

## Electric Railway Notes.

The Moncton Tramways, Electricity & Gas Co. has applied to the New Brunswick Public Utilities Commission for approval of its traffic rates.

The Port Arthur, Ont., Public Utilities Commission is reported to be considering the possibility of employing women conductors on the civic railway.

The Quebec Ry., Light & Power Co. has closed a contract for the supply of electric power to the legislative and other provincial buildings in Quebec City.

The female members of the British Columbia Electric Ry.'s office staff at Vancouver, held a dance Mar. 16, to raise funds for the Returned Soldiers' Club.

Plans for this second track work, so far as they affect the city of Toronto, have been filed at the city hall. The council is being asked for leave for grade crossings at McLennan and Summerhill Avenues.

The special commission appointed by the Quebec Legislation to prepare a new franchise for the Montreal Tramway's Co. is holding regular public meetings, at which the views of any person interested are heard.

The International Transit Co., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., is in the market for a good second hand double truck, double end, controlled car, with a seating capacity for 44, and preferably arranged for p.a.y.e. operation.

It was stated in Winnipeg, Mar. 1, that there were no men eligible for military service employed on the Winnipeg Electric Ry., and that it might be necessary to employ women as conductors in order to maintain the staff.

The Montreal Tramways Co. has ordered 50 car bodies and trucks in the U. S., and the necessary equipment from the Canadian Westinghouse Co. An additional 50 similar cars were to be ordered by the end of March.

The British Columbia Electric Ry. has offered the city the free use of its park property, of five acres, on Twenty-first St., North Vancouver, in connection with the wartime thrift vegetable growing campaign now being promoted.

The Montreal Stock Exchange has listed the Ottawa Car Manufacturing Co.'s stock, consisting of 11,779 shares of \$100 each, and the Ottawa Traction Co.'s stock, consisting of 56,307 shares of \$100 each, for trading on the exchange.

The actual cost of the Lethbridge, Alta., Municipal Ry., to the city, during 1916, was \$27,924.89. The council has put \$30,905.46 in the estimates for this year, as the amount which the city will have to contribute to meet interest charges, etc.

The Brantford, Ont., City Council has passed a resolution recommending the employees on the city's electric railway to complete their term with the railway at the present rate of wages and recommending the commission to establish a minimum of 25c an hour at the expiration of the present agreement.

The Vancouver City Council railways and bridges committee has recommended the council to investigate all the street car lines operated by the B.C.E.R. and ascertain whether or not they were covered by proper operating agreements with the city.

G. Moir, formerly of Aberdeen, Scotland, in addressing the Grandview Rate-

payors' Association, Mar. 11, advocated the taking over by the City of Vancouver, of the British Columbia Electric Ry.'s entire city plant when the franchise expires in 1919.

The Alberta Legislature is being asked to amend the City of Calgary's charter, authorizing it to pass a bylaw regulating and governing the method or manner whereby passengers on the municipal railway shall pay their fares or whereby such fares may be collected by the city.

The Montreal Tramways Co. has secured a verdict of \$104 against the St. Francois Salane School Board. This amount was collected as taxes upon land which the board assessed as belonging to the Montreal Park & Island Ry. The company had only a right of way over the land and could not be assessed.

Superintendent Moir of the Edmonton Radial Ry. has instituted a regular weekly meeting of the heads of departments to discuss matters that may tend to the advancement of the interests of the line. This system has already been found to work to advantage in connection with the city's telephone plant.

The London, Ont., City Council has authorized the inclusion in a bill being presented in the Ontario Legislature of provision for the erection by the London Railway Commission of a grain elevator at Port Stanley, to be operated in conjunction with the London & Port Stanley Ry. The approximate cost of the elevator is \$100,000.

London, Ont., Street Ry. conductors and motormen have organized as a branch of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America. The men have applied to the company for an increase in wages. The present scale is from 21c to 26c an hour, and the men ask for a scale starting at 25c, and increasing to 30c.

Some months ago there was a collision between a jitney and a British Columbia Electric Ry. car at the Central Park crossing, Vancouver in which several persons were injured. They sought to recover damages from the B.C.E.R., and at the trial of the action recently the judge dismissed the action and held the driver of the jitney, in which the injured persons, were sitting, to have been responsible for the accident.

The report of P. A. Macdonald, Manitoba Public Utilities Commissioner, was submitted to the Legislature, Jan. 30. It covers the first year of his work as Commissioner, and outlines the work done during the year, reference being particularly made to the power possibilities of the province. These were investigated by the Commissioner and G. T. Guy, electrical engineer, the latter of whom makes a special report, which is included.

The International Ry., operating in Buffalo and Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Niagara Falls and Queenston, Ont., was recently compelled to suspend its services temporarily for some hours a day, owing to shortage of electrical power. The company takes power from the Niagara Falls Power Co. to operate its Niagara Falls local lines, and from the Niagara, St. Catharines & Toronto Ry., for its line between Queenston and Chippawa, Ont.

Following are officials of the Trans St. Marys Traction Co. for the current year: W. C. Franz, President; Jas. Hawson, Vice President; J. F. Taylor, Vice President, Toronto; A. Taylor, Secretary; E.

W. Shell, Treasurer; P. B. Nash, Comptroller; C. H. Speer, Purchasing Agent; J. H. Stewart, Superintendent, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. All have offices at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., except where otherwise mentioned. The electric railway is in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

The City of Vancouver is proposing to redraft its charter so as to give it power to supply light and power to the citizens. At present the British Columbia Electric Ry. is supplying light and power in the city, and there appears to be some clauses in the existing charter which forbids the city competing with the company. The City Solicitor said the company had no rights against the city except in regard to its tram system, but he pointed out that the company had other and vested rights which would have to be respected. The company might have these rights irrespective of any agreement with the city. A special committee was appointed by the Council Mar. 13, to redraft the parts of the charter affecting this matter.

The Port Arthur Public Utilities Commission has granted increases of wages to the following employees of the civic railway for the current year: Master mechanic, from \$125 to \$130 a month; armature winder, \$90 to \$100 a month; machinist, blacksmith and carpenter, 35c to 37½c an hour; painter, 32c to 34c an hour; pitman, first class, 30c to 33c an hour; pitman, second class, 25c to 30c an hour; laborers and car washers, 25c to 27½c an hour; night foreman, from 30c an hour to \$100 a month; track foreman, \$90 to \$100 a month; boundary office clerk (half paid by Fort William), \$60 to \$80 a month; street railway cashier, \$50 to \$55 a month. The motormen and conductors received an increase of pay last summer.

**Nipissing Central Ry. Fire.**—The car barn at North Cobalt, Ont., was partially destroyed by fire, Mar. 4. The fire started at the north end of the building, which includes the car barn, shop, sub station and offices, and destroyed the car shed and offices, the shop, sub station and boiler plant, at the south end, being saved. Five cars in the shed were completely destroyed. Additional rolling stock is to be purchased as soon as possible, and the building will also be repaired. A partial service is being maintained with the cars that were in the shop and outside the building and not injured by the fire. The railway is operated by the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Ry. Commission, for the Ontario Government. S. B. Clement, North Bay, Ont., Chief Engineer and Superintendent of Maintenance.

**Dominion Power & Transmission Co.'s Wages.**—The Dominion Power & Transmission Co., Hamilton, Ont., operating the Hamilton St. Ry., Hamilton & Dundas Radial Electric Ry., Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville Electric Ry., and Hamilton & Brantford Ry., announced on Mar. 9 a war bonus of 2c an hour to conductors and motormen, applying on all the lines. This is in addition to the amounts provided for in the agreement between the company and the men on Mar. 21, 1916, and is for an indefinite period, the advance having been entirely voluntary on the company's part.

**Winnipeg Electric Ry.** conductors and motormen met Mar. 31 to discuss wages, etc. The present wage schedule expires May 1st, and under its terms it may be continued from year to year, unless either party gives 30 days notice of any change desired.