

ton & elsewhere. The Judge decided he would have to abide by the precedent.

The city of Montreal, as a result of arbitration, has to pay the Co. \$1,722.66 damages for the removal of conduits from Gosford St. & Jacques Cartier Square & to return the conduits to the Co.

Spokane & B.C. Telephone Co.

This Co. has about 225 miles of line connecting Spokane with Northport, Wash. & Rossland, B.C., & has branch lines from Meyers Falls to Republic, Wash., & from Bosburg to Grand Forks, B.C. It is said to be the Co.'s intention in the near future to build into Rossland, B.C., under a charter it recently purchased from the Columbia Telephone & Telegraph Co., which holds a Dominion franchise for B.C. The officers of the S. & B. C. Co. are: President, Treasurer & General Manager, C. O'Brien Reddin; Vice-President, S. M. Babcock; Secretary, W. T. Stoll. These with W. I. Reddin, constitute the Board of Directors. The head office of the Co. has been removed to Spokane, Wash. It has offices at all of the stations & towns between Spokane & Northport, also one at Republic.

It is expected extensive improvements will be made in the line in the spring, the principal of which will be the running of a double metallic circuit from Spokane to Rossland, & from Meyer's Falls or Bosburg to Republic. The Columbia Telephone & Telegraph Co. will probably string about 100 miles of wire, principally in stub lines, to connect with the S. & B. C. T. Co., the intention being to build into Rossland, Trail, Greenwood, Grand Forks & Cascade, to place exchanges there. A line to Camp McKinney is also proposed, & several stub lines to connect at the International Boundary with the S. & B. C. T. Co.'s wires.

In reference to a despatch from Myers Falls, published in our last issue, pg. 280, we are informed that Messrs. Aris & Oakes applied to the courts for a receiver; the application was heard & denied. Mr. Oakes, the former President of the Co., testified that the lines were worth \$60,000, & were bonded

for \$20,000; that the indebtedness of the Co. was probably \$1,200 or \$1,400. On this showing the court held that there was no evidence to warrant the appointment of a receiver. From this it would appear that the Co. is in excellent financial condition, as the indebtedness is simply the ordinary one in regard to expenses which is paid on the regular payday, the 20th of each month.

The official inauguration of the new telephone line between Moscow & St. Petersburg, Russia, took place Jan. 13. In the exchanges at all stations, American telephone apparatus is used exclusively.

Strong complaints are made of the service given by the Nelson & Vernon Telephone Co., which operates a line into the Boundary Creek district of B.C. Supt. Hodge blames contractors on the Robson-Midway railway for breaking the wires during blasting operations.

EXPRESS MATTERS.

The Alaska Pacific Express Company.

General Manager Hall, of Portland, Ore., advises us as follows under date of Jan. 7: "We have service on all the regular steamers plying between Puget Sound ports & Alaska points. We are also operating the White Pass & Yukon route—a railway now under construction between Skagway & Lake Bennett. This line is now completed, & under operation as far as the summit, & will be completed through to Bennett by July 1. During navigation we also have service on the regular steamer lines between Lake Bennett & Dawson City; also between Lake Bennett & Lake Atlin. We now have agencies established at the following points: Portland, Ore.; Seattle, Port Townsend, Tacoma, Wash.; Victoria, Log Cabin, Lake Bennett, Atlin City, Lake Tagish, White Horse Rapids, B.C.; Wrangel, Juneau, Sitka, Skagway, Heney, Alaska; Dawson City, Yukon."

In reference to the foregoing we presume that as the White Pass & Yukon Ry. has organized an express company, it will be likely to do its own express business in future.

Express Companies Items.

It is said the Arctic Express Co. has gone out of business.

After a trial lasting a month Ex-Auditor Bechal, of the Pacific Co., charged with \$200,000 shortages, has been acquitted.

The Dominion Co. has established a route on the extension of the United Counties Ry. between Henriville & Noyan Jct., Que., 21 miles, with offices at Clarenceville & Noyan Jct.

The Dominion Co. has closed its St. Thomas & Aylmer, Ont., wagon route. This does not affect the Dominion office at Aylmer, which is now reached by a through arrangement with the Pacific Express Co., via St. Thomas.

Route Agents E. J. Salisbury & C. Bowen of the Dominion having been assigned to other duties in the audit department, the lines heretofore under their respective jurisdiction have been consolidated with remaining route agencies.

At the annual meeting at Omaha recently the following were elected officers of the Pacific Co.: J. Eggleston, President; H. G. Burt, Vice-President; W. R. Carter, Secretary & Treasurer; E. B. Pryor, F. G. Merriam, S. B. Schuyler, E. T. Clapp, St. Louis; E. Young, Omaha, directors.

The following changes have been made in the Canadian Co.: W. T. Anderson, formerly Auditor of the money department, is appointed Superintendent of that department, with charge of all detail matters pertaining to money order business. W. H. Bryce has been appointed Assistant Auditor money order department. D. B. Atkinson has been appointed Office Supply Clerk.

The White Pass & Yukon Express Co. has been established in connection with the White Pass & Yukon Ry. The rate from Skagway to Atlin Jct. is 7c. a lb., to Log Cabin 7c. & to Lake Bennett 9c. Animals securely boxed & diamonds & jewelry double rates. The officers are: C. E. Hawkins, General Superintendent; H. M. McCartney, Division Superintendent; L. H. Gray, General Manager.

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