

Light, Heat, Power, Etc.

Chilliwack, B.C., is considering electric light and water-works.

A local private telephone exchange is to be established at Westport, Ont.

The Bryan Mfg. Co., Collingwood, have installed their own electric light.

There is very little of the Montmorenci Falls power now remaining unutilized.

Three parties of engineers are at work laying out the course of the power transmission line from Niagara Falls to Toronto.

The Cataract Power Company, Hamilton, will erect a new transformer building near the Deering Works, to cost \$6,000.

Among the patents recently granted in Canada is one to Harry Shoemaker, of Philadelphia, Penn., for a system of wireless telegraphy.

A telephone line is to be built from either Perth or Smith's Falls to Port Elmsley, where plumbago works have been established.

The sound made by a Marconi transmitter is said to be so great that it is necessary to put cotton wool in the ears to protect the ear drums.

Winnipeg has five or six proposals before it to furnish electricity from water powers outside the city. It may be taken up as a municipal work.

The American Cereal Co. and the Otonabee Power Co. are both after the contract for lighting Peterboro, and the former offers to extend and run the street railway as well.

By-laws have been passed at St. Mary's, Ont., to raise \$20,000 for roads, to extend the waterworks and electric light service, and to place them under the management of commissioners.

The electrical development at the Soulanges Canal by the Light, Heat and Power Co., of Montreal, will involve the making of a channel about two miles long from the canal to the Ottawa river.

The fruit growers of the Niagara peninsula want a telephone system. They have been negotiating with the Bell Co. A committee, consisting of E. D. Smith, A. H. Pettit and others, have the matter in hand.

The Jenison plan for power development at Fort William, from the Kakabeka Falls, has cropped up again. An English engineer is to look over the ground for a new company, in which Winnipeg capitalists are interested.

Goldie & McCulloch, of Galt, have contracted with Fort William to supply the power plant for the new municipal system of electric lighting. The plant includes a 500 horsepower cross-compound condensing Wheelock engine, boilers, pumps, etc., and will cost \$21,000.

Legislation will be asked from the Ontario Legislature providing that neither Port Arthur nor Fort William shall sell, lease, impair or part with the operation of its municipal telephone system, without consent of the ratepayers of both towns; that each town shall have right of free exchange over the other's system, and that the rates on each system shall be the same and be altered only on joint consent of both councils.

A plan to furnish electric light, power and communication over the same circuit has been patented by Alexander M. Stark, superintendent in Toronto, for the Bell Telephone Company. He uses a power current distributed at each subscriber's station to the subscriber's main circuit to furnish him continuously with power for his lamps, motors and communication instruments, and maintain the power current at constant tension by a storage battery bridged across the main power circuit between the generator and subscriber.

The Government will probably extend its telegraph lines in Cape Breton to the Marconi station at Glace Bay.

Brantford is giving the Imperial Natural Gas Co. a franchise to lay pipes under the streets and supply gas.

In adjusting the loss on the Fort William town hall recently burned, the insurance companies deducted 25 per cent. on account of increased risk from the municipal telephone plant.

The DeForest Wireless Telegraph Co. has presented to Toronto University a complete set of instruments suitable for short distance work, up to half a mile, and for laboratory experiments.

The two 1,000 K.W. Westinghouse steam turbine generating units for the De Beers mines at Kimberly, South Africa, have recently been shipped. These are the largest steam turbines that have yet been exported from the United States.

Jas. Ross, President of the Dominion Iron & Steel Company and the Dominion Coal Company, has completed in England a purchase of the City of Mexico Electric Light Company, for the Mexican Power Company. It has an exclusive franchise.

Berlin, Ont., town council and the Berlin Gas Co. have entered into an agreement whereby the town will pay \$90,000 for all the latter's property, except the new building in course of erection, and take over the new building with its plant at actual cost price.

La Compagnie de Telephone du Canton Patton, with a capital of \$2,000, headquarters at Saint Paul du Buton, has been incorporated in Quebec, to build, or acquire, and operate an electric telephone line, through the counties of Montmagny, Bellechasse and L'Islet.

The Peterboro town council is wrestling with the lighting question. The Otonabee Power Co. has put in a tender and the American Cereal Co. has also made an offer, the latter including the re-opening and operation of the street railway. The Peterboro Light & Power Co. is also in the field, and there is talk of the various companies amalgamating.

The Dominion Gas Improvement Co. is asking for a charter to build gas works, etc., to distribute gas and other agents for illuminating, heating, etc., and to acquire and use any inventions, franchises and business of any other person or municipality. It is believed this relates to the amalgamation of Quebec's two electric companies, the Quebec Railway, Light and Power Co., and the Quebec Jacques Cartier Electric Co.

A minister, living at Madison, Mo., finding that he could not reach an appointment to preach in time on account of the bad roads, remembered that almost every family could be reached by telephone, arranged with the manager of the system, and addressed his prayers and sermon to a battery of transmitters, from which it was conveyed over some 300 miles of wire to 326 receivers. An organ and choir gathered in the central office furnished the musical part of the service.

The suit between P. H. Patriarche and the town of Orillia has been decided in favor of the town. The plaintiff contracted in December, 1899, to build a municipal plant for transmitting electrical power and light from Ragged Rapids on the Severn River. The contract price was \$71,000, with allowances for extras due to future changes in plans. In December, 1900, another agreement was entered into, and in August, 1900, an important change was made in specifications relating to the dam. For this Patriarche claimed \$212,000, and alleged that there had been so many changes, additions and variations in the original plans that the works constructed are not the works contemplated and covered by the contract and specifications originally agreed upon. H. H. Strathy, to whom the case was referred, found that there was a contract for the sum named, and dismissed plaintiff's claim, but was willing to allow \$44,673.39, if claimed as balance due on original contract and for extras, because of changes in the original specifications. This brings the total cost of the work up to \$99,275.75. The town had offered to pay \$100,000. Peter Ryan also appeared as a plaintiff, having a lien on the works.