

SPARKS.

The Winnipeg Electric Railway Company has recently reduced the wages of its employees by 20 per cent.

The Legal and Commercial Exchange reports the assignment of Messrs. Quintard & Packard, dealers in electrical supplies at Victoria, B. C.

The Toronto Railway Company have purchased a 250 h. p. Robb-Armstrong high speed engine, to be used as an auxiliary, during the winter, to their present power station.

An all night service has been inaugurated by the Bell Telephone Co. at Owen Sound, and negotiations are proceeding with the object of furnishing the town with an electric fire alarm system.

Parliament will be asked to grant incorporation to the Niagara Falls Electric Railway Bridge Company, to build a bridge across the Niagara River between the Falls and the Whirlpool rapids.

A 140 h. p. condensing engine and steel boiler, have been purchased by the Penetanguishene and Midland Light and Power Company, of Penetanguishene, for their power station, now in course of erection.

The first electric plant of the Waddell-Entz Company's manufacture has been installed in the Gazette Building at Montreal, by the Company's Canadian agents, Messrs. John Langton & Company, of Toronto. The plant comprises a 30 Kilowatt incandescent dynamo of the slow speed type, and a slate switch-board provided with volt meter and ammeter.

The London West Electric Railway went into operation on the 4th of November. The event was celebrated as a public holiday. The road is owned by the company which operates the horse car system in the city proper. There has been opposition on the part of some of the citizens and their representatives in the city council, to the granting of a franchise to the company for the city and the conversion of the city lines to electricity. It is expected that the new electric road in London West will serve to show the citizens the superiority of electricity, and aid the company in securing the city franchise.

When permission was granted the Merchants' Telephone Company, of Montreal, to erect poles on the streets of that city, it was supposed by the council that the resolution granting the privilege called for the work to be done under the supervision and control of the city engineer. It has turned out however that the wording of the resolution does not cover this point, and the telephone company are erecting poles in a manner to please themselves, and in some cases much to the dissatisfaction of the citizens. This privilege granted to the Merchants' Company, will incidentally work to the advantage of the Bell Telephone Company also, as so long as one company is allowed to run its wires overhead, the other company will also escape the expense which would be entailed by putting their wires underground.

We learn from the annual report of Mr. Grenville C. Cunningham, chief engineer of the Montreal Street Railway, that the total mileage of the road when completed will be about 85 miles. 54½ miles of new track have already been laid, and it is expected that when winter sets in the whole system will have been laid with rails. 43 miles of overhead trolley have been constructed, and some 400 poles put up. There are in use at present 71 motor cars, each car being fitted with two 25 h. p. motors. By the time the winter sets in this equipment will have been increased to 100 motors and 4 snow sweepers. 2200 h. p. is at present being used, 1,000 h. p. being supplied by the Royal Electric Company, 1,000 h. p. by a temporary power station erected by the company, and 200 h. p. from the Montreal Exposition Company's engines. The new power station which the company are erecting on William street will afford a total of 3,200 h. p. It is expected that power from two engines from this station will be available before the end of the year. The engine house in connection with this new station is 235 feet long by 187 feet wide, and will contain six engines, each having a capacity of 600 h. p., and driving two kilowatt Edison generators. Sufficient space will be allowed in the building for two more engines. Water for condensing purposes will be obtained from the canal. A chimney 186 feet high by 9 feet interior diameter has been erected.

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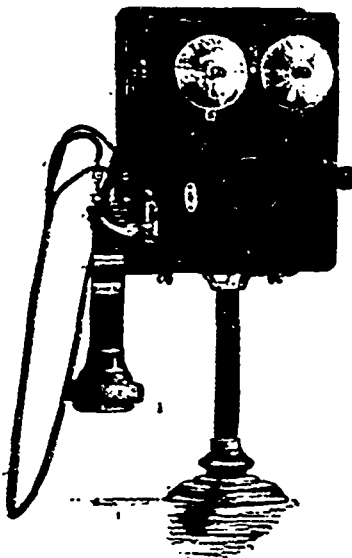
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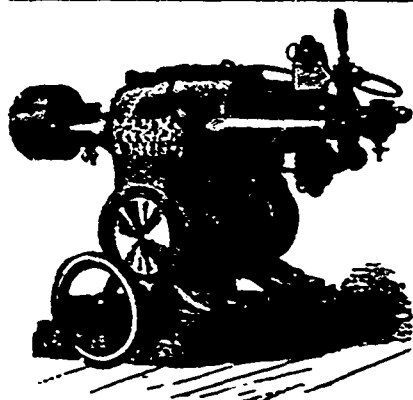
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