

## PERSONAL.

JOHN MCGILL has been appointed assistant manager by the Berg Machinery Manufacturing Company, Toronto.

A. S. GOING has been appointed engineer of construction for the Grand Trunk Railway System, with headquarters at Montreal, Que.

GORDON KRIBS, B.A.Sc., graduate of the University of Toronto, formerly assistant to the chief engineer of the Pacific Power & Light Company, Portland, Ore., is now assistant to the chief engineer of the Texas Power & Light Company, Dallas, Texas.

SUPERINTENDENT WHITE, of the Eastern Canada Power and Pulp Company's ground wood mill at Murray Bay, Quebec, has been appointed superintendent of the new one-hundred-ton ground wood mill, which will be erected by the Abitibi Pulp and Paper Mills.

T. R. DEACON, O.L.S., M.Can.Soc.C.E., has just been elected mayor of Winnipeg. Mr. Deacon is a graduate of the University of Toronto in civil engineering of the class of '91, and is president and general manager of the Manitoba Bridge and Iron Works, Limited.

G. SYLVESTER, of Calgary, Alta., has been elected one of the executive of five officers representing the various divisions of the American Association of Manufacturers of Sand Lime Products, the annual convention of which was held at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, December 3rd and 4th.

ALFRED E. ROSEVEAR, recently appointed assistant to vice-president of the Grand Trunk, with headquarters at Montreal, Que., was born on February 20, 1863, at Montreal, and was educated at Montreal Academy. He began railway work on May 1, 1879, as a clerk in the motive power department of the Grand Trunk. The following year he was made clerk in the general superintendent's office, and from 1885 to 1890 was stenographer in the general manager's office. From 1890 to 1892 he was with the West Shore Fast Freight Line at Chicago and at Detroit, Mich., and then for six years was in the accounting department of the Reading Dispatch at Detroit, becoming acting manager of the same line in September, 1898. He was appointed freight claim agent of the Grand Trunk in October, 1898, and in April, 1908, was promoted to assistant general freight agent of the same road, which position he held at the time of his recent appointment as assistant to vice-president.

RICHARD COLCLOUGH, recently appointed assistant to the general superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway and the Prince Edward Island Railway, with headquarters at Moncton, N.B., was born on February 24, 1871, at Bic, Que. After leaving the common schools he attended Rimouski College, and in 1888 graduated with the degree of B.A. from Laval University, Quebec. He began railway work on December 9, 1889, with the International Railway as a clerk in the superintendent's office at Moncton, and has been in the continuous service of that company ever since. From 1892 to November, 1901, he was private secretary to the chief superintendent, then to the general manager, and later to the general superintendent and manager. He was subsequently chief clerk in the manager's office until October, 1902, when he was appointed clerk in the general manager's office and in the office of the managing board. From June, 1911, until the following May he was chief clerk in the general superintendent's office, and in May, 1912, was appointed assistant superintendent of the Halifax & St. John division, which position he held at the time of his recent appointment as assistant to the general superintendent.

S. B. WILLIAMSON, since 1908 division engineer of the Pacific Division of Panama Canal Construction, has resigned his position to enter the service of J. G. White & Co., Limited, international engineers and contractors, of London and New York. Mr. Williamson was called to the canal service by Col. Goethals in May, 1907, as division engineer of the Pacific locks and dams. In his later position he had charge of the construction of the gigantic locks at Pedro Miguel and Miraflores, involving the placing of vast quantities of concrete, extensive dry excavating and dredging; the construction of terminal docks at the Pacific entrance, and municipal work in Panama City, and the Canal Zone south of Culebra. Previous to his work in Panama, Mr. Williamson was engaged in railroad and general construction work in various parts of the United States. He was also in the service of the United States government for some time, and in 1900 was in charge of the fortification work at Newport, R.I. In his new field of work, with J. G. White & Co., Limited, he will be associated with their London office in the capacity of principal assistant engineer, directing construction in all parts of the world excepting the United States and its possessions.

## DEATH OF NOTED SCIENTIST.

The death is reported of Sir George Howard Darwin, second son of the famous Charles Robert Darwin, who won notoriety through his lectures and publications along the lines of nature and evolution. Sir George Howard Darwin was professor of astronomy and experimental philosophy at Cambridge University, he was 67 years of age.

## FIRE LOSS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada during the month of October, as compiled by the Journal of Commerce, shows an aggregate of \$13,651,650, as compared with \$13,945,000 for the same month of 1911, and with \$37,188,300 in October, 1910, when climatic conditions resulted in serious losses from forest fires. The fire losses for the first ten months of 1912 reach the sum of \$191,181,600, as against \$192,933,800 for the same time in 1911,

	1910.	1911.	1912.
January .....	\$15,175,400	\$21,922,450	\$35,653,450
February .....	15,489,350	16,415,000	28,601,650
March .....	18,465,500	31,569,800	16,650,850
April .....	18,091,800	17,670,550	16,349,400
May .....	18,823,200	21,422,000	21,013,950
June .....	13,183,600	20,691,950	16,103,450
July .....	26,847,900	25,301,150	15,219,100
August .....	21,570,550	12,662,650	14,158,800
September .....	11,700,000	11,333,250	13,779,300
October .....	37,188,300	13,945,000	13,651,650
Total, for 10 months.	\$196,535,600	\$192,933,800	\$191,181,600
November .....	16,407,000	18,680,600	.....
December .....	21,528,000	22,722,850	.....
Total year .....	\$234,470,600	\$234,337,250	.....

## MEETING OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The monthly meeting of the society was held on Thursday, December 19th, in the society rooms, 413 Dorchester Street West, Montreal. Mr. H. H. Vaughan, assistant to the vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, read a paper on "Rotary Snow Plows."