

Toronto, Ont.—An old twenty-four-inch water main burst just before midnight, New Year's eve. The break occurred between two railway tracks on the esplanade in the vicinity of John Street. In a few moments ten tracks were covered with water so that they could be counted only by means of the cars on the rails. The water spread from the Union Station to a quarter of a mile west. The workmen of the water service could not get to the main, so that the only way of fixing it was to shut off the main near the pumping station. The main was the first one laid in Toronto, and it was put in thirty-nine years ago. It was sunk ten feet under the tracks. At the time the break took place the pressure was 100 pounds to the square inch.

Toronto, Ont.—The ratepayers have voted to spend \$2,200,000 on extensions of the hydro-electric scheme; \$1,783,333 on an extension of Bloor street, and \$139,488 on car line extensions.

Vancouver, B.C.—It is recognized that the Fraser River will supply all the waterfront that will be required by the expansion of Vancouver and the greater city that lies between Burrard Inlet and the Fraser. But before permanent improvements are carried out, it is the opinion of Mr. Louis Coste, civil engineer of Ottawa, who is on the coast on a mission for the Dominion Government, that a commission of engineers should be appointed to decide the best course of action. Tenders are being called for the construction of a jetty at the mouth of the Fraser. This is the recommendation of a prominent engineer, who stated that with this jetty, perhaps two, the river would clear its own channel and keep it clear. Mr. Coste expresses the opinion that the construction of this jetty is premature, and thinks the best results would be obtained by a commission of three experts, for the task is too big to leave to one man.

Winnipeg, Man.—The fire commissioner states that 100 fires during the past year in Winnipeg were due to defective chimneys, the fault of knowingly careless workmen or contractors. His contention in one case was supported by the city building inspector, who said that a new house which was almost destroyed by fire had no mortar in the layers of bricks in the chimney against the woodwork.

Welland, Ont.—The ratepayers decided to adopt the hydro-electric by-law by a majority of 334. The settling basin measure was defeated.

Winnipeg, Man.—The committee of the Board of Trade investigating the municipal telephone rates have started their task. The investigation will cover a wide area, and will cover the whole management of the telephone system since it was taken over by the Manitoba Government. The question of telephones is causing considerable trouble throughout the province, owing partly to the recent deficit in the operation of the system.

The following is a list of Ontario municipalities which voted for the hydro-electric by-laws:—

Municipality—	Majority for
Ailsa Craig	85
Blyth	52
Brampton	140
Brussels	Large
Colledonia	180
Clinton	100
Cornwall	Large
Exeter	Large
Goderich	Large
Hagersville	Large
Hastings	71
Hensall	88
Kincardine	286
Kingston	Large
Lakefield	201
Listowel	Large
Lucan	Large
Owen Sound	Large
Paisley	Large
Paris	Large
Peterboro'	1,315
Prescott	154
Richmond Hill	118
Southampton	186
Tillsonburg	Large
Thornbury	140
Wingham	Very large
Wroxeter	Very large

The receivership for Allis-Chalmers Company, Milwaukee, U.S., will be of a friendly character and is one of the preliminary steps necessary in the reorganization of the company. Meantime the shops at Milwaukee, Chicago, and Cincinnati are running as usual and the operations of the company will not be curtailed. It is understood that \$5,000,000 new capital has been provided. This will place that company in a far stronger position than it ever was before, and will enable it to take advantage of the revival of business which is anticipated in the United States at an early date. Allis-Chalmers-Bullock, Limited, of Montreal, is an entirely separate and distinct corporation, and is not in any way affected by the proceedings in connection with the American company. It has not felt adverse conditions similar to those in the United States; but, on the contrary, the shops are full of work and running regular time. The present proceedings will not affect the operations of the Canadian company.

TRADE ENQUIRIES.

The following were among the enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17 Victoria Street, London, S.W., during the week ended December 18th, 1911:—

A Swiss firm is desirous of appointing Canadian agents for the sale of pipe-straw hats.

A London firm desire to get into touch with Canadian importers of dressed bath stone.

A firm of brokers and sales agents at Lucknow, India, are open to act for Canadian manufacturers of fancy goods, stationery, leather goods, sugar, provisions, piece goods, etc.

A Toronto firm stated to have a large staff of salesmen are desirous of taking up United Kingdom agencies.

The Canadian agent of an English manufacturer of condiments and essences is desirous of securing the agency for another line which he could work in conjunction.

A Montreal importer desires to obtain the representation of a United Kingdom manufacturer of fancy goods.

A Montreal firm of mechanical engineers stated to have a large connection wish to represent English manufacturers of railway contractors' and general engineering supplies.

A Nova Scotia correspondent desires to interest English financiers in an undeveloped coal area in that province.

A Vancouver firm of stationers, printers and bookbinders would like to get into touch with manufacturers in Great Britain of corduroy and canvas suitable for bookbinding. Samples and quotations required.

A Montreal correspondent enquires for names of miners of China clay in Cornwall.

A correspondent in Canada is desirous of finding a market in Great Britain for slaughter-house offal.

A Vancouver firm are in the market for Irish linen table cloths and similar goods. Quotations required f.o.b. Vancouver and Cape Horn or Tehautepec.

From the branch for City Trade Enquiries, 73 Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

An Italian importing firm invite quotations from Canadian shippers of hog and beef casings.

A London firm ask to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers of wood pulp who are in a position to fill orders for regular shipment.

A North of England company manufacturing a patented safety valve wish to get into touch with some Canadian resident firm possessing an established connection with railways, etc., who would act as their representative.

A manufacturers' agent in Toronto wishes to secure the representation of United Kingdom manufacturers of druggists' sundries, food specialties (such as jams, custards, etc., not already represented) and novelties in photographic lines.

A Toronto manufacturing company ask to be placed in correspondence with United Kingdom producers of picker cuttings from hide stock as used in the manufacture of glue.

An engineering firm in Ottawa desire the addresses of British manufacturers of oil burners for steam boilers.

A Winnipeg firm wish to be placed in communication with manufacturers of linen-lined paper bags for sending sample seeds through the post.