

LIGHT, HEAT, POWER, ETC.

The Strathcona Electric Co., N.W.T., has been dissolved.

The Blindman River Electric Power Company has been incorporated in the North-West Territories.

Toronto is considering the advisability of appointing an electrical engineer as a permanent city official.

The Ottawa Council has decided to give the Ottawa Electric Co. a ten-year contract for lighting the streets at the rate of \$52 per lamp per year.

J. M. Campbell has been granted leave by Kingston city council to erect poles and wires in the streets to bring power for his own use from Kingston Mills.

St. Catharine Road, the drive around Mount Royal, Montreal, is to be lighted with electricity. The contract has been awarded to the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co.

The Brandon Electric Light Co.'s dam on the Assiniboine river, nine miles west of the city, was washed away by the high water, and the power house placed in great danger.

It is proposed to supply Midland, Ont., with electricity developed at Port Severn, where Mr. Ackerman proposes to develop water power capable of producing upwards of 3,000 h.p.

The power house for the Sydney Mines lighting plant will be 47 x 38 feet, and will be built of silicate brick. The poles are being shipped from Rimouski. W. A. McKay & Co. are the contractors.

Mrs. Boxer, of Montreal, has recovered \$490 damages from the Montreal Water and Power Co. for injury by vibration and smoke from defendants' power houses, which caused her to lose some of her tenants.

W. D. Ross, Toronto, has been added to the board of directors of the Trinidad Electric Co. The company's rails extend over thirteen miles in the city of Port of Spain. Their last year's business shows good results.

After the fire at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, an electrical expert was called in, and on his recommendation the wires have been re-insulated to reduce the danger of another fire from any defect in the wiring.

Lanark village is about to introduce electricity for street lighting instead of coal oil. The Shelby Co., of Montreal, has agreed to furnish twenty street lights of 50 c.p. for \$312.50 a year. The coal oil system costs about \$200.

A bill to incorporate the Bathurst Electric and Water Power Co., of Bathurst, N.B., is before the New Brunswick Legislature. The promoters will absorb the Sumner Company, of Bathurst, and will get power from the Tetagouche river.

Motor Age says that leaky joints in gasoline or water pipes may be made tight by means of coarse linen or canvas, covered with a paste of litharge and glycerine. This should be again covered with a bandage of adhesive or sticky tape, such as is used for electrical purposes.

The Nova Scotia and Mexican Mining Co. have had Mr. Frame, a civil engineer from Rhode Island, examine the water power of the North-west Arm Brook, between Sherbrooke and Goldenville, for the purpose of establishing an electric plant for supplying power to their works at Goldenville.

Robert A. Ross, of the engineering firm of Ross & Holgate, Montreal, has been asked to make an estimate of what is required to place the plant of the Kingston Light, Heat and Power Co., taken over by the city, in good condition, not only for ordinary service, but for supplying power to the street railway company.

The Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co. has abolished the office of engineer and superintendent, formerly occupied by P. G. Gossler. W. McLea Walbank, as chief engineer, will have charge of the engineering department, and the staff will be strengthened by the appointment of an electric expert.

R. B. Hamilton, managing director of the Packard Electric Company, of St. Catharines, reports business as particularly brisk, and that the entire plant has just been under the remodelling process to provide enlargements for their lamp, transformer and meter departments. Additional equipment is being placed in all departments. One order recently received by the company was for 1,500 type "G" recording

watt meters. This order is believed by the company to be the largest single order ever received by any Canadian electric company. All of the 1,500 meters must be delivered before November 1st of this year.

The Continental Light and Heat Company made an offer to light the streets of Outremont with acetylene gas at an annual charge of \$18 per lamp of 25 to 30 candles, on condition that the contract shall extend over a period of not less than ten years.

A deputation composed of W. Y. Soper and A. A. Dion, of the Ottawa Electric Company; J. J. Wright, of the Toronto Electric Light Company; E. A. Evans, of the Quebec Light and Power Company; A. A. Wright, M.P., of the Renfrew Electric Light Company, and C. W. Henderson, of the Canadian Westinghouse Company, Hamilton, recently waited on the Government to press for the enactment of legislation to protect them against the theft of electric current. Many cases have been brought to their notice where power and light was stolen, and such ingenuity employed to cover up the fraud that it was impossible to bring the crime home to the offenders. As a rule, the manipulation of wires, etc., is carried on within the consumer's premises. The electric companies seek an amendment to the law which will make the discovery of any device to deter a meter or to divert current prima facie evidence against the individual in whose behalf it is used. The Government is also asked to establish an electrical standardizing bureau to provide absolute standard for the measurement of electrical quantities.

If the Fort Frances Times is correct the Federal Government should lose no time in nipping the development of the Minnesota Canal and Power Company in the bud. It is claimed that they are at work upon a project which threatens serious damage to Canada's power interests. The facts are briefly as follows: Birch Lake in St. Louis and Lake counties, Minnesota, has a drainage area of 1,103 square miles. The annual run off through the lake is 26,000,000,000 cubic feet of water, which finds its way to Rainy Lake and River. The water shed of Rainy Lake is about 16,000 square miles, of which the Birch Lake water shed is about 7 per cent. The Embarrass River, which flows into the St. Louis, and thence to Lake Superior, rises in a swamp within a few miles of Birch Lake. The company proposes by means of a system of dams, reservoir and canals to gather all the waters of the Birch Lake basin and carry them into the Embarrass River and Lake Superior. If this is done the flow of Rainy River will be lessened by about 7 per cent. Every water power between Rainy Lake and Lake Winnipeg will suffer and navigation will be seriously affected.

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Brantford's special committee will unanimously recommend a municipal telephone system.

The new turbine steamer to run between Hamilton and Toronto is expected to reach Hamilton bay about the middle of this month.

There is a strike on at the Dominion Iron and Steel Co.'s works, at Sydney, C.B., and operations are almost entirely suspended in consequence.

The 27th annual convention of the National Light Association of the United States was held at Boston, May 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th. The total attendance reached over 1,000, among whom were a number of Canadians.

The Chicora, of the Niagara Navigation Co., is running well this season, having been thoroughly overhauled. New plates and two new cylinders have been put in, and the captain's quarters have been moved to the hurricane deck, leaving more shelter for the passengers on the forward deck.

Eight tenders were received for blasting the tunnel for the Orillia power development repairs at Ragged Rapids. If the method proposed is found too expensive, an alternative plan is proposed, namely, to blast out a channel for the river across the narrow but high neck of rock on the west side and divert the river while the concrete dam is repaired. Temporary power to a limited extent could by this means be secured while the work is in progress.