

COAST TO COAST.

Fort William, Ont.—David Johnson, a young clerk, was electrocuted in the show window of a men's furnishing store by an ordinary tungsten lamp when he was endeavoring to replace the broken light. It was only a 110-volt line. He died instantly.

Strathcona, Alta.—Extension lectures have been arranged in seven towns of Southern Alberta by the Department of Extension of the University of Alberta. These towns are Red Deer, High River, Macleod, Pincher Creek, Lethbridge, Taber and Medicine Hat.

Kaifers, B.C.—The entire top of a section of Jackass Mountain, opposite this place, on the line of the C.P.R., collapsed a few days ago, hurling into the Fraser River hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of rock, ruining a 249-foot tunnel of the C.P.R. The slide made a noise that was heard for miles. No lives were lost.

Toronto, Ont.—The employees of the Consumers' Gas Company, this city, are to be afforded the opportunities and benefits of a course of training along the lines of salesmanship and general education. This company recently joined the membership of the National Commercial Gas Association and in this connection the employees are entitled to instruction from the correspondence department of the parent offices.

Moose Jaw, Sask.—City Engineer Antonisen, after an inspection of the mines and property of the Consumers' Coal Company, has stated that a supply of coal for economical power purposes may be secured from the areas of coal south of this city. His plan includes the erection of a power plant at the mines and the construction of a high-voltage transmission line into a municipal step-down station. It is reported that there are ten million tons of coal easy of access in this region.

Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.—A deputation of five representing the Ontario Government, occupied seats on the floor of the Legislative Assembly, November 27th, to confer with the government regarding certain suggestions that have been made for the celebration of the peace century between Canada and the United States. The members of this deputation were Hon. Jas. Duff, Minister of Agriculture; the Hon. Mr. Reaume, Minister of Public Works; Mr. John G. Kent and Dr. J. O. Orr. They were entertained by the Speaker, Hon. Mr. Delage.

Hamilton, Ont.—City Engineer A. Macallum has submitted to the works committee a plan for a cross-city flood sewer. He said the cost of sewer to cover 75 per cent. of the district would be \$360,000, and to cover 95 per cent. \$596,679. Controller Allan suggested that if the sewer project were in shape they could submit a by-law to the people to raise money at the same time as the Hydro-Electric Commission was to be elected, in May. The city engineer also submitted plans for improving the sewage disposal works in the east end, and was instructed to submit them to an expert.

Ottawa, Ont.—The Board of Railway Commissioners of Canada have issued specifications dealing with the erection of highway crossing signals. They are as follows: The signal must be placed upon a post of suitable structural material. If the post is made of wood, it must be of sound timber not less than 8 x 8 inches and 18 feet long, and shall be firmly set in the ground to a depth of four feet. If it is made of iron or steel, it shall be not less than 4 inches in diameter, shall extend at least twelve feet above the ground, and shall be firmly bolted to a concrete or other foundation

constructed below the frost line. A bell which shall emit a clear, loud volume of sound under all weather conditions must be used. A sign shall be placed upon the same post as the bell, with the word "danger" upon it in letters not less than 6 inches in length, to be illuminated, so as to be plainly visible after sunset. There may be added to the post, if so desired, the railway crossing sign provided for by Section 243 of the Railway Act.

Regina, Sask.—The proposal to divert water from the South Saskatchewan River to supply the needs of Regina, Moose Jaw and many of the towns to the southern part of the province has been taken up by the Federal Government. It will be remembered that during the latter part of last year and the early part of this the Provincial Government had T. Aird Murray, consulting engineer, of Toronto, go into the question fully and it is understood his report was favorable to the furtherance of the scheme. The Federal Government has three parties of men at the Elbow and Tugaskie to take levels at the river bend, about thirty miles west of Elbow, and to secure other information relative to the matter. H. E. M. Kensitt, the inspector of the water powers branch, Department of the Interior, has been in charge of the work. It is understood that all the preliminary work has been completed, and it is expected that an official statement concerning the matter will be given out within the near future. To carry out the proposed scheme would require the laying of a pipe line about 140 to 170 miles in length, according to a statement made by Mr. Kensitt, and the cost would be between \$5,000,000 and \$7,000,000.

Ottawa, Ont.—Judge Gunn's report on the recent waterworks investigation was received by the city council on December 2nd. It places the blame for the typhoid epidemic on the waterworks committee, board of health, City Engineer Ker, and Medical Health Officer Sherreff. The waterworks committees from 1908 to 1912 are censured for failure to give their duties the consideration warranted by their importance. The board of health is held responsible through failure to undertake earlier investigation of the polluted water situation. Judge Gunn says: "I place on the committees of 1910-11 the responsibility for the conditions of the steel and concrete piers, because these committees were in a position to exact that the new pipe be tested and laid by experienced workmen, and I regard that testing and laying of the new pipe, steel and concrete as the most important element to be considered in this investigation. Because of the many new duties thrown upon him by the Public Health Act, I do not consider that the present medical health officer will, to his own or to the satisfaction of the citizens, find that office acceptable, and a grave injustice was, in my opinion, done Dr. Sherreff when he was placed by his friends and supporters in a position that was in every way a difficult and most trying one. I unhesitatingly acquit of any irregularity or attempt other than lawful means to secure his appointment. The appointments to the board of health should not be made for the purpose of giving municipal office to an ex-alderman or prominent citizen who has no other qualifications. I would recommend that in order that the new council might have a free hand in the reorganizing of the department, these gentlemen, (present members with terms still to run) throw up the seals of office."

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