

SPARKS.

The Listowel Gas & Electric Light Co. (Limited) has been incorporated.

Two or three of the electric companies are anxious to introduce the electric light to the citizens of Dymon, Ont.

The Electric Light Co. at Rat Portage, Ont., has made a contract with the Council to light the streets for three years.

An expert will be employed by the Council to report on the best electric light system to be adopted by the town of West Toronto Junction.

Telephone communication has been opened during the past month, by means of a land and submarine cable, between the cities of Paris and London.

Messrs. Baird & Son, of Parkhill, have purchased an electric plant, and are supplying incandescent lights to the business establishments of the town.

The Nanaimo Electric Railway Co. will adopt the storage battery system of propulsion if its adaptability for the work can be satisfactorily demonstrated.

The Council of West Toronto Junction have decided to throw away \$200 in sending a deputation of town fathers in search of information on the subject of electric lighting.

After exhaustive experiments the French post-office has decided to substitute a copper-coated steel wire in place of the ordinary iron wire for telegraphic and telephonic service.

The Building Inspector of Montreal is said to have condemned the tall chimney of the east end works of the Royal Electric Company, having found it to be defective 30 feet above its base.

Mr. Calder, chief of the Brantford fire brigade, has effected an arrangement for lighting instantly the gas jets by means of electricity. By this means a saving of \$25 per year is realized in the gas account.

Incorporation has been granted the Ottawa Electric Street Railway Co. (Limited). Capital stock, \$5,000,000. The promoters are: Thomas Ahearn, W. Y. Soper, W. Scott, D. C. Dewar and R. Quain, of Ottawa.

The Brooks Manufacturing Co., of Peterboro', have entered into a contract to supply all the carbons required by the Royal Electric Company of Montreal, averaging \$1,000 per month. The company manufacture 10,000 carbons per day.

The Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co. will sell by auction on the 15th inst. the premises and plant of the Hamilton Electric Light Co. to satisfy a mortgage. The city is interested in the matter, as the lighting contract has yet two years to run.

The Niagara Falls Electric Railway Co. is applying for incorporation for the purpose of constructing and operating an electric railway from a point near Niagara to a point near Port Erie. Among the applicants are Albert D. Shaw, John G. Scott, Benjamin G. Lake and Thos. McGaw.

Mr. John Griffin, Minneapolis, Minn., has invented a device for preventing electric street car wheels from slipping. The invention is a simple contrivance consisting of a revolving brush which is connected with the forward axle of the car by a belt. As the axle revolves it sets the brushes to revolving, brushing a path for the wheels about a foot wide. There is also a box for sand or salt, which lets down just enough without wasting any.

Hamilton Herald: The placing of telephone transmitters in churches puts a premium on laziness. A Hamilton man lengthened his wire in his house yesterday morning until he could hold the instrument to his ear comfortably in bed. Snuggling himself up beneath the bed covers he lay all morning listening to Canon Curran's discourse in St. Thomas Church.

The Bell telephone patent monopoly in England has expired. The patent there was granted for fourteen years. Cheap telephones will now prevail in England the same as in Germany, where Bell failed to obtain a patent. In the United States the Bell patent will expire March, 7, 1893, having been originally granted March, 7, 1876, for a term of seventeen years.

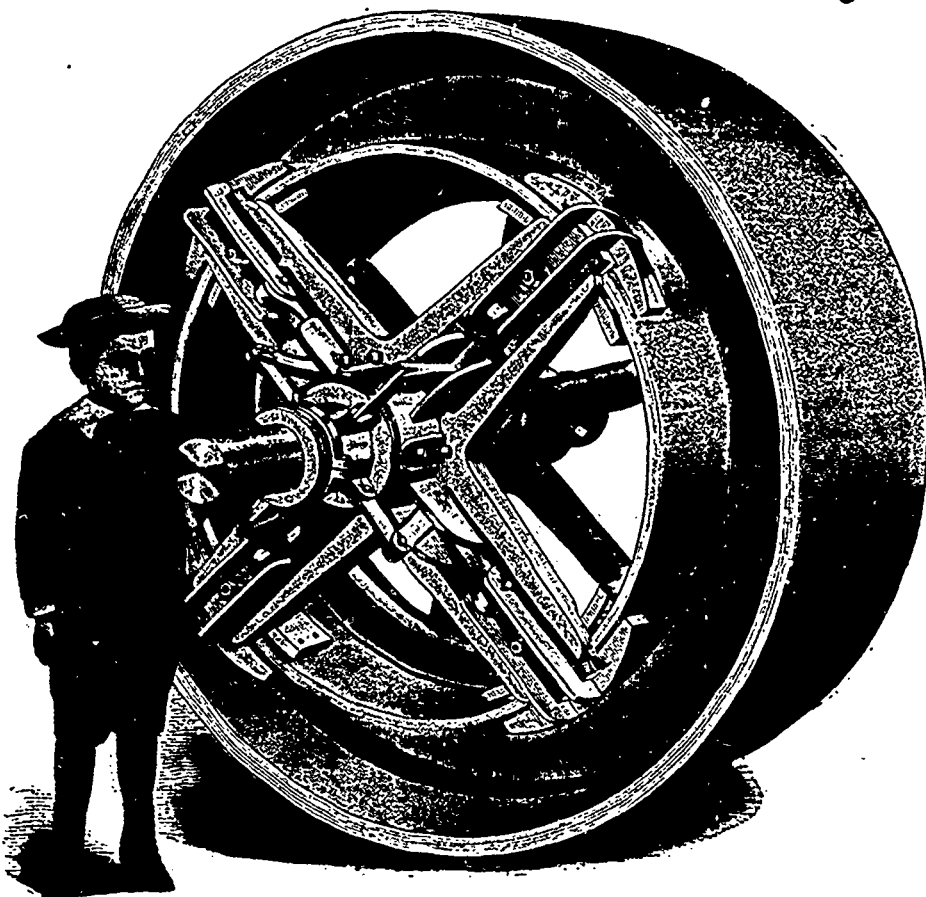
The new electric power house erected at New Westminster, B. C., is constructed of red brick, roofed with iron shingles. It has a frontage on the street of 45 feet and extends back 95 feet. It is divided into compartments, the larger being in front, and containing the dynamos and electric apparatus, office, etc. In the rear division is the generating machinery, which is of great power and weight. The boiler, engine and dynamo beds are of broken granite rock set in cement and covered with blocks of Nelson Island granite. The boiler bed has a foundation of 25 x 30 feet. The engine bed 24 x 16 feet; and the dynamo base is 8 feet square, tapering at the top to 8 x 4 feet. The boiler and engine have sufficient capacity for five times the present requirements.

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