

be laid before the Provincial Government with a request for financial assistance.

Vancouver, B.C.—Encouraging reports of the manner in which the interior of the province in the Hope district is filling with ranchers are brought back to the city by Mr. George D. McKay, provincial timber inspector, who returned to this city recently after a visit of inspection of the forest fire protection service. "It is four years since my last visit to the district, and I was amazed at the great alteration," said Mr. McKay. "All along the route of the new Pacific Highway the land is occupied with ranches, and the country looks prosperous. The Pacific Highway is going to be a wonderful thing to enable our residents to see the scenic beauties of the province, and will attract thousands of wealthy automobilists here, too," said Mr. McKay. "The roadway is being cut through a hundred-mile stretch of the most wonderful scenery imaginable. It is twenty-four feet wide all the way, and will start from Chilliwack and run clear through to Hope, and thence on to Silver Creek and the summit of the Cascades, striking the old Dewdney and Similkameen trails to Nicola and the Boundary country. There are wonderful views of mountain and valley scenery, nearly the whole way. It will be one of the great resorts for automobilists who want to see Nature at her grandest." Superintendent Sutherland and his staff of 100 men have already got sixteen miles of road in the Yale district completed, and are following up the work as fast as the snow disappears in their path. Mr. McKay does not anticipate any danger from floods in the Chilliwack district unless the thaw from the mountains should be delayed, and a heavy drainage comes down toward the middle of June, when a high tide is due. The tide from the ocean backs up the waters of the Fraser River as far as Sumas, and the danger to be feared is that the high tide should come at a time when the river is swollen with the mountain thaws.

PERSONAL.

MR. DOUGLAS SPENCER, of London, England, arrived in Toronto this week. Mr. Spencer's visit is a strictly business one. While here he is making his headquarters with the Canadian Boving Company of this city.

MR. GEORGE IRVINE has been appointed Canadian manager for the National Meter Company, of New York. Mr. Irvine will make his headquarters at 229 Spence Street, Winnipeg. He is a Canadian by birth and fully familiar with conditions existing in Canada. He has been in the employ of the National Meter Company for nearly twenty years, and has had long practical experience in connection with waterworks matters.

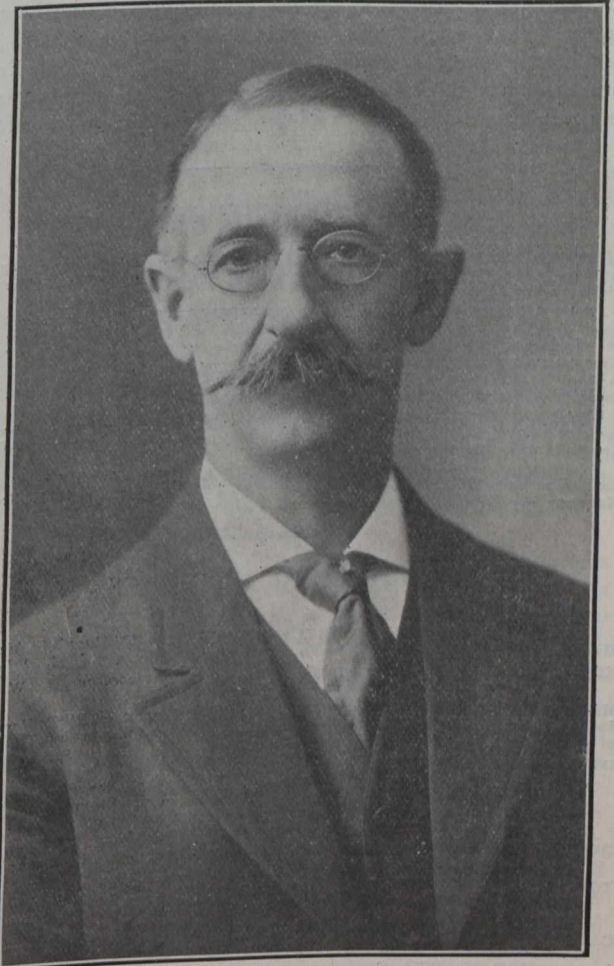
MR. SAMUEL HILL, president of the American Road Builders' Association, at the invitation of President George McAneny, of the Borough of Manhattan, and President Cyrus C. Miller, of the Borough of the Bronx, New York City, on May 26th delivered an illustrated address on the subject "The Highways of the Northwest" at the residence of President McAneny, before an assemblage of over fifty municipal engineers who are in charge of the highways of Greater New York.

OBITUARY.

MR. J. K. McLEAN, Dominion Land Surveyor at the Sarcee Reserve, near Calgary, died on May 23. Deceased was the eldest son of the late Donald McLean, formerly collector of inland revenue in Guelph. He was a resident of Ottawa.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

It gives us great pleasure this week to be able to present to the readers of *The Canadian Engineer*, a portrait, together with some facts relating to the career of Professor George F. Swain, President of the American Society of Civil Engineers, which society is to hold its summer meeting in the city of Ottawa this month. Owing to the fact that many of our readers are members of both the Canadian and American societies, we feel they will be interested in learning something about the career of Professor Swain.



Prof. Geo. F. Swain.

George Filmore Swain was born 2nd of March, 1857 in San Francisco. His father was a prominent citizen of that city and a leading merchant. It was while he served as president of the Chamber of Commerce, that he was appointed superintendent of the branch mint during the Presidency of Abraham Lincoln. Swain, Jr., received his preparation for college at a military school. When sixteen years of age he became a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His teacher in civil engineering was Professor John B. Henck. In 1871 Mr. Swain received the degree of Bachelor of Science. This was followed by courses of study in Berlin, Germany, where he specialized in bridges, railroads and hydraulics. He returned to the United States in 1880, and shortly after was appointed instructor in civil engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was soon promoted to the position of assistant professor, and a few years later, in 1881, became full professor in charge of