W. H. Moore, of the Toronto Railway Co. is vice-president. Several representatives of the American Association were present. The object of the organization is to bring about a better understanding between the street railway employees and employers throughout the Dominion.



## LIGHT, HEAT, POWER, ETC.

Westmount, the western suburb of Montreal, has decided to own its own electric light and power, and will build a municipal plant, the power to be generated by steam.

The first turbo-generator set in Canada is now operating at the plant of the Toronto Electric Light Co. It is a 500-K.W. Curtis turbine installed by the Canadian General Electric Co.

The Gladstone Gas Company, of Gladstone, Man., has organized with the following officers: President, A. G. Williams; vice-president, Dr. J. W. Armstrong; directors, Thos. Morton, R. L. Cross, and R. A. Wylie, of Winnipeg.

Early this year a new mill will be erected at Atwood, Ont., by W. F. Forrest, in which will be installed sufficient power to furnish the town with electric light. The new mill will be thoroughly equipped with all modern machinery.

Gas has been struck at the North-West Gas and Oil Company's well at Edmonton. It was a pocket of considerable size, at the depth of some 700 feet below the surface. This is held to be a good indication. The boring is likely to be continued some 2,000 feet or more.

The water rights at Kakabeka Falls, eighteen miles from Fort William, have been transferred from the original promoter, E. S. Jenison, to C. R. Hosmer, H. S. Holt, and F. W. Thompson, capitalists, of Montreal. The new company will commence development at once, and expect to have 30,000-h.p. ready for use by June, 1906. Power will be supplied to the municipality at \$25 per horse-power, which will be a saving of \$20 per horse-power over the present generation by steam.

The California Gas and Electric Corporation, San Francisco, Cal., has just placed an order with Crocker-Wheeler Company, Ampere, N.J., for three 4,000-K.W. capacity, 3-phase, 13,200-volt, 25-cycle, 88-R.P.M. revolving field alternating current generators to be driven by 5,400 horse-power gas engines. These generators are the largest in capacity in the world driven by gas engines, and will furnish power for operating all the street railways in San Francisco and vicinity. The Crocker-Wheeler Company are the American licensees of Brown, Boveri & Cie, the celebrated Swiss electrical engineers. But the reputation for excellence which the Crocker-Wheeler Company has built up during the past sixteen years of manufacture of direct current apparatus, has had much to do with the result. Canadian representatives, the Packard Electric Co., St. Catharines, Ont.

The Canadian Niagara Power Co. formally opened its installation on the 2nd inst., when two turbines of 10,000-h.p. each were set in motion. Three other similar units are being installed and will be ready for operation about the first of May; and six further units, making a total of eleven or 110,000-h.p., will be put in later. The occasion of the opening was celebrated in fitting style, the following being some of those present at the ceremony: J. W. Langmuir, president of the Queen Victoria Park Commission, and Commissioners Robt. Jaffray, A. W. Campbell, James Bampfield, and George H. Wilkes; Superintendent James Wilson and President William H. Beatty, of the Power Co.; A. Monroe Grier, K.C., secretary; Edward D. Adams, F. L. Stetson, Edward A. Wickes, and William B. Rankine, of the Niagara Falls Power Co., N.Y.; George Urban, Jr. and Charles R. Huntley, of the Cataract Power and Conduit Co., of Buffalo; De Lancey Rankine of the Tonawanda Power Co. The Canadian company is owned by the Niagara Falls Power Co., on the United States side of the river, and the

two installations will be operated as one plant, so that customers will always be sure of continuous service. A cable laid across the steel arch bridge connects the Canadian plant with the older power houses.



## MUNICIPAL WORKS, ETC.

Citizens of St. Albert, Alberta, are circulating a petition calling on the village council to pass by-laws to borrow \$30,000 to erect a grist mill and to install a system of electric lights in the village.

Winnipeg and neighboring municipalities are discussing the building of a new traffic bridge across the Red River at a cost of about \$75,000, shared as follows: Government grant to be asked for, \$10,000; Springfield municipality, \$5,000; Kildonan, \$8,000; St. Paul's, \$3,500; St. Clement's, \$3,500; Winnipeg, the balance, probably \$40,000. The matter will be taken up by the new council this month.

A difficulty has been met in the proposed purchase by the city of St. John, N.B., of the electric light plant of Carleton, as it is discovered that the present owners cannot transfer the franchise without special legislation. The city will have to obtain this legislation or have the property transferred to the former holder, who has the right, by an act passed three years ago, to sell the franchise.

The Portage la Prairie Board of Trade is taking steps to prevent spring floods along the Assiniboine river, and two schemes are proposed. One is to cut the arms of the river and straighten its course, and the other is to cut a channel from the town to Lake Manitoba to carry off the surplus water. The latter scheme appears to be more feasible. The Board has asked the co-operation of the Winnipeg Board in the matter.



## TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH.

Application will be made at the next session of Parliament for the incorporation of the North-West Telephone Co., to construct and operate lines throughout Ontario, Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

The following resolution was unanimously passed by the Waterloo County Council: "That this council strongly endorse the establishing of a farmers' telephone system in Waterloo County; that such a system should be a great benefit to both farmer and merchant, and we would suggest that no exclusive franchises should be given to telephone companies by municipalities in this county, whereby the farmers' telephone system could be shut out from obtaining connection with any municipality, and that we again memorialize the Government that until the telephone systems are taken over, compulsory service should be given over any long-distance lines at rates approved by the Governor-in-Council, not exceeding the ordinary rates charged by the telephone company owning the line."

A petition has been presented to the Manitoba Legislature asking for the incorporation of the Independent Telephone Company of Canada. The promoters of this company are residents of Minneapolis and the State of Iowa, and it is their purpose to establish in Winnipeg and in towns throughout the province a dial (automatic) system of telephones. They have fixed their capital stock at \$10,000,000, and they estimate that it will cost them \$2,000,000 to instal a service in Winnipeg. The bill provides that all wires should be placed under ground and that municipalities should have the right to expropriate and operate systems within the limits of their corporations, and also that the Government shall have the right to expropriate and control rates. The company also agree to connect their urban system with rural lines that any group of farmers may establish. A number of Western Canadian capitalists have secured a financial interest in the enterprise.

The latest addition to the municipal telephone systems in Great Britain is that of Hull, where the formal opening of the exchange took place on November 28th. There are 700 lines in operation, the total number of subscribers connected and on hand being 1,800. The ultimate capacity of the system is 5,000. The rates are: For unlimited service;