

time this fall. September and October will be busy months with big gangs of men engaged.

NEW WESTMINSTER.—The new dipper dredge "Ajax" has now reached completion with the exception of a few small finishing touches. The contractors have already put the machinery through its preliminary tests, raising and lowering the dipper arm and the spuds to their satisfaction, but there will now be the Government test, lasting six or seven days prior to the removal of the dredge to Victoria harbor, where it is to work. The vessel will in all be on trial for thirty days before leaving the hands of the Polson Iron Works Co., the contractors.

Foreign.

CHICAGO.—The project of a canal from Chicago to Toledo, Ohio, cutting 500 miles from the present lake route, has been taken up by the Chicago Association of Commerce. Mr. E. S. Conway, chairman of the Association Deep Waterways Commission, who is in charge of the movement, announced yesterday in a letter to Mayor Brand Whitlock, of Toledo, that as soon as the Great Lakes to the Gulf plan is well in hand the energies of the association will be devoted to this proposed waterway. The canal, as proposed, would be 244 miles long and twenty feet deep. It would start below South Chicago, cut across Michigan, and strike the lake about the entrance of the Maumee River, ten miles below Toledo. From this point traffic could be diverted up the river to the great elevators at and above Toledo, or a straightaway run for Buffalo and Lake Ontario would be open.

NEW YORK.—John F. Allen, 370-372 Gerard Avenue, New York, the pioneer builder of Portable Pneumatic Riveting Machines, reports a recent sale through their Paris agents, Fenwick Freres & Company, of one "Allen" Jaw Riveter, 25-inch reach, 15½-inch gap, 10-inch cyl., to Stussi & Zweifel, Milan, Italy.

PERSONAL.

MR. M. M. CAMPBELL, C.E., has removed from St. Amelme to St. Claire County, Dorchester, Que.

MR. NAPOLEON TESSIER has been appointed to succeed the late Fred. Gelin as Secretary of the Department of Public Works, Ottawa.

MR. MICHEL LA ROCHELLE, recorder of St. Henri, Que., is the other member of the Civil Service Commission. Mr. La Rochelle was private secretary to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, when he was leader of the Opposition.

PROF. ADAM SHORTT, of Queen's, has been appointed a member of the Civil Service Commission. This is the body that hereafter will have to do with the appointment of civil servants of the inside service, merit alone entering into the selections. The customs and post officer service are exempted from the commission. Professor Shortt will accept the position. He has been a resident of Kingston since 1879, and on the staff of Queen's since 1886. He will resign his professorship and remove to Ottawa. Prof. Shortt is well known on account of his success as a chairman of arbitration boards.

OBITUARY.

JAMES McDougall, for the last fifteen years engineer for the County of York, passed away at his residence, 5½ McKenzie Crescent, on September 2nd, 1908. Mr. McDougall, who was 55 years of age, had been in poor health for the last two years, but his illness did not become serious until recently. Deceased occupied the post of county engineer for over ten years, being connected during that time with the construction of the Metropolitan Railway, the Mimico line and the Scarboro' line. He also had charge of the construction of a part of the Canadian Pacific line.

PATENTS.

The following is a list of Canadian patents recently issued through the office of Messrs. Ridout & Maybee, Patent Solicitors, Toronto, from whom any further particulars as to the inventions may be obtained:

Turbines, Hon. C. A. Parsons; Engraving Hollow Articles, Konrad Schwahm; Support for Antennae Wires of Wireless Telegraph Systems, The Brown Hoisting Machine Company; Metal Shingles, Galt Art Metal Company; Joint for Sheep Shearing Machines, Ralph Faulkner; Pulleys, R. R. Gubbins; Water Purifier, John Bowie, Jr.

INDEPENDENT TELEPHONES.

The Independent Telephone Association held their third annual Convention in the City Hall, Toronto, on Wednesday, September 9th, 1908.

The President, Dr. J. F. Demers, of Levis, Que., in his address struck a very hopeful note.

Secretary F. Page Wilson reported 338 independent telephone companies on the Association list. During the past year the number of independent phones increased from 18,000 to 25,000.

T. R. Mayberry, M.L.A.-elect, spoke of the independent movement in towns and cities, giving an account of progress in South Oxford.

E. Skinner spoke on "The Independent Telephone at Railway Stations."

Regarding the crossing of railway tracks the law's provisions were arbitrary. The companies should not be required to go to Ottawa for permission. There should be a standard to conform to. Never before had the Bell Telephone Co. made such efforts to effect connections with the rural companies, said Mr. Skinner.

Addresses and papers were also given by A. R. Walsh on mutual vs. joint stock companies, Alpheus Hoover on rates, A. D. Bruce on free service, Camby Wismer, of Jordan, on division of territory, Henry Sneath on toll line connections, and M. Gee on independent telephone interests in towns and cities.

The following officers were elected: President, J. F. Demers, M.D., Levis, Que.; Vice-President, W. Doan, M.D., Harrietsville, Ont. Executive Committee—F. Dagger, Regina, Sask.; A. Ochs, M.D., Preston; C. Skinner, Sherbrooke, Que.; T. R. Mayberry, M.P.P., Ingersoll; A. Hoover, Green River; G. W. Jones, Clark; E. Hart, M.D., Brantford; Levi Moyer, Beamsville; A. D. Bruce, Gormley; C. B. Adams, Harrietsville; F. A. Dales, Stouffville, Auditor; Secretary-Treasurer, F. Page Wilson, Toronto.

The contractors and builders of Winnipeg are this week holding an exhibition, and a great many firms in the different lines of building and contracting trades are making exhibits. It is called "The Building Material Exhibition," and will be held from August 31st to September the 5th. This is a new idea in holding an exhibition such as this, but it brings before the public the advancement taking place in the many lines of building art.

TRADE INQUIRIES.

Metals.—A London firm of general merchants desired to hear from Canadian importers of metals and piece goods.

Electric Lamps.—Inquiry has been received from the London office of a Birmingham manufacturer of lamps and electric fittings for the names of Canadian buyers of such goods.

Pulp.—A London firm wishes to get into touch with Canadian manufacturers of wood pulp (chemical or mechanical).

Shellac.—A London firm of white shellac manufacturers desires to be represented in the principal Canadian towns for the sale of shellacs.