

It is said that one result of the new management of the G.T.R. will be the substitution of electricity for steam in the St. Clair tunnel. The system decided on is said to be a modification of that used by the Baltimore and Ohio Railway in the great tunnel at Baltimore. The trolley system is used, and trains weighing 1,400 tons are taken up an 8 per cent grade with ease. On the level a speed of 60 miles an hour has been attained.

PRESIDENT MILES, of the Hamilton, Grimsby and Beamsville Railway, has requested the Hamilton aldermen to grant an extension of the time for earning the \$5,000 bonus offered by the city for the completion of the line to Beamsville. The additional five miles of road Mr Miles says, will mean an increase of \$13,000 in the yearly working expenses, and he does not think the extension will prove a profitable one for the company. If the extension is built a new power house and car barn, and a lot of new cars, will have to be built, bringing the total cost of the extension up to about \$75,000.

THE eleventh annual report of the Royal Electric Company, Montreal, shows that the net gain on the fifteen months' operations was \$106,209.14, out of which five quarterly dividends of 2 per cent each, amounting to \$99,900.10, have been declared, the remainder going to swell the balance of \$308,758.98. The lights on the direct current arc system have been increased from 1,617 to 1,666; the lights on alternating current incandescent system from 40,013 to 53,977, and the motors from 347 to 688 horse-power. Reference was made to the faithful service of Charles W. Hagar, who recently retired from the position of secretary and manager, and a tribute paid to the experience and business ability of his successor, Wm. H. Browne.

THERE has been an exhibition in the Montreal *Star* office window a model of a new electric snow-plough, to be used on street railways. It has attracted much attention, and has been endorsed by the city engineer. A steel scoop placed in front collects the snow. The scoop can rapidly be raised or lowered, leaving required depth of snow on street and between the rails. It can also be drawn across to right or left by chain working on shaft. The scoop projects about six feet over the side of road from the rails, and clears the street for the vehicles. The removing plates are placed on endless chain running around sprocket wheels placed at each end of scoop, and running across scoop, draw the snow thus collected to the side of road. Power to run the removing plates is taken from electric motor placed on platform of car and conveyed by chain to sprocket wheel on the horizontal shaft, and thus by gear wheels to vertical shafts, on which are fixed the sprocket wheels, and around which the endless chain with plates runs. One scoop only is used at a time. On the return trip the car is switched on to the other track, and the back scoop, which is similarly fitted with plates, is used.

## Mining Matters.

NATURAL gas is reported from Iberville, Que.

MUCH material is being extracted from the asbestos mine in the township of Denholme, Que.

THE Coe Hill, Ont., iron mines were re-opened a few days ago. The mines have been closed for several months.

NEARLY three hundred tons of phosphate were shipped from the High Rock mines, Buckingham, Que., in one week recently.

ASBESTOS in large deposits of excellent quality has been discovered on a claim at Bear Creek, B.C., near the Tulameen River.

THE gas well struck lately on the Homer Cutler farm near Ridgeway Ont. is estimated to have a flow of 2,000,000 feet a day.

THE Canadian Mica Co. has acquired mining properties at Wilson's Corners and Cascades, Que., and will begin operations at once.

THE Kingston and Pembroke Railway Co. has undertaken to supply ore for the Hamilton blast furnace from the iron mines along its line.

A WELL owned by the Central Oil Co., at Dunnville, Ont., is producing amber crude oil which is said to be equal to the finest American amber.

GENERAL WILKINSON has promised to give the first gold brick which the Regina mine produces to the establishment of a hospital at Rat Portage.

THE Canadian Oil Co. has assigned to C. Mackenzie, Saruia, Ont. Mr. Mackenzie has recently bought the Oil Springs property of the Walford syndicate for \$4,000.

A VALUABLE seam of coal has been discovered at Grand Lake near St. John, Nfld. The coal discovered is hard and bright, and approaches the nature of anthracite.

THE Credit Forks Mining and Manufacturing Company, Toronto, are applying for incorporation, with a capital stock of \$10,000, to manufacture lime, bricks, terra cotta, etc.

C. F. SCOTT, of the Anglo-American Gold Mining Company, of British Columbia, was in Ottawa recently, and reports a successful season at the company's claim in the Similkameen district.

A. BLUE, Director of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, says that Canadian capital could be turned to excellent profit by investing in the numerous gold properties on the Seine River, Rainy Lake, or Lake of the Woods.

THE Kingston School of Mining has reopened for the season. Since last session many additions have been made to the appointments of the school, including a new 60 x 40 geology room and museum.

C. B. KINGSTON, B.A., B.A.S.C., a graduate in mining engineering at McGill University, in 1892, has left Canada for London, whence he will sail for Australia to become manager of the mining properties of a large London company.

PROF. H. MONTGOMERY, of Trinity University, Toronto, and his son, have made a trip up the Gatineau in search of minerals. He says there is no other district in Canada so rich in minerals as the East Templeton and Gatineau districts.

THE gold find at Seymore Creek, North Vancouver, about ten miles from the city of Vancouver, is reported to be most valuable. While boring for water John McLeod struck flake gold, and six feet lower crush quartz which is said to assay \$11,000 to the ton.

IT is likely that a smelter will be erected in Vancouver at an early date. G. F. Monckton has offered to erect and operate one if the city will give him a \$5 a ton bonus for the first 5,000 tons smelted. A mining school will be established in connection with the smelter.

IT is reported from Port Arthur, Ont., that the Bethlehem, Pa., Iron Co. have secured the option of properties believed to contain hematite in Mattawan iron range. Hitherto the company has imported hematite from Cuba, but owing to the war they have turned their attention to Canada.

MUCH interest is taken in the future of Alberta coal as a source of coke supply. There is no coking coal anywhere in the West, Montana smelters bringing their coke all the way from Virginia. It is claimed that the coal at Sheep Creek and the upper Red Deer is suitable for the purpose. If the experiments are successful, the discovery will be of great value to British Columbia.

L. J. MORKHILL, civil engineer and miner, of Lyster, Que., has gone to California to take a position as superintendent of the Anaconda Mining Co. He is of the opinion that there is as much gold within easy reach of Sherbrooke, Que., as there ever was in Australia or California. He exhibited nuggets found at Maynard Brook, Que., and along the Chaudiere, Gilbert and St. Francis Rivers.

A CONE and bar of gold weighing in all 2,435 ozs., valued at \$41,857, are to be exhibited in Montreal. They are the result of the clean up at the famous Cariboo mine, in Golden, after twenty-nine days run, and the Horse Fly, a sister mine, after forty days run. This is considered very satisfactory, as the cleaning up of the cuts was not made and the bed rock was not cleaned. During the clean up a cave-in at number two pit of the Cariboo mine covered up and killed a miner named A. Budden.

IT has been reported from Port Arthur that a wonderful gold discovery has been made in the mountains near Jackfish Bay, Lake Superior, about five miles from the Canadian Pacific Railway, where it skirts the shore at that point. The vein or ledge has been traced for one and one-half miles, it having a width of from sixteen to twenty-five feet and conservative estimates are that it carries from \$3 to \$10 per ton in free gold, besides the sulphurates. A syndicate is being formed in Ottawa to work the vein.

THE commissioners appointed by the N.S. Government to inquire into the history, cause and effect of the coal mine fires of Pictou county, Nova Scotia, have just finished taking evidence. The work of the commission was directed mainly to an investigation of the Foord pit. This mine has been on fire in one place or another since the fifties, and it is burning yet. The object of the commission is to learn whether something cannot be done to save so valuable a property as the Foord pit. The pit will probably be worked again in the near future.