

CONSTRUCTION NEWS SECTION

Readers will confer a great favor by sending in news items from time to time. We are particularly eager to get notes regarding engineering work in hand and projected, contracts awarded, changes in staffs, etc. Printed forms for the purpose will be furnished upon application.

RAILWAYS—STEAM AND ELECTRIC.

Quebec.

MONTREAL.—Final action was taken by the City Council in passing the by-law giving the Southern Counties Railway the privilege of entering the city by the construction of an electric railway from Victoria Bridge along Mill Street to Black's bridge, and thence by a couple of short streets to the corner of McGill and Common Streets, making a junction there with the lines of the Montreal Street Railway. By the agreement with the city, the company has one year from next November to complete its line within the city limits.

MONTREAL.—The Level Crossings Committee of the City Council met recently and instructed Mr. Stuart Howard, deputy chief engineer in the Road Department, to proceed with the preparation of plans, in conjunction with the engineer of the G.T.R., for the abolition of the level crossings on the Grand Trunk Railway system in the city. The city's proposal is that the passenger tracks shall be elevated from Bonaventure Station to the Victoria Bridge, but in view of the submitted impracticability of elevating the freight sheds, the freight tracks will remain on the level west as far as Mountain Street, whence they will proceed on an incline to Guy Street, where they will attain the elevation of the passenger tracks. The freight traffic will be limited to certain hours.

Ontario.

HAMILTON.—The street railway negotiations almost came to an abrupt ending. The Cataract magnates, who volunteered from the start to provide fifty new modern cars, wanted to back down. They said fifty was too many, as they were running only thirty-two now. The city's representatives said the company must either consent to provide fifty cars or the negotiations would be called off. The company agreed. The specifications for the roadbed, as already described, providing for 80 and 94-pound rails were agreed upon. The whole rough draft of the agreement was gone over, and a second draft, embodying the changes agreed upon, will be drawn up.

KENORA.—The names of the nine men killed in the explosion on the G.T.P., on June 13th, are: G. Roberts, F. Trimboli, Luigi Biribi, C. Wayetem, D. Jehemai, H. Bradley, George Munser, Tom Burgess, Robert Hay. The victims included three Italians, two Galicians, one Scotchman, two Canadians, and one Englishman. Foreman Simons, who had a sub-contract, with two assistants, was charging two fresh holes, and had placed seventy-five pounds of dynamite therein, when without warning the explosion occurred, with such awful results. Most of the victims were muckers and were engaged in the bottom of the rock cut at the time, and were buried under tons of stone.

STRATFORD.—The excavations have been started for the new power house for the big shops, which will cost some \$125,000, and in which the boilers are to be equipped with the Green travelling link grate stoker, which practically eliminates the smoke. The mistake of under-calculating the size of the future locomotive which was made in building the old shops about twenty years ago, is thoroughly guarded against in these new shops. In the locomotive pits in the new erecting department the accommodation is sufficient for, in many cases, two locomotives, placed tandem fashion, whereas in the old pits it had become a squeeze to get a single locomotive in place, and then to work satisfactorily about it. So that locomotives can grow to twice the length of the giants of the present day, before the Grand Trunk in

these Stratford shops will need to worry about the matter of accommodation. Indeed, there is practically no limit set in these shops to the size that the modern locomotive may attain to. There are to be 28 erecting pits, which means that more than that number of engines can be handled at one and the same time.

Alberta.

LETHBRIDGE.—The work of erecting the steel for the great C.P.R. bridge here, which it is said will be the fourth largest in the world, has been commenced by the Canadian Bridge Company of Walkerville, to which firm the contract was awarded. The structure is almost 300 feet in height, and its construction will entail many engineering difficulties.

SEWERAGE AND WATERWORKS.

Ontario.

PORT STANLEY.—The time is drawing near when the final decision will be given by the property-owners of Port Stanley as to their sincerity in requesting the members of the council to submit a by-law for the purpose of installing a waterworks system. Like all other questions of vital importance relative to progressive improvement of any municipality, this one question has received a large share of attention for some years back, and is receiving particular attention at present.

PORT STANLEY.—The waterworks by-law was defeated on June 15th by a vote of 81 against to 42 for. The chief reason given for the adverse vote was that the cost was too great, and that the ratepayers had in mind other expenditures which will have to be made shortly. Chief among these is to be a sum for either the repairing of the present school house or the building of a new school.

TORONTO.—A new sewerage system to cost \$7,500 has been recommended for the Mimico Industrial School. The improvement is required this year.

Alberta.

CALGARY.—Extensive improvements are planned for the city water supply. A pipe line and reservoir will be built. The proposed pipe line is to be 10½ miles long and 30 inches internal diameter, reducing to 24 inches at the outlet. The intake is at an elevation of 300 feet above the general city level, and a reservoir to contain about 25 million gallons will be placed a little below the outlet, the water level in same is at an elevation of 220 feet above the city. The reservoir is located just on the outskirts of the city, every portion of which can be supplied from same under good pressure.

EDMONTON.—The Twin City Coal Company, of Edmonton, Alta., have recently purchased an 80 horse-power Robb-Mumford water tube boiler.

LIGHT, HEAT, AND POWER.

Ontario.

INGERSOLL.—This town will contract for 500 horse-power with the Hydro-Electric Power Commission. At a meeting of the Council, held on the 15th inst., the mayor and clerk were instructed to sign the contract.

LONDON.—Within a very few months London will be supplied with natural gas from the Port Dover fields. There are 50,000,000 feet of gas available in sight in the Port Dover fields, and London will require 500,000 feet daily, it is estimated. The gas fields down there and east seem to be inexhaustible. The Welland fields have been in operation