

la Prairie, \$110.00; J. S. Bartleman, Regina, \$79.75; Rural Construction Co., Regina, \$98.75. These prices are for building only. The Government supplies all material.

#### Foreign.

**NEW YORK.**—The Atlas Portland Cement Co. has been awarded the contract to furnish 4,500,000 barrels of cement to the Isthmian Canal Commission at a cost of about \$5,500,000, the largest single contract ever given out in the Portland cement business in its entire history. The cement is to be used on the Panama Canal, for which this company has already furnished upward of 100,000 barrels in the course of its construction to date. The Atlas Company was the lowest bidder throughout, American and foreign mills alike being underbid, and the award of the contract came as no surprise.

### RAILWAYS—STEAM AND ELECTRIC.

#### Ontario.

**PORTH ARTHUR.**—Contractor McQuigge, of the Nepigon Construction Company, is in the city to-day from the works at the head of Lake Nepigon. Mr. McQuigge stated that the work on the contract would be rushed ahead much faster as soon as the tramway at Lake Nepigon is completed. The grading has been finished and some miles of steel laid. The work had been delayed considerably, however, by delay in the arrival of one of their locomotives. The engine was en route from the East but was travelling in slow stages. The work of building docks on Lake Nepigon for the purpose of handling the supplies is now completed.

**WINDSOR.**—The fifth of the ten double tubes necessary to finish the under-the-river portion of the Michigan Central ten million-dollar tunnel between Detroit and Windsor was successfully placed in position in the bed of the river to-day. The river proper portion of the tunnel is now half down. It is expected that at least two more tubes will be put down before running ice or cold weather compels suspension of work on this section of the tunnel. The sub-marine section is 2,600 feet in length. The open cut and approaches to the river section on both sides of the river measures about 13,000 feet, making the total length approximately two and a half miles. Unless unforeseen obstacles arise, Buller Bros. & Hoff, the contractors, expect to complete their work by June, 1909.

#### Manitoba.

**WINNIPEG.**—The Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad is negotiating for running rights into Winnipeg, via the Duluth & Rainy River Road and the C.N.R. The company has, however, secured options on suitable terminal property, and when the deal is complete will clip fifty miles off the present distance to Chicago.

**WINNIPEG.**—After repeated trial with concrete pile for the Fort Garry station, it has been decided that they are unsuited for the conditions prevailing here. The ground work will be built on timber piles, and the change of construction methods will be at once instituted.

**WINNIPEG.**—The J. D. McArthur Company will commence work on the eighteen-stall round house, which is to be erected at the Grand Trunk shops site on the Springfield road. A large gang of men will be put to work on the excavations, and it is expected to have the spacious building completed before next winter. The roundhouse is to be erected near the centre of the property, and the shops, which are to be built later, will be in the same vicinity.

#### Alberta.

**EDMONTON.**—A by-law authorizing the purchase of the charter of the Strathcona Radial Tramway Company for \$10,000 and the raising by debentures of \$135,000 to put the entire street car system in operation was all but unanimously endorsed by the ratepayers yesterday. The vote was very small, standing 710 for and 7 against, but the lack of interest was the strongest evidence of approval of the citizens, who made practically no opposition.

#### British Columbia.

**VANCOUVER.**—Messrs. Cleveland & Dutcher, civil engineers, have been appointed by the council of the municipal-

ity of Point Grey to make an examination of the district for the purpose of recommending what tramway extensions shall be made in the future.

### TELEPHONY.

#### Ontario.

**BRANTFORD.**—The Bell Telephone Company is making rapid headway laying its conduits on the city street.

**PALMERSTON.**—The line material for the Hawthorn Hill Rural Telephone line has arrived and a number of the poles are in the ground and the work of wiring and making connections will be commenced right away.

**WALLACE.**—The East Wallace Telephone Line has been completed from Listowel to Wallaceville. The line is controlled by the Bell Telephone Company.

#### Saskatchewan.

**LUMSDEN.**—To fill in the gap between Regina and Lumsden on the north arrangements have been made with the Bell Company by the Government, by which that company will string a No. 10 copper wire between these two points.

**REGINA.**—The Provincial Department of Railways, Telegraphs and Telephones has lost no time since its organization in preparing to give effect to the policy of the Government in regard to the construction of a complete telephone system for the province. The Government's telephone legislation only became law two months ago, yet already contracts have been let for the construction of 400 miles of long distance trunk lines, all the necessary poles, wire and other materials for these, also for additional lines have been ordered, and scores of rural companies are in process of organization throughout the province.

### LIGHT, HEAT, AND POWER.

#### Ontario.

**TORONTO.**—In spite of the opinion that Toronto's position in respect to the power contract with the Hydro-Electric Commission was unassailable, two injunctions were asked for at Osgoode Hall, and now the big legal fight over power, of which there have been rumblings in parts of the Province, has at last reached this city. In a sentence, it is claimed in the writs that the city council had no authority to enter into any contract with the Commission, and it is sought to restrain any action on the by-law.

**WELLAND.**—Gainsboro' is objecting to the Hydro-Electric power line going through the township on the highways, principally because they will have to take eight feet off the roadway and eight feet of private ground. This will make it necessary to cut down the trees. It is claimed that being a commercial enterprise the line should buy the right-of-way.

#### Manitoba.

**BOISSEVAIN.**—The town of Boissevain contemplates installing an up-to-date light plant, and have appointed W. E. Skinner, electrical engineer, Winnipeg, to look after the work.

**WINNIPEG.**—The largest contract for Nernst electric lamps ever awarded in Western Canada has been let to W. E. Skinner & Co. for the lighting of the new Grain Exchange Building, Winnipeg.

### RECENT FIRE

#### Ontario.

**SAULT STE. MARIE.**—Fire at Lake Superior Corporation yards resulted in a loss of about \$100,000. It started in the lumber yards near the sawmill and destroyed about 3,500,000 feet, estimated to cost \$30 per thousand. The lumber was owned by Miller & McCool, the Algoma Commercial Co., and the Saginaw Lumber Co.