

H. P. Sharpe, heretofore agent of the Dominion Ex. Co. at London, Ont., has been appointed city agent at Toronto. A. E. Berube, of St. Thomas, has been appointed to the London agency.

The Dominion Ex. Co. has opened a route on the Pheasant Hills branch of the C.P.R., between Kirkella, Man., and Esterhazy, Assa., taking express matter for Quebec, Grayson, Killaly, Neudorf, Orcadia, Spring-side and Stockholm.

The lengthened spell of cold weather, with the demoralization of the train service, particularly along the branch lines, in Ontario, resulted in the express companies refusing to accept perishable goods at many points, and in the sending of cattle and other live stock by express.

The Dominion Ex. Co. proposes to erect at the C.P.R. station at Winnipeg, a temporary structure in which to take care of a portion of the business now being handled in old buildings situated on the west side of Main St. The temporary building will be taken down as soon as the new station is completed.

Telegraph and Cable Matters.

The Government telegraph line from Onion lake to the Britannia colony at Lloydminster, Sask., has been completed.

The C.P.R. telegraph department has issued a list of telegraph offices and tariff, revised and corrected to the end of 1903.

The Western Union Telegraph Co. announces that Forest, Ont., has been added to the list of transfer offices, Class E, G. S. Perry being transfer agent.

The C.P.R. telegraph department and the G.N.W. Telegraph Co. have issued special instructions respecting the transmission of code and other messages to Japan.

Owing to the breakdown of the telegraph wires in consequence of a railway accident in Nova Scotia Feb. 4, a message was received at Halifax from St. Johns, Nfld., by way of Ireland.

The Dominion Government telegraph repair str. Tyrian has been chartered by the Direct U.S. Cable Co. to repair a break in one of its cables on Brown's Bank, 80 miles from Canada, N.S.

The cable connecting Pelee island in Lake Erie and the mainland will be restored to its former bed in the spring, the present line being in such a position as to be constantly fouled by passing vessels.

E. B. Gerard has been appointed Superintendent of the Commercial Cable Co.'s station at Hazel Hill, N.S., succeeding S. S. Dickenson, promoted. F. J. Burstall succeeds E. B. Gerard as Assistant Superintendent.

The wireless telegraph station at Belle Isle, Nfld., has been transferred from the control of the Department of Public Works to the Department of Marine, which will also take charge of the five other stations proposed to be established in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

J. S. McDonald, Superintendent of Government telegraphs, recently went over the route between Edmonton and Athabasca Landing, selected for the proposed extension of the telegraph line. Contracts have been let for the supply of poles, so that the line may be constructed during the summer.

S. S. Dickenson, heretofore Superintendent of the Commercial Cable Co.'s station at Hazel Hill, N.S., has been appointed General Superintendent at New York, with jurisdiction over the entire system. The new General Superintendent is a native of Plymouth, Eng., and was placed in charge of the station at Hazel Hill when the Commercial Cable Co. began business over 20 years ago.

Gibbon and Mott, of Vancouver, B.C., recently interviewed members of the Dominion Government with a view of securing a lease of the Government telegraph line on the west coast of Vancouver island. A press report states that it was represented that there was at present a loss of \$4,000 a year, and that, notwithstanding this, the applicants were willing to pay \$5,000 a year for the lease of the line.

F. F. Jennings, who was recently appointed Inspector of Telegraphs, Eastern division C.P.R., entered the service of the Montreal Telegraph Co. in 1875 as check boy, and continued in the service of the G.N.W. Telegraph Co. after the organization of that company. In 1886 he joined the staff of the C.P.R. telegraph department, becoming chief operator and circuit manager at Montreal in 1890.

There are in operation 252,436 miles of ocean cables, of which 38,797 miles are owned by Governments. The first cable was laid in 1850 between Dover and Calais. British cables connecting London with all parts of the world have a length of 154,000 miles, of which 139,136 miles are owned by companies. United States companies own 44,470 miles of cables, and the U.S. government owns the Alaska cable.

H. Bott, who was recently appointed chief operator and circuit manager C.P.R. telegraphs at Montreal, entered the service of the Montreal Telegraph Co. as an operator in 1870; and from 1878 to 1880 was with the Dominion Telegraph Co. From 1880 to 1886 he was with the Western Union Telegraph Co. at Buffalo, N.Y.; from 1886 to 1901 with the C.P.R. telegraph department at Ottawa, and from 1901 to Dec., 1903, was wire chief C.P.R. telegraphs at Montreal.

The Canadian Northern Ry. will string a third wire from Port Arthur, Ont., to Winnipeg, and an additional wire from Winnipeg to Grand View, Man. This will give three wires to Port Arthur, four to Portage la Prairie, Man., three to Grand View, and two from Dauphin, Man., to Erwood, Sask. Two wires are being strung on the line from Grand View towards Edmonton, Alta., as construction proceeds. The lines are strung by the C.N. Ry. construction staff, and when completed are handed over for operation for commercial purposes to the Canadian Northern Telegraph Co.

General Telephone Matters.

The Bell Telephone Co. has offered London, Ont., \$2,500 a year for an exclusive franchise for five years.

The Nelson and Vernon Telephone Co. is establishing a metallic circuit in Trail, B.C. The new switchboard, etc., is expected to be installed early in March.

The New Brunswick Telephone Co. has completed a system whereby it can furnish a limited service to those who do not desire an unlimited telephone service.

The towns served by the Bell Telephone Co.'s long distance line between Calgary and Edmonton, Alta., are Calgary, Didsbury, Olds, Innisfail, Red Deer, Lacombe, Ponoka, Wetaskiwin and Edmonton.

The Harrietsville, Ont., Telephone Association has re-elected Dr. W. Doan President, and C. B. Adams Secretary. It is proposed to extend the line considerably during the summer and to establish a central office at Harrietsville, Ont.

The Bell Telephone Co. will, we are officially informed, continue to add to its long distance lines in the Northwest Territories during 1904, but the particular extensions which will be constructed during the year have not been definitely decided upon.

The British Yukon Ry. Co. has been granted right of way for a telephone line between

Whitehorse and Dawson, Yukon, by the Dominion Government. The Government officials are to be permitted to use the line for official business without charge.

The Bell Telephone Co. has added the following points to which its long distance service has been extended: Gordon Lake, MacLennan and Port Finlay on the mainland, and Richard's Landing, Fountain Park, Sailor's Encampment, Kentvale and Marksville on St. Joe Island, Ont.

Residents of Edmonton and Strathcona, Alta., are agitating for a better telephone service between the two towns, and also for an all-night service. There are three wires at present on the line connecting the towns, and the residents ask for the stringing of a couple of additional wires.

F. J. Leonard, General Manager Canadian Telegraph and Telephone Co., made a formal application to the Toronto city council for a franchise Feb. 6, and the matter was left in the hands of the Mayor for investigation and report. The company is also applying for franchises in Hamilton, London and Ottawa.

The Charlotte Telephone Co. (Ltd.) has been incorporated under the New Brunswick Companies' Act to establish a telephone system in the county of Charlotte, N.B., with a capital of \$7,500 and head office at St. Stephen. The provisional directors are: F. W. Andrews, J. E. and A. E. Ganong, L. F. and N. M. Mills, all of St. Stephen.

The Grand Trunk Ry. is extending its telephone service along the line from Sarnia to Suspension Bridge, Ont. A press report states that the work will be completed early in April. The telephone will be used as an auxiliary to the telegraph, and not in place of it. The G.T.R. has also in operation yard telephone systems at various points.

The town councils of Port Arthur and Fort William, Ont., have asked the Board of Railway Commissioners for an order to permit them to connect their municipal telephone systems with the C.P.R. stations. The Bell Telephone Co., which has an agreement with the C.P.R., is co-operating with the railway company in resisting the application. The hearing of the case was fixed for Feb. 29.

At the recent session of the Manitoba Legislature an act was passed confirming an agreement between the village of Boissevain and J. J. Millege and others, giving the latter an exclusive franchise for an electric light power and telephone service. At the expiration of five years from the installation of the service the village may purchase the plant at actual cost plus 10% per annum, and may purchase the plant at a valuation after a period of 25 years.

The investigation into the circumstances attending the passing of the by-law granting a franchise to the Bell Telephone Co. in Hamilton, has been completed before the local Master. In the course of the examination for discovery of some of the Aldermen, one of them alleged that he had been approached with a view to getting him to promise to support the by-law. The Mayor has made an affidavit in the case to the effect that the agreement with the Bell Telephone Co. is of decided advantage to the city. The court has decided that the by-law must stand.

The Central Telephone Co. (Ltd.), has been incorporated under the New Brunswick Companies' Act, with a capital of \$10,000, to establish a telephone system in St. John and Fredericton, and between these points via Rothesay, Perry Point, Kingston, Belleisle and White's Cove; and also between other points in the counties of St. John, Queens, Sunbury and York. The incorporators are: G. G. Scovil, Belleisle Creek; J. M. Scovil, K. J. MacRae, St. John; W. Pugsley, K.C., Jas. Domville, Rothesay; L. P. Faris, White's Cove; and E. G. Evans, Hampton.