

the sub-stations. At each sub-station will be 3 transformers & 2 rotary convertors, with the necessary switchboard & controlling apparatus. The other line is to be between Buffalo, N.Y., & Erie, Pa., about 70 miles.

General Telegraph Matters.

The C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph is building a line from Harriston to Listowel, Ont.

The C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph has strung a third quadruplex wire between Montreal & Toronto.

The C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph has closed the offices at Comaplix, B.C.; Mazokama, Ont.; Rondeau, Ont.; & Russeltown, Que.

The Dominion Government telegraph line between Kamloops & Nicola, B.C., is about completed. An agitation is on foot to have it operated as a telephone line.

An unconfirmed report says the Ontario & Rainy River Ry. Co. proposes to establish telegraph connection between Port Arthur & Duluth by way of Ely, Minn.

The B.C. & Alaska Cable Telegraph Co. proposes to lay a cable between Juneau & Skagway. R. Moore, of the Western Union, wants the Juneau people to give a \$10,000 bonus.

In the suit of Morrow vs. G.N.W.T. Co. an order was recently made for examination for discovery of the Vice-President & Secretary of the Western Union Telegraph Co. at New York.

It was intended to locate the C.P.R.'s commercial telegraph staff on the 5th floor of the new station at Vancouver, but it has been decided to erect a separate building for the purpose, east of the station.

A contract has been awarded for 165 tons of wire for the telegraph line to be built by the Dominion Government between Quesnelle & Atlin, B.C., to connect the present B.C. system with the Yukon line.

C. R. Hosmer, who was recently elected a director of the C.P.R., announces that at the end of the year he will retire from the position of Manager of the Co.'s telegraph, which he has held since 1886.

The Dominion Minister of Public Works says he hopes to get the 300 miles extension of the Government telegraph line along the north shore of the St. Lawrence to the Straits of Belle Isle completed by next spring.

Mr. Chapman, of Montreal, has been interviewing the Dominion Public Works Department, to secure the adoption of wireless telegraphy between the Labrador coast & Belle Isle, where the Scotsman was wrecked, also to Sable Island.

The C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph has opened the following offices: Cascade City, B.C.; Grand Forks, B.C.; Fort Steele Brewery, B.C.; St. Eugene Mission, B.C.; Camp McKinney, B.C.; Finmark, Ont.; Clarenceville, Que.; Ethelbert, Man.

A large amount of reconstruction of the pole line on the Western & Pacific divisions of the C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph is now going on & it is expected that by the end of next year there will be an entirely new line of poles between Fort William & Vancouver.

The Government telegraph line from Lake Bennett, B.C., was completed to Dawson, Yukon, Sep. 28, & the branch to Atlin has also been completed. It is 593 miles from Bennett to Dawson, & the Atlin line is 75 miles long. The total cost is said to have been about \$117,500, the Dawson line having averaged \$225 a mile & the Atlin one about \$200. Fifteen operators have been installed.

The Spokane & Northern Telegraph Co.'s line has been extended via Republic, Wash., to the International Boundary, from which point its subsidiary, the Yale-Kootenay Tele-

graph Co. has built to Midway & Greenwood, B.C. A second wire is being strung to Curlew, whence a single wire will run to Grand Forks, B.C. The S. & N. T. Co. connects with the Western Union lines. (Aug., pg. 251, Oct., pg., 309.)

The Commercial Cable Co. has called a special meeting of shareholders for Dec. 4, for the purpose of voting upon the proposition to increase its capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000. Of the issue, \$3,333,333 is to be offered to the present shareholders at par, this being at the rate of 1 share in 3 of the present holdings. The new stock is to be paid up 25% on Jan. 20, 25% Feb. 20, & 50% Mar. 20. The new stock is to carry dividend from Jan. 1, & will thus be entitled to quarterly dividend payable April 1. The additional money is required for another cable, owing to the largely increased business of the Co.

The C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph is being extended along the Columbia & Western Ry. from West Robson towards Midway, B.C., as fast as track is laid, offices being opened at the principal stations. The line is being most substantially built with a 4 pin arm on top of the poles, carrying 2 wires at present. It is very likely that in time some of the through wires will follow this route. Another wire, in addition to the two now in use, will be strung from Nelson to Rossland, & one from Nelson to Robson, to connect with one of the wires into the Boundary Creek district.

The following tariff of charges has been put in force on the Dominion Government Yukon line: From Bennett to Cariboo Crossing, 50c. per 10 words, & 5c. for each additional word: to Tagish, 60 & 5; Miles' Canyon, 75 & 5; White Horse, 75 & 5; Lower Laberge, \$1 & 10; Hootalingua, \$1.25 & 10; Five Fingers, \$2 & 15; Fort Selkirk, \$2.50 & 15; Dawson City, \$3 & 15. Between Skagway & Bennett the White Pass & Yukon Ry.'s telegraph charges \$1 for 10 words, & 5c. each additional word, making the through rate from Skagway to Dawson, \$4 for 10 words, & 20c. for each additional word. From Ontario & Quebec points to Vancouver, between which place & Skagway messages are conveyed by steamer, the charge is \$1 for 10 words, & 7c. for each additional word, so that the through rate from Ontario & Quebec points to Dawson is \$5 for 10 words & 27c. for each additional word.

The following reply to a correspondent is given in the Monetary Times, whose editor is a director of the G.N.W.T. Co.: "In 1881 the Great Northwestern Telegraph Co. of Canada leased the wires & other property of the Montreal Telegraph Co. extending over all the Eastern provinces of Canada, & over part of Manitoba, & several of the northern States. It also leased the wires of the Dominion Telegraph Co. in Canada. Then these two sets of lines were merged into one for purposes of economy. The terms of lease were that 8% upon the \$2,000,000 capital of the Montreal Co. & 6% upon that of the Dominion Co. should be paid annually. For this bargain the Western Union Telegraph Co. of the U.S. became guarantor. For several years the G.N.W. Co. was able to pay this enormous rental, even with the low rate of tolls (25c for 10 words). But when the C.P.R. Co.'s Telegraph came into existence, & the Bell Telephone Co. built lines connecting towns the business was so divided that the G.N.W.T. Co.'s revenue fell off. It has not paid dividends to its shareholders for years. But the payments to the lessors have gone on regularly every year, & the shareholders of the M. T. Co., & of the D. T. Co. get their dividends regularly of 8 & 6% respectively. The extent of wires handled by the G.N.W. Co. is 40,000 miles, & of the C.P.R. about 25,000 miles."

W. F. Snyder, manager of the W. U. cable office at North Sydney, N.S., died Oct. 9. He

was a member of the old school of telegraphers, & a finer operator never touched a key. His Morse was perfect & his speed marvelous. He began his telegraph career in his native city, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1855, when 12 years old. His first office was at Magnolia, Md.; he was soon after transferred to Princeton, N.J., then to Washington, D.C., then to Petersburg, Va., in 1859; then in the following year to Baltimore, & a year later to Philadelphia. There for a while he was in the main office of the American Telegraph Co., & afterwards manager of the branch office in the Stock Exchange, between which & New York was started the first special stock circuit in the U.S. In 1863 he returned to Baltimore, first as manager of the People's Line office, then of the American, & later of the W. U. T. Co. In 1867 he entered the latter Co.'s cable service, first at Plaister Cove, N.S., next in 1870 in the Cable Room, New York, & in the latter part of that year as manager at Duxbury, Mass. In 1865, upon the incorporation of the staff of the Anglo Cable Co., with & under the management of the W. U. T. Co., at Plaister Cove, Mr. Snyder returned to that station, & in Oct. of the same year transferred the joint staff & business to North Sydney, where he continued as manager until his death.—Telegraph Age.

British Columbia Telephones, Limited.

At the 1st annual meeting at the head office at Huddersfield, Eng., Oct. 10, the following report was presented:—During the year the progress of the business has been very satisfactory. The number of subscribers to all the subsidiary companies on June 30, 1899, was 1424 as compared with 1127 on June 30, 1898; a net gain of 297. Notwithstanding the loss occasioned by the fire in New Westminster in Sep., 1898, the dividends expected from the subsidiary companies will yield a total profit of £6,018 11s. 1d., being the sterling equivalent of \$30,000. Before distributing these profits the New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Co. has set aside £1,581 10s. 6d. towards the cost of constructing a new switch-board, which has been found necessary in consequence of the large increase of subscribers. The directors are obtaining full information as to the several systems in use, & as soon as they are in a position to select the best the work will be proceeded with. At the end of the financial year, the directors arranged at the joint expense of this Co. and The Yorkshire Guarantee & Securities Corporation, to send an accountant to B.C. to audit the accounts of the businesses controlled by both companies. The figures above given have been verified by him. The profits available for distribution are as follows:—

Dividends to be declared by subsidiary companies.....	£6018 11 1
LESS:—	
English offices—Secretary's salary, auditors' fees & incidentals....	£182 19 2
Fee of trustee for debenture stock holders, income tax and bank interest and charges.....	65 16 5
	£248 15 7
	£5769 15 6
The following deductions have to be made:—	
Interest on purchase money to date of payment.....	£1092 10 11
Interest on debenture stock to June 30, 1899.....	565 7 3
	£1657 18 2
Leaving a balance of.....	£4111 17 4

The directors recommend that this be disposed of as follows:—

Dividend on preference shares to June 30, 1899, already paid.....	£761 19 6
Interim dividend of 8% per annum (free from tax) to December 31, 1898, on ordinary shares, already paid.....	272 18 1
Dividend on ordinary shares at 8% per annum (free from tax) to June 30, 1899.....	900 0 0
To carry to reserve fund.....	1000 0 0
To write off cost of registration in B. C. & parliamentary expenses.....	351 15 6