

anted quarterly dividend of 80c. a share, payable April 15 next.

The report and recommendations having been adopted the following officers were elected: President, H. A. Allan; Vice-President, A. T. Paterson; other directors: J. Joseph, W. Macmaster, W. R. Miller and W. Wainwright.

### C. P. R. Company's Telegraphs.

During 1901, the following extensions and improvements have been completed on the Co.'s telegraph system:

**EASTERN DIVISION.**—One wire no. 8 gauge from Montreal to Ottawa, and from Renfrew to Sudbury; one no. 8 gauge wire from North Bay to Sudbury; thus increasing the wire mileage 444 miles.

The new fire proof eight story telegraph building in Montreal was completed, and all wires connecting with it put underground. For this purpose 11,000 ft. of 30 conductor, underground cable was used, equal to 62 miles of conductors.

**ONTARIO DIVISION.**—Added to mileage—one wire from Toronto to Teeswater; one wire from Toronto to Owen Sound and loops; pole line and one no. 8 gauge wire from Ridgetown to St. Thomas; making a total increase in mileage, of poles 44 miles, and of wire 311 miles.

**WESTERN DIVISION.**—Laid 3,000 ft. 10 conductor aerial cable to connect main office and Board of Trade, Winnipeg. Added to wire mileage: one no. 6 gauge wire from Swift Current to Kootenay Landing, B.C.; one no. 8 gauge wire from Portage la Prairie to Brandon, Man.; one no. 8 gauge wire from Brandon to Estevan, Man.; and one no. 8 gauge wire from Brandon to Rapid City, Man., thus increasing the mileage by 853 miles of wire.

In addition to the above a large amount of work in reconstruction and general repairs was performed on all divisions.

### General Telephone Matters.

A telephone line from Perth to Balderson, Ont., is reported as under construction.

The Farmers Electric, Water and Telephone Co., Cardston, Alta., has been incorporated.

The Alberta Mercantile Co. is installing a telephone line between Frank and Blairmore, Alta.

The Vernon and Nelson Telephone Co. is reported to have raised the rates on its system in Grand Forks, B.C., on Jan. 1.

The Valley Telephone Co. having increased its rates, the residents of Wolfville, N.S., are talking of establishing a local telephone system.

At the recent municipal elections in Ottawa, 4,415 votes were cast in favor of, and 3,071 against, the city owning and operating a telephone exchange.

The Bell Telephone Co. will apply at the next session of the Dominion Parliament for an act authorizing it to increase its capital stock, and for other powers.

A Vancouver, B.C., firm recently received a telephone message from Loomis, Wash. It was sent to Spokane, via Greenwood, B.C., and from Spokane, via Seattle, to Vancouver.

The British Columbia Telephones, Ltd., subsidiary, the New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Co., is said to have lost about \$5,000 by the recent storm in the Vancouver district.

The New Brunswick Telephone Co. having completed its St. John-St. Stephen long distance line, residents of N.B. can have through

connection with Portland, Me., Boston, Mass., and other U.S. cities.

At the annual meeting of the Victoria, N.B., Telephone Co., Jan. 7, the following officers were elected: President and Manager, G. T. Baird; Secretary-Treasurer, D. Baird; other Directors, A. H. Baird, G. W. H. Perley, and J. McNair.

The Cranbrook Electric Light Co. is constructing a telephone line between Cranbrook, Marysville and Kimberley, B.C. It is reported that the Co. has also acquired the Cranbrook and Fort Steele lines, making its system about 35 miles in length.

It is claimed that experiments recently made in Brussels, Belgium, have demonstrated that Dr. Sylvestro, a Frenchman, has invented a spectograph, which enables a person using the telephone to see who is at the other end of the wire.

The Bell Telephone Co.'s arrangement with the city of Hamilton, Ont., will expire on Mar. 1, and the Co. has not applied for a renewal of the franchise. At present the city receives \$1,500 a year for an exclusive franchise and special privileges, and pays the Co. about \$2,900 for telephones.

D. W. Ross, M.D., Florenceville, N.B., gives notice that application will be made at the next session of the New Brunswick Legislature for an act to incorporate the Union Telephone Co., Ltd., with power to operate a telephone line throughout the counties of Carleton, York, Victoria and Madawaska.

The Parrsboro Shore Telephone Co. has purchased the telephone line recently constructed by H. C. Jenks, between Parrsboro, Newville and River Herbert, N.S., 25 miles. The price paid is reported to be \$1,100. The Co. will probably extend the line to Amherst and Joggins, making about 35 miles in all.

The Dominion Subway Co., Ltd., has been incorporated under the Dominion Companies' Act to construct, operate and dispose of underground conduits, wires, cables and pneumatic powers, with a capital of \$100,000, and head office in Montreal. The provisional directors are: C. F. Sise, Hon. R. McKay, R. Archer, H. Paton and C. Cassils, of Montreal.

The Nova Scotia Telephone Co.'s officers are: President, B. W. Chipman; Vice-President, R. Uniacke; Secretary-Treasurer, T. N. Goudge; other directors: C. F. Fraser, B. F. Pearson, R. L. Borden, M.P.; Dr. A. C. Cogswell, and C. F. Sise, President Bell Telephone Co., Montreal. J. H. Wingfield has been appointed General Manager, succeeding the late C. E. Harris.

The St. Lawrence Telephone Co. recently formed to take over a private line belonging to C. F. Beauchemin and H. F. Paulin, between Sorel and Nicolet, will make application to the Quebec Legislature at its next session for an act of incorporation. Among the powers asked for are permission to manufacture, buy and lease telephones. The capital is to be \$15,000 in 150 shares, and the head office is to be at St. Francois du lac.

The New Brunswick Telephone Co.'s new offices at St. John will be ready for the installation of the plant by the middle of Feb. On the ground floor there will be five public toll rooms, store rooms and the heating plant; on the first floor will be the manager's private office, the public offices, board room, etc.; on the top floor there will be an operating room, 56x28 ft.; a long distance booth for use at nights and on Sundays; a waiting room, and wire and battery rooms. The new exchange will be ready for use in May.

Judgment was given, Jan. 17, at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, by Justice Britton, continuing the injunction obtained by the Citizens' Telephone and Electric Co. of Rat Portage, Ont., restraining the town council of that place from

amending a by-law reducing rates, and dismissing an action brought by the town council against the Co. to have a contract made between the parties declared void. The town council has a bill before the Ontario Legislature, asking for power, among other things, to take over the undertaking and plant of the Co.

A Paris cablegram of Jan. 14 says: "The telephone department has decided to substitute electric lamp lights for the present call arrangement. In order to make a connection with the office the person who desires to use the telephone simply unhooks the receiver." It might surprise the Parisians to know that the "central energy" system is already established in Canada. The Bell Telephone Co. equipped its Ottawa exchange with it some time since, and it is also in operation in the North Toronto and Parkdale exchanges, Toronto, and in Winnipeg.

R. K. Houlgate, of the British Columbia Telephones, Ltd., has obtained an order directing that the mortgage debentures of the Columbia Telegraph and Telephone Co. of Grand Forks, B.C., shall constitute a fixed charge on the Co.'s property; to have an account taken of the amount due on the debentures, and to have them enforced by foreclosure or sale. The C. T. and T. Co. is a competing line with the British Columbia Telephones, Ltd., subsidiary, the Vernon and Nelson Telephone Co., and a rate war has been waged between them for some time past. As the result of the suit it is expected that the V. and N. Co. will absorb the C. T. and T. Co.

### Duplicating Telephone Systems.

Detroit, Mich., has had two opposition telephone companies, and a co-operative company is now proposed. The Detroit Free Press of Jan. 21 says:—"A Detroit banker was asked yesterday whether there is much chance that the proposed Detroit co-operative telephone company could borrow money from local financial institutions, should it need to raise money in this way. The financier said he doubted whether any Detroit bank would take such a chance, owing to the poor results shown by telephone concerns in this city. He cited the Detroit Telephone Co., which was floated with such a trumpeting prospectus, and which finally passed into the hands of the Michigan Telephone Co. He also showed that for more than a year the latter company has paid no dividend, while there is a lot of unpaid floating indebtedness on the plant. Furthermore, he spoke of the difficulties of the People's Co. and other Everett-Moore telephone properties to indicate that there is little temptation for any capitalist to risk money in telephone propositions. One of the best of the Everett-Moore telephone concerns was supposed to be the U.S. Telephone Co., which has a toll line for Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Yet the Nov. statement of the Co. shows a surplus, after paying expenses, interest and taxes, of only \$49, or less than \$600 a year. This would not begin to pay for the deterioration of the plant, according to a telephone expert, to say nothing of paying dividends on the \$2,000,000 of stock. The Findlay Telephone Co. last Nov. showed a deficit of \$114.15, and the Columbiana Telephone Co. had a surplus for Nov. of only \$42. Such figures as these are not promising for telephone investors."

As a result of the great storm in the last days of 1901 the telegraph and telephone systems of Vancouver and the greater portion of the B.C. coast were destroyed. In Vancouver alone the damage to wires was estimated at \$15,000.