

position. Construction on this line has been carried on northwards from the Crow's Nest line and southwards from Golden, and the two sections will meet at the Columbia River bridge.

Toronto, Ont.—Owing to the present unsettled conditions, it is a question whether the next session of the Provincial Legislature will draft an extensive programme of construction in the matter of highway improvements in Ontario. During the past season much work has been done by the Public Roads and Highways Commission by way of investigation, compilation of statistics, traffic census, etc., and, under normal conditions, legislation should shortly be introduced, providing the necessary machinery for carrying the policy into effect.

Viking, Alta.—Natural gas has been struck near Viking, Alta., on the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. The well has been bored for the city of Edmonton, and the gas will be piped to Alberta's capital, eighty-two miles distant. The well is 2,340 feet in depth, and is making 9,350,000 cubic feet per day. This well is only exceeded in size of flow on the continent by the one at Bow Island. It is stated that two wells of this capacity would supply all the power, light and heat required in the city of Edmonton.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

On December 1st a large attendance of the membership of the Society heard Mr. J. S. Plaskett, D.Sc., of the Dominion Observatory, who delivered an illustrated address descriptive of the new telescope now under construction for the observatory at Victoria, B.C.

At its next meeting, on December 15th, the Society will be addressed by Prof. L. B. Stewart, University of Toronto, on "Experiences on Surveying and Exploring Expeditions." The address will be illustrated. Mr. A. F. Miller is secretary of the Society, whose offices are at 189 College Street, Toronto.

PERSONAL.

R. S. BUCK, chief engineer of the Dominion Bridge Co., Montreal, has been appointed maintenance-of-way engineer for the New York Railway.

JAS. SHIELDS, consulting electrical contractor, has been chosen by the Toronto Hydro-Electric System as inspector of city wiring.

J. L. HARRINGTON, consulting bridge engineer of Kansas City, addressed the Victoria branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers at its recent meeting on modern bridge construction.

GEO. GAUTHIER, assistant superintendent of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co., was seriously burned by a short circuit at one of the plants of the Shawinigan Water and Power Co. last week.

A. F. STEWART, chairman of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, delivered an illustrated address to the members of the Branch at a meeting on November 26th. His subject was "Bridges Destroyed during the South African War."

D. C. COLEMAN, of Calgary, general superintendent of the Alberta division of the C.P.R., will, it is reported, succeed Mr. Grant Hall as general manager of Western lines, the latter advancing to the vice-presidency vacated by Mr. George Bury, when Mr. Bury moves up to succeed Mr. McNicoll.

OBITUARY.

The death occurred last week of Mr. John H. Housser, secretary and one of the directors of the Massey-Harris Co., Toronto. Mr. Housser was connected with the firm for 42 years.

The death occurred in Montreal last week of Mr. R. C. Hadley, of the engineering staff of the George A. Fuller Contracting Co.

It has been announced that Mr. Fred. C. Robertson, inspector of C.P.R. Telegraphs for Ontario, died on November 29th at Port Hope.

The death occurred last week of Mr. A. E. Wilkinson, traffic superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway in Nova Scotia. Mr. Wilkinson was in his 45th year, and was a native of New Brunswick.

NEW G.T.R. BRIDGE AT PRINCE GEORGE, B.C.

The vertical lift-bridge over the Fraser River at Prince George, B.C., was opened last week to permit the passage of steamers. The lift-span is 100 ft. in length, and is electrically operated, assisted by concrete counter weights. When raised, it is 150 ft. above the river. The entire bridge is one of the longest steel bridges in the Dominion, being 2,654 ft. between abutments. There are twelve spans, excluding the lift portion. The structure rests on 14 concrete piers, and provides accommodation for two 12-ft. roadways and a 19-ft. railway right-of-way.

COMING MEETINGS.

ANNUAL MEETING, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS.—The annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will be held in New York, December 1st to 4th, 1914. Secretary, Calvin W. Rice, 29 West 39th Street, New York.

AMERICAN ROAD BUILDERS ASSOCIATION.—Eleventh Annual Convention; fifth American Good Roads Congress, and 6th Annual Exhibition of Machinery and Materials. International Amphitheatre, Chicago, Ill., December 14th to 18th, 1914. Secretary, E. L. Powers, 150 Nassau Street, New York, N.Y.

CANADIAN NATIONAL CLAY PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION.—Annual Convention to be held at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto, January 26, 27, and 28, 1915. Secretary, G. C. Keith, 32 Colborne Street, Toronto.

EIGHTH CHICAGO CEMENT SHOW.—To be held in the Coliseum, Chicago, Ill., from February 10th to 17th, 1915. Cement Products Exhibition Co., J. P. Beck, General Manager, 208 La Salle Street, Chicago.

AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION.—The 35th annual convention, to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 10th to 14th, 1915. Secretary, J. M. Diven, 47 State Street, Troy, N.Y.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION.—Annual meeting to be held at the Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, June 22nd to 25th, 1915. Secretary, F. L. Bishop, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Officers of University of New Brunswick Engineering Society:—The Engineering Society at the University of New Brunswick elected their officers, recently, as follows:—Honorary president, Mr. Wallace Broad, St. Andrews; president, Prof. J. A. Stiles; first vice-president, Mr. E. McL. Balkam; second vice-president, Mr. J. P. Mooney; treasurer, Mr. J. D. Hickman; secretary, Mr. A. C. Edgcombe.