

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.

LIGHT, HEAT, AND POWER.

Ontario.

PORT ARTHUR.—At the meeting of the Electric Railway, Light and Telephone Commission last night Superintendent McCauley was authorized to enter into an arrangement with the Canadian Northern Coal and Ore Dock Company for temporary power at the rate of \$40 per year. Two hundred horse-power to be used in the operation of the street railway, will be taken at once for a three year term.

WINDSOR.—Windsor is to be supplied with natural gas from the Tilbury fields. The Symes syndicate will pipe the gas at 35 cents for cooking and lighting, and 25 cents for other purposes, with the privilege of increasing the rates five cents at the end of seven years. As a guarantee of good faith the company promises to spend \$50,000 or the \$600,000 that will be required to bring the gas to the city, in laying mains outside the city limits before beginning to tear up any streets or pipes. The company agrees not to export any gas.

Nova Scotia.

HALIFAX.—It is not generally known that at the last session of the Legislature the Government of Nova Scotia assumed control of the rates chargeable for furnishing electric energy throughout the province. The law now requires that all schedules of rates shall be filed in the office of the Provincial Secretary, and that no changes can be made to the same without the authority of the Governor-in-Council. The right of hearing is given to any city, town, individual or firm affected, and thus the public are protected in a large degree from any excessive or improper charge.

SEWERAGE AND WATERWORKS.

Ontario.

HAMILTON.—The Fire and Water Committee have considered the tenders for the electric pumps and motors for the Beach pumping plant. The bids were submitted to Engineer Sothman of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, and he placed them in order of merit.

For the 25 cycle proposition:

1. The Swedish General Electric Company for motors at \$12,800, and Buffalo Steam Pump Company for pumps at \$7,600.

2. Canadian Westinghouse Company for motors at \$15,945, and Buffalo Steam Pump Company for pumps at \$7,600.

For the 66 cycle proposition for induction motors:

1. Swedish General Electric Company for motors at \$9,800 and the Buffalo Steam Pump Company for pumps at \$8,500.

2. General Electric Company for motors, \$8,800.

The accepting of tenders for motors was postponed.

The representatives of the Worthington Pump Company explained they were not given an opportunity to tender on the amended specifications, so new tenders will be called for pump.

PALMERSTON.—The town expects to spend \$35,000 on waterworks extension during 1908. Galt and Smith are the engineers in charge of the work.

TORONTO.—If it is legal for the city to spread the payments over a period of four years, the Board of Control will approve the construction of a storm overflow sewer across the city to the Don, at a cost of \$200,000.

RAILWAYS—STEAM AND ELECTRIC.

Ontario.

PORT ARTHUR.—The C.P.R., C.N.R., and G.T.P., are unanimous in asking that the McKay and Kakabeka Railway Company construct overhead bridges or subways at the West Fort crossing. The steam railways prefer subways as bridges might interfere with the signals.

ST. CATHARINES.—The City Council passed a resolution favoring the Hamilton Radial bill now before Parliament, providing it is made obligatory on the company reaching this city within two years.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRANDON, MAN.—The City Council has passed a final recommendation to construct a reinforced concrete bridge across the Assiniboine River here. Estimated cost \$60,000. The bridge will consist of 3 90-ft. spans with necessary approaches. W. H. Shillinglaw, city engineer.

LONDON, ONT.—The Canada Chemical Company of East London have decided that in the future their entire product will be manufactured in "Sulphide Ontario," Hastings, Ont., where a mine has been discovered in which iron and sulphur are in such proportions that the company can produce sulphuric acid cheaper than any other in the world.

BUILDINGS.

British Columbia.

VANCOUVER.—Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Dalton and Everleigh for a \$50,000 sanitorium to be erected near Kamloops.

Alberta.

EDMONTON.—The Alberta Government intend carrying on extensive building operations this year. The list of public buildings include the court houses in Edmonton and Wetaskiwin, the Land Titles Office in Calgary, the Normal School at Calgary, the jail or court house at Lethbridge, and the asylum at Ponoka.

The contract for the new Toronto observatory has been awarded to Brown & Love, Toronto. It will be situated at the corner of Devonshire Place and Bloor Street.

Snow-load on roofs is the subject of some recent investigations by Mr. S. de Perrot, of Neuenburg, Switzerland. Where a heavy fall of snow is followed by thawing and freezing successively and then more snow, and thus in repeated cycles, a coherent laminar mass of snow and ice is formed on roofs, which is of remarkable density. Several such "snow" accumulations proved to have a weight of 36 to 38 pounds per cubic foot. In these cases the thickness of the accumulated snow on the roof was 24 ins. to 32 ins., thus producing a load of 70 pounds to 100 pounds per square foot. This is three or four times as much as is commonly assumed in calculations.—The Engineer (London).

MR. HENRY M. LANE, editor of Castings, Cleveland, Ohio, was in Toronto last week in the interest of the Foundrymen's Association, which purposes holding a convention in Toronto in June.