

## BRIDGES, ROADS AND PAVEMENTS.

**Brantford, Ont.**—The Grand Trunk Railway officials are considering the rebuilding of the bridge over the Grand River at a cost of \$50,000. The proposal is to move the easterly abutment eighteen feet farther east and add a span at the west end of 68 feet 6 inches. Also to rebuild the centre part with two trusses and another girder. The old bridge consists of three spans of 100 feet each, having a clear water way of 285 feet. The clear water way of the proposed bridge will be 366 feet. To get this will mean the building of two new abutments, and three piers, the westerly abutment being turned into a pier.

**Catineau Point, P.Q.**—The Provincial Government of Quebec Province have sanctioned the expenditure of \$20,000 for the construction of macadamized roads around and in this locality. Mr. Lafortune is the mayor of this town.

**Calt, Ont.**—A proposal has been made that the present bridge doing service on Main Street of this town be moved below the waterworks and provide an entrance to the industrial section.

**Halton County, Ont.**—The Halton County Council propose to spend \$300,000 on road improvements in their county. This includes the grant recently made by the government.

**Kildonan, Man.**—The council of this municipality are considering the erection of a bridge to cost \$165,000.

**Province of Manitoba.**—Premier Roblin, during a discussion on the estimates in connection with grants to the various municipalities of the province in aid of roads and bridges, stated that at the present time the government was considering a policy of having a standard road for the province, and also of bringing in a bill at this session defining the position to be taken by the government on the important question of good roads.

**Nelson, B.C.**—Chief Provincial Engineer Griffiths will advocate that the proposed bridge across the Kootenay River at Nelson be a quarter of a million dollar steel and concrete structure instead of the pile bridge originally planned. A permanent bridge is necessary to meet the rapidly growing requirements of this district.

**Saskatoon, Sask.**—This municipality will purchase six new road sprinklers during the coming spring. Geo. T. Clark, city engineer.

**South Vancouver, B.C.**—The municipal council will consider a new by-law dealing with the collection and handling of the civic garbage. It is proposed to fill certain ravines and gullies around the city with the refuse.

**St. John, N.B.**—The Provincial Government has announced that an agreement has been reached with the St. John Railway Company with regard to the erection of a bridge, to cost \$335,000.

## FIRES.

**Lindsay, Ont.**—Fire destroyed the plant and premises of the Hood Knitting Company.

**Oshawa, Ont.**—The car barns of the Oshawa Railway Co. were destroyed by fire on the morning of March 29th last. The loss is placed at \$20,000.

**Ottawa, Ont.**—The plant of the Ottawa Paint Works was destroyed by fire on March 28th, last. Loss estimated at \$8,000.

**Orillia, Ont.**—The sash and door factory of J. R. Eaton and Sons was destroyed by fire on March 27th last.

## CURRENT NEWS.

**Lethbridge, Alta.**—Tenders will be called at an early date for the work of laying and constructing the municipal sanitary sewers, street grading and cement sidewalks.

**Calgary, Alta.**—The Canada Western Natural Gas, Heat, Light and Power Company will lay their underground mains by means of a mechanical trencher with a capacity of one

mile, six feet deep and twenty-two inches wide, per twenty-four hours. The digging pieces or buckets are caused to pass along in rotation, each grasping its capacity of earth or gravel and in turn depositing it on a wooden slide that passes it out to one side. The digging part of the machine, which gets its power from a 24 horsepower gasoline motor, is similar to that of many river dredges.

**Frank, Alta.**—The Canadian Pacific Railway will confer with the federal authorities for the making of an expert's report on the advisability of blowing up Turtle Mountain at Frank.

**Moncton, N.B.**—The natural gas piping is now completed in this city the first users of the commodity being Messrs. John Abram and Sons. This firm will use the gas for boiler operations as soon as the necessary appliances are installed.

**Montreal, P.Q.**—The Shipping Federation and the Montreal Board of Trade have petitioned the federal government that the wrecking plant of the Messrs. George T. Davis and Sons, of Levis, P.Q., be granted an increased subsidy and the plant retained in its present position on the St. Lawrence River for an emergency. There has been some talk of a sale being concluded with the owners and another shipping firm. The proposition will be considered by the cabinet.

**Moose Jaw, Sask.**—Money by-laws totalling \$741,000 have been passed by the ratepayers. They include \$95,000 for 11th avenue subway; \$225,000 for electric plant extensions; \$70,000 for public library; \$170,000 for sewer and water extensions; \$6,000 for exhibition ground improvements; \$16,000 for the paving programme. An option was also given of \$15,000 or \$10,000 grant for the board of trade campaign, and the former carried. All the by-laws had sweeping majorities.

**Quebec, P.Q.**—The federal government are preparing plans for an increased wireless telegraph equipment at this point. The present station in the Citadel is only a half-kilowatt one, and it is impossible to get communication with Father Point, or Montreal, without relaying at the stations at Grosse Isle or Three Rivers. The new station will be one of five kilowatts, or perhaps ten, so that direct communication will be established with places hundreds of miles distant.

**Regina, Sask.**—The municipal council are about to appoint a Health Officer for the city.

**Vancouver, B.C.**—This municipality recently witnessed the working of a new system of fire alarm methods. Representatives of the manufacturers fitted up a working model and invited fire insurance inspectors, electricians and business men to the demonstration. The great point of difference with the systems now in use is that the ordinary civic telephone wires are the main part of the new apparatus. A small signal box is connected with the house instrument in such a method as to not interfere with the workings of the telephone. At the fire station end of the system the usual signal boards are used and should a fire occur in a building a contact button is pressed on the cover of the box, a buzzing sound in the central exchange warns the operator that the attention of the fire station is requested and she connects the telephone in the burning building with the fire station and saves the time of an ordinary call.

**Vancouver, B.C.**—A report states that a number of British and French financiers have decided to promote a scheme for building a floating dry-dock for Vancouver. The capital for the scheme has already been subscribed, and joint boards have been formed in London and Paris in connection with the project.

**Vancouver, B.C.**—The mayor of this municipality has decided to make a tour of the city and fix the blame for the condition of the dirty streets and lanes that exist in some portions of the city. As there appears to be some difference as to the share of responsibility held by the health authorities, the police and the fire warden, as well as the Board of Works, the mayor considers that a joint tour will do a great deal to clear the matter up and effect more co-operation.

**West Vancouver, B.C.**—There has been a movement made to appoint a city engineer for this municipality. Applicants may address the clerk of North Vancouver.

The smelting of metallic ores in Canada during 1911 did not produce the profit that was enjoyed from the same industry in the year 1910. The following list has been com-