

COAST TO COAST

Coquahalla, B.C.—The last rail of the Kettle Valley Railway will be laid this month, according to a recent report by Mr. J. J. Warren, president of the road. Construction work on the final section is practically completed.

Saanich, B.C.—A part of the new waterworks system will be ready for service by the end of this month. A junction has been made with the Sooke Lake water supply system, and some 600 service connections will be supplying water in the course of a month.

Vancouver, B.C.—Mr. J. W. Stewart, president of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, has returned from Europe, and the question of expediting further construction work is being dealt with. Some extensive bridge and track work in the vicinity of Clinton is at present under way.

Brantford, Ont.—Overhead work is now complete between Brantford and Galt on the Lake Erie and Northern Railway. From Brantford south poles are now being distributed. Several new stations have been erected, and, taken altogether, excellent progress is being made with the work.

Montreal, Que.—The bursting of a 36-inch water main caused considerable damage at the corner of Windsor and St. Antoine Streets, and released about 500,000 gallons of water from the McFavish Street reservoir. The pipe was installed in 1908. At time of writing a complete investigation of the fracture had not been made and no official report as to the cause of the accident was obtainable.

Hamilton, Ont.—The Grand Trunk Railway is installing a switch siding at Windmill Point, Ont., to be used by the Coast and Lake Contracting Corporation, Limited, quarries, thereby enabling this company to ship by both rail and water hereafter. A crusher has been installed on the quarry site for the manufacture of crusher run stone in large quantities. This quarry was formerly operated by the Hughes Bros. and Bangs twenty years ago.

Victoria, B.C.—It is announced that the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway is to resume construction work on the Vancouver Island sections of the system, and that before the close of the year a section of the west coast line will be completed to tide water. Temporary terminal facilities will be constructed on the Songhees Indian Reserve. The line to Patricia Bay, which is completely graded, with culverts and bridges ready for track laying, will also be completed without delay.

Edmonton, Alta.—The projected railway from Athabasca to Fort Vermilion on the Peace River has been completely surveyed this season, and reports are now being completed. Construction has commenced on steamers and terminals for a ferry line between Peace River Crossing and Fort Vermilion. Tramways are under construction at Smith Rapids and Vermilion chutes. At the latter point boring operations for gas and oil are under way and it is reported that the indications are very satisfactory. The D. A. Thomas' interests, which are behind the railway, claim that they have in the north one of the world's greatest potash beds.

Montreal, Que.—City Engineer Paul E. Mercier returns from the Dayton convention of the American Society of Municipal Improvements much impressed with the dry cleaning method of keeping paved streets in order. Its adoption in many cities of the United States, and its numerous supporters among city engineers generally have made it a subject of considerable interest. Dry cleaning is preferred because it is cheaper and because it obviates the slipperiness of wet pavements. It is of interest to recall here the statements of Mr. C. H. Rust, city engineer of Vancouver, whose figures for last year show a cost of only 16½ cents per thousand square yards.

Quebec, Que.—It is expected that the Provincial Government will undertake the construction of an improved highway between Shawinigan Falls, Grand Mere and Three Rivers. A party, including Hon. J. A. Tessier, minister of roads; Mr. Ben. Michaud, deputy minister of roads; Mr. Gabriel Henry, chief engineer of the roads department, and a number of others, went over the route last week. Five large concerns, *viz.*, the Shawinigan Water and Power Co., the Belgo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Co., the Laurentide Pulp and Paper Co., the Canada Carbide Co., and the Northern Aluminum Co., have already invested a capital of nearly \$25,000,000 in the industrial centres of Shawinigan Falls and Grand Mere. The towns are growing rapidly and they all need badly a good road to connect them with Three Rivers and Montreal and Quebec, by the way of the new Montreal-Quebec road, which is almost finished.

Edmonton, Alta.—Since the discovery of natural gas at Viking last year, and the consequent proof of the existence of gas fields adjacent to Edmonton, the city council has given earnest consideration to the question of providing a supply of the gas within the city for industrial, municipal, and domestic use, the proposal being to construct a pipe line from one of the proven fields, or to prospect certain probable fields in closer proximity. A by-law proposing to empower the council to expend \$30,000 on exploration work was recently defeated by a vote of the burgesses, since when several private concerns have entered into negotiation with the council with a view to obtain a franchise. At a special meeting held on October 12th, 1915, the council endorsed the offer of the Northern Alberta Natural Gas Development Company, Limited, and ordered that an agreement between the council and the company, on the basis of a twenty-year franchise, be submitted to the burgesses on November 8th next. Unsuccessful offers were made by Mr. J. D. McArthur, Mr. C. B. Reilly, Messrs. Parlee, Freeman and Abbott, the Mount Allison Oil and Asphalt Company, Limited, and the Great Northern Oil and Asphalt Company, Limited.

PERSONAL.

Lieut. F. ALPORT, of the Sixth Field Company, Canadian Engineers, 1st Canadian Contingent, has been reported wounded.

FRANK CHAPPELL, town engineer of Oshawa, Ont., has resigned, having secured an appointment with the McLaughlin Automobile Company of Oshawa.

W. R. DEVENISH, assistant chief engineer of the Intercolonial Railway, has been appointed district superintendent at Campbellton, succeeding the late Mr. Evan Price.