

	Judges' figures.	City Asses.
Land & buildings.....	\$34,750	\$ 34,750
Poles, wires, conduits.....	53,900	377,994
Temperance Street switchboard.....	12,000	177,174
Yorkville & Parkdale switchboards..	3,900	59,733
Totals.....	\$102,550	\$638,649
		102,550
Total reduction.....		\$536,099

There was no dispute as to the assessment on land & buildings.

Eastern Township Telephones.

Judgment was recently delivered at Sweetburg, Que., in the case of F. E. Harvey against Louis Pare, of Granby, for \$5,000 damages for false arrest. Harvey was formerly the proprietor of the Citizens' Telephone Exchange, with head office at Waterloo, & became insolvent. At the curator's sale of the effects the lines, poles & instruments of the Exchange were sold to Pare. Another lot which included the perpetual leases of a certain line of the Sherbrooke Telephone Association, running from Waterloo to Sherbrooke, was bought by H. B. Brown, Q.C., of Sherbrooke, acting in trust for other parties. Mr Harvey was appointed by the trustees as manager of this line. On the other hand, Pare claimed that this particular line was part & parcel of the lot he had bought. Harvey, in his position as manager of the line, cut the wires connecting it with the wires of the former Citizens' Telephone Exchange. Pare caused Harvey to be arrested & brought before the District Magistrate, who dismissed the case. Harvey then took out the action for damages against Pare, alleging loss of reputation & time, injury to feelings & loss of money expended in defending himself before the District Magistrate. The court held that there was no loss of reputation, that the plaintiff had been paid by the trust for his loss of time, & also that it had been proved that the trust had paid the expenses of plaintiff's defence before the District Magistrate. The value of the injury to plaintiff's feelings he assessed at \$10, & held that defendant had acted with malice in causing plaintiff to be arrested. As to the real ownership of the disputed line the court was not called upon to adjudicate. Judgment for \$10 & costs.

Spokane & B.C. Telephone Co.

A Myers Falls despatch of Nov. 14 says: The management of the Spokane & British Columbia Telephone Co. has been a matter of litigation in the courts for some time past. On October 10 Messrs. Oakes & Aris, President & General Manager, respectively, sold a controlling interest in the stock of the Company to C. O. B. Reddin, of Rossland, B.C., & resigned upon condition that they should be retained, the former as a Director, & the latter as General Manager. The new management failed to accord them these positions, but voted them out. They refused to give up control of the lines & Reddin began suit to gain possession of the property of the Co., & secured a restraining order enjoining Oakes, Aris & all their agents & employees from interfering with the management of the business. This order did not oust them out, & Reddin sent N. R. Stone here this week to take possession, which was refused. Stone then tapped the main wires of the line for the purpose of cutting out the general office. Aris cut these wires, & with F. J. Lively, C. Chamberlain & S. Cramer was arrested. Aris caused a warrant to issue for Stone, & he was held to answer under \$500 bonds. Yesterday evening Aris & his associates were released. Judge Richardson yesterday issued an order to Aris, Oakes & their associates to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt of court for violating the restraining

ing order. The lines of the Co. cover a distance of 200 miles, & are estimated to be worth \$35,000.

British Columbia Telephones, Ltd.

In our last issue, pg. 252, we mentioned the registration of this Co. in England, with a capital of £100,000. Notice has since been given of application to the B. C. Legislature for an act to incorporate the B. C. Telephones, Ltd., for the purpose of enabling the Co. to acquire & take over all rights, assets, &c., held by the New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Telephone Co., & the Vernon & Nelson Telephone Co., & to assume the liabilities entered into by those companies & with other powers.

Within two months after the recent disastrous fire in New Westminster, the N. W. & B. I. Telephone Co. had established a new central office & thoroughly equipped its system throughout the town. The switchboard in the new central has capacity for 150 metallic subscribers. There is also a 10 point trunk line switchboard. At present there are 7 trunk lines, 2 from Vancouver, & 1 each from Ladner, South Westminister, Port Moody & Chilliwack, & of course, intermediate points, & another from Blaine, Wash., where connection is made with the Sunset Telegraph & Telephone system. Apart from the loss sustained by the Telephone Co. by the fire, the cost of restoring the system has been considerable, & includes the erection of 100 new poles & the stringing of 150 miles of new wire, apart from 1,000 ft. of cable along Columbia Street, which contains 102 wires. The wire weighs 56 lbs. a mile, or over 40 tons in all.

Telephone Items.

A local telephone line is projected from Cannington, Ont., to Hartley, Victoria Road, & Kirkfield.

The Little Salmon River Telephone Co. has been granted the privilege of carrying its line into St. John, N.B.

The People's Telephone Co., of Sherbrooke, Que., is applying for confirmation & amendment to its letters patent, & for powers to increase its capital stock & issue bonds.

G. T. Baird, of Perth Centre, N.B., & others give notice of application for incorporation, under the N.B. Joint Stock Co.'s Act, as the Victoria Telephone Co., to build & operate lines within the counties of Victoria & Madawaska. Capital \$5,000.

Notice is given of application to the B. C. Legislature to incorporate a company for electric lighting the town sites at Teslin Lake, Glenora, Telegraph Creek, & Atlin City, with power to operate telegraph & telephone lines within & between the town sites.

The Metis Telephone Co. recently elected the following directors at a meeting at St. Octave de Metis, Que.: Hon. President, Dr. J. A. Ross, M.P.; Honorary Vice-President, L. F. Pinault, M.P.; Directors, Rev. Mr. Chouinard, L. M. Desrosiers, J. Gendron, A. C. Landry, L. M. Langlais, Dr. J. C. Demers, & D. Caron.

In Michigan farmers are fast taking advantage of the benefits offered by the telephone, & it will be but a short time when telephones will be as common in the country as they are now in the cities. In Allegan County the farmers have an exchange of their own, & maintain it by annual assessment. In Oceana County every township has telephone connection with Hart, the county seat, & this system is essentially a farmers' exchange, being owned & maintained chiefly by the farmers & fruit growers. Gratiot County has another farmers' exchange, which, with Ithaca as the center, has connections with every township & many farmers.—Electrical Engineering.

Express Companies' Items.

The Dominion Express Co. has established wagon routes between Beamsville & St. Catharines, Ont., & between Picton and Northport.

The Western Express Co. has opened offices at Napoleon, Withita & Braddock, N. D., on the extension of the M. St. P. & S. S. M. line from Kulm to Braddock.

The Canadian Express Co. handled very large shipments of deer from Muskoka this season. In 2 weeks the Co. carried 1,754 deer, weighing 182,618 lbs.

Owing to the increase in the express business at Toronto it is likely the quarters occupied by the Canadian & Dominion Express Cos. will have to be enlarged.

The Dominion Express Co. has opened offices at Pincher, Alta. (formerly Pincher Creek), Doris, Fernie, Cranbrook, Kootenay Landing, Moyie & Wardner, B.C., on the Crows' Nest Ry.

The Northern Pacific Express Co. has opened the following offices on its Souris River branch in Manitoba: Departure, Tiger Hills, Minette, Ontap, Dunrea, Margaret, Minto, Fairfax, Elgin.

W. M. Gordon, for a number of years running messenger for the Dominion Express at Winnipeg, has been appointed Route Agent, with headquarters at Winnipeg, succeeding H. F. Maley, assigned to other duties.

It is said that Stanley Metcalfe, a well-known clerk in the accounting office of the Canadian Express Co., is missing. He was also Secretary-Treasurer of the Co.'s Employees' Benefit Association, & as such, handled the funds. That there is a shortage in his accounts with the Association has been ascertained, it is alleged, but the books are in such a condition that it is hard to determine just how matters stand.

The Pacific Express Co. announces the opening of the following offices in Canada, which are served by the Wabash trains on the southern division of the G.T.R.: Aylmer, Belle River, Cayuga, Chatham, Delhi, Glencoe, Jarvis, Lawrence, Middlemiss, Newbury, Niagara Falls, Port Robinson, St. Thomas, Simcoe, Thamesville, Tilsonburg, Welland, Windsor.

General Manager Stout announces the appointment of S. A. Davis, as Superintendent of the Western Express Co., with headquarters at St. Paul, Minn., vice R. Stewart resigned. The Express Gazette says Mr. Davis received his first express experience under P. R. Keim, then Superintendent of the American Express at St. Joseph, Mo. This was 10 years ago, and his duties were those of stenographer and over-and-short clerk. He was later promoted to chief clerk, and has latterly been filling that position at St. Paul, Minn., under General Superintendent Naylor. He combines all the elements of a successful expressman.

Ronald Stewart, who has been appointed Superintendent of the Great Northern Express Co., vice J. F. Lawless, resigned, entered the service in 1883 as driver for the American Express at St. Paul. A month later he was placed in charge of the "O. H." desk, & from that position promoted to Assistant Cashier, which he filled until 1885, when he was appointed Cashier at Minneapolis. Five years later he was given a similar desk at St. Paul. In 1891 he was appointed Agent of the National Express at Detroit, Mich. He returned again to St. Paul a year later as Superintendent's Chief Clerk, & upon the establishment of the Great Northern Express Co. became its St. Paul Agent, which position he filled until Jan., 1895, when he was placed in charge of the Western Express Co.'s lines as Superintendent. He resigns the latter office to assume his new duties. Express Gazette.