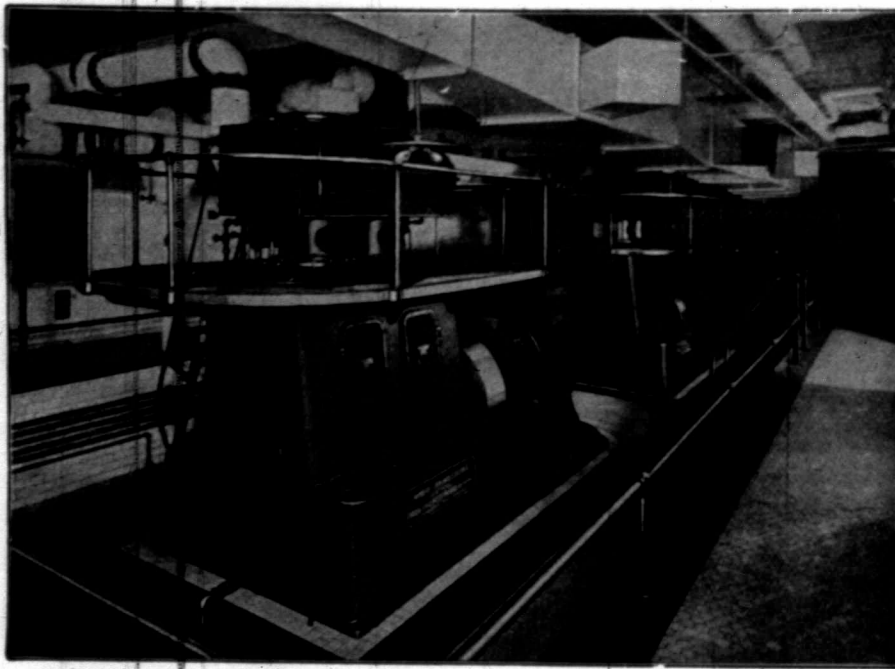


NEWS AND NOTES.

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Some drastic changes are proposed in the law regarding fire damage by railways. The Committee on Forestry, Commission of Conservation, recommends that several sections be added to the Railway Act, providing that, for every case in which a fire is started by sparks from a railway locomotive, the railway company shall be liable for a fine of \$1,000. It shall be a sufficient defence against prosecution if the company can show that it has used upon the locomotive the best available modern appliance for preventing the spread of sparks; that no negligence has been shown by any of its

servants; and that an efficient staff of fire rangers has been maintained. It is also proposed that the Government railways maintain an efficient staff of fire rangers, and that the Government railways shall provide free transportation for all provincial fire guardians while travelling in the discharge of their official duties. It is also recommended that the Committee again draw the attention of the Dominion Government to the desirability of taking immediate action to form a reserve of the forest land on the east slope of the Rocky Mountains and afford efficient fire protection for the same.



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