

Ottawa, Ont.—A delegation waited upon the federal government asking that body to subsidize a proposed tunnel to be built across the St. Lawrence River near Montreal. The tunnel would be used for steam and electric roads.

Great Britain.—Owing to the recent disastrous submarine accident there has been devised a new means of raising sunken vessels. In the operation of this a number of canvas bags are sunk and secured to the wreck by hawsers securely fastened by divers. Compressed air is then driven into the canvas bags or cylinders and the ship raised by means of the air.

Toronto, Ont.—The Board of Control have presented a report on the municipal hydro-electric system wherein they state that the work accomplished up to December 31st, 1911, included the completion of the Duncan Street sub-station building, the building of the high level station, the West Toronto station and the St. Lawrence Market station. The report states that the electrical work in the above mentioned stations is in a very advanced condition, in many cases being 80 and 90 per cent. completed. 198,228 feet of cable were drawn in; 1,251 joints were made; 228 joints were wrapped with asbestos, and 700 transformers were installed. 23,016 concrete and 7,986 wooden poles were erected and 2,151,511 pounds of wire strung.

Regina, Sask.—The municipal Fire, Light and Power Committee have prepared a new set of building laws for the city. The new laws provide that during street track construction no materials shall be deposited nearer than eight feet to the nearest rail; that no permit for sidewalk obstruction shall be valid for more than one week prior to the commencement of the excavation, nor shall the permit be valid for a period exceeding four months; it may, however, at the option of the committee, be renewed for a longer period. The concluding clauses dealing with the protection of the city from responsibility in case of accident and the penalty for non-observance of the by-law were rather indefinite in detail, and the by-law was referred back by the council to the city solicitor for alteration.

Mr. J. A. Brodie, of the Liverpool municipal engineering office, has been recommended by the Liverpool Health Committee to lay out the new capital of India.

PERSONAL.

Mr. L. W. Morden has been appointed sales engineer of the Packard Electric Company; his headquarters will be in Toronto.

Mr. C. C. Owens has recently been placed in charge of the Detroit District Sales Office of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, with the title of district manager.

Mr. E. R. Mathewson has been awarded the gold medal of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, London, England. Mr. Mathewson is the general manager of the Anacanda Smelting Works. He is a graduate of McGill University, Montreal, his native city.

Mr. H. E. Grant, sales agent in the light and power department of the B. C. E. R. Co., Vancouver, has been invited by the executive of the National Electric Light Association to read a paper on the education of central station employees at the approaching convention of the body in Seattle.

Mr. H. A. Whiting, of Bellingham, Wis., U.S.A., has been appointed construction engineer of Edmonds, British Columbia. He will have charge and be held responsible for all outside municipal work, while the work of planning new improvements and inspecting subdivision plans will be undertaken by the present engineer, W. A. McPherson.

Mr. Mieville, resident engineer of Messrs. W. H. Allen, Son & Company, of Bedford, Eng. (who are represented in Canada by Messrs. Chapman & Walker, of Toronto), has just left for an extensive tour of the West, and will call at all the leading towns en route.

OBITUARY.

The death is reported of **Mr. John S. Metcalf**, president of the John S. Metcalf Co., Ltd. His death occurred at his home in Evanston, Ill., on the evening of March 4th. Heart trouble and complications were the cause of death. Mr. Metcalf had devoted his life to the designing and construction of large grain elevators. Many of the largest elevators in Canada were his work. He was born near Sherbrooke, Que., in 1847. He leaves a wife and three daughters.

Mr. F. J. L. Tytler, civil engineer, of Vancouver, B.C., is dead in that city. His death was due to heart failure and occurred on Sunday, March 3rd, last. Mr. Tytler was born in India, his father being an officer in the British army. He came to Vancouver in 1890 and was for some time in the employ of the Provincial Government in the superintendence of dyking operations, principally in the Matsqui district. He was married a number of years ago to a sister of the late Captain Livingstone, of Hatzic, and leaves one child. Mr. Tytler was principal of the Technical School of Civil Engineering and Surveying.

MEETINGS.

Victoria, B.C.—The Road Superintendents' Conference was held in this city; Premier McBride and Hon. Thomas Taylor extended a welcome to the delegates. Mr. R. H. Thomson, chief engineer of the Seattle Port Commission, delivered an address in the course of which he stated that it was impossible to lay down any hard and fast rules for road construction. He showed how road engineering had advanced since the days of Telford and Macadam. He showed several lantern slides of roads in Europe to his audience. A number of municipal representatives were present, including Mayor Beckwith and several aldermen, City Engineer Smith and members of his department.

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A meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers was held at their rooms on Dorchester Street, Montreal, when considerable discussion was had on reports put in by committees appointed to draft standard specifications and classifications for railroad and road construction. Mr. J. M. Shanley presided over the meeting, and at the close refreshments were served.

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The fourteenth annual meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute was held in Toronto recently. The occasion was the cause of one hundred and eighty mining engineers and mining men concentrating and conversing on the mineral conditions of this country. Hon. W. H. Hearst, Ontario Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, read the address of welcome to the delegation and then followed the reading and discussion of various papers. Among these papers were "Manganese and Tungsten Deposits in Nova Scotia," "Accident Prevention or the Conservation of Human Life," "Sanitary Conditions in Mining Camps."

The meetings terminated by a banquet, which was held during the evening of March 8th.

The elections resulted in Mr. G. G. S. Lindsey, K.C., being the new president.