

Navigation Co., between Owen Sound and the North Shore and Manitoulin Island; Rainy River Navigation Co., between Rat Portage and Fort Frances, Ont., and intermediate ports; Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Navigation Co., between Toronto and Port Dalhousie, Ont., and Deseronto Navigation Co.

The British America Express Co., operating over the Algoma Central Ry., Algoma Central Steamship Line, Northern Navigation Co., Arnold Line of Steamers and North-West Transportation Co., announces the opening of the following offices: Agawa, Algoma Mills, Aweres, Batchewana, Bellevue, Blind River, Briant, Bruce Mines, Brule, Byng Inlet, Cutler, Fort William, French River, Garden River, Gargantua, Gore Bay, Goulais, Helen Mine, Hilton, Jackfish, Josephine, Kagawong, Killarney, Lake Talbott, Little Current, Manitowaning, Michipicoten, Nepigon, Port Arthur, Port Coldwell, Port Findlay, Richards Landing, Rosspoint, Sans Souci, Sault Ste. Marie, Spanish Mills, Spragge, Thessalon, Wawa and Wilde, Ont.; Duluth, Minn., Mackinac Island and Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

### Telegraph and Cable Matters.

A telegraph message is a despatch, not a dispatch.

Wireless telegraphy will be introduced on the lakes by the Pere Marquette line of boats.

A survey is being made for a route for the land lines to connect the trans-Pacific cable at Kelp Bay, Barclay Sound, B.C., with the C.P.R. wires.

The Newfoundland Government proposes to extend telegraphic communication to the Labrador coast as soon as the Legislature provides the necessary funds.

Wireless telegraphy is being used to signal the approach of vessels from the Nantucket shoals lightship. This enables vessels to be reported in New York 14 hours quicker than hitherto.

The S. S. Lake Champlain, which arrived in Montreal June 2, is fitted with apparatus for wireless telegraphy, and made use of it on the journey from Liverpool, communicating with the Holyhead lighthouse from a distance of 10 miles.

By an act passed at the last session of the Dominion Parliament the Governor-in-Council is authorized to guarantee payment of five-eighths of the principal and interest of £2,000,000 to be raised by the British Government for the laying of a cable from British Columbia to Australia and New Zealand.

The annual loss on the British telegraphs is £700,000, aggregating £8,300,000 since the Government purchased the lines. The Chancellor of the Exchequer recently said the reason for the loss was that the public was more eager for rapid communication and unproductive extensions than the revenue warranted.

The Old Time Telegraphers' Association and the U.S. Telegraph Corps will hold their next joint meeting in Montreal on Sept. 11, 12 and 13, the convention headquarters for both associations being at the Windsor Hotel. The president of the first-named association is L. B. McFarlane, of Montreal, and J. E. Hutcheson, of Ottawa, is the vice-president. This will be the first meeting of the association outside of the U.S.

The work of laying the Pacific Cable will be commenced early next year, the manufacture of the cable having been commenced at Silvertown, near London. The first cable-laying vessel will leave London in January, 1902, and will lay the sections from Queensland to Norfolk island, and from Norfolk island to the Fiji island. The second vessel will leave London in Aug., 1902, and will lay

the cable from Vancouver island to Fanning island and Fiji, a distance of 5,834.5 miles. The whole of the cable will be laid by Dec., 1902. The cable will be brought ashore through Barclay Sound, either to Port Renfrew or Alberni, B.C.

Sir Sanford Fleming read a paper on the "Development of the Imperial Postal Service and State-owned Cables" before the Royal Society of Canada, at Ottawa, May 22. Having dealt with the development of the postal service he remarked that before 1847 telegraphs had no practical existence. As early as 1852, however, it was suggested that the government should own all telegraphs which should be placed in all post offices. A parliamentary inquiry followed the agitation and in 1868 an act to provide for the acquisition of telegraph lines by the state was passed. Under this management great benefits resulted both as to quality of service and reduced rates. The greatest reform that could be effected in the service was a system of state-owned cables. It had long been suggested to connect Australia with Great Britain by cable via Canada, but the most persistent opposition had been forthcoming from existing companies. At last the project triumphed and on Dec. 31, 1900, the contract was signed. This movement Sir Sanford regarded as a great step towards the unity of the empire, of the vastness of which he drew an eloquent picture. By the establishment of a system of state-owned cables the diverse peoples of the empire would be brought within the quickest and easiest means of communication as though they were residing in one neighborhood.

### Government Telegraph Lines.

The Dominion Government is building a telegraph line from Fort Simpson, at the south entrance from Portland canal, which separates British Columbia from Alaska, inland 180 miles to Hazelton, where it joins the Dawson-Ashcroft line. J. B. Charleson, superintendent of the northern telegraph construction, reported, May 12, that 90 miles of the line had been constructed, and that the whole work would be completed by July 15. The small gap in the Dawson-Ashcroft line, on the Atlin-Ashcroft section of the line, will be completed about the same time. When these portions of line are completed there will be in operation an all-Canadian telegraph route from Ashcroft, B.C., to Dawson, with a branch of 180 miles to the coast at Fort Simpson. The length of the different sections of the main line, as stated by the Minister of Public Works in the House of Commons, May 29, will be: Ashcroft to Atlin, about 1,250 miles; Atlin to Tagish, 75 miles; Tagish to Dawson, 518 miles; total, 1,843 miles.

Speaking of the revenue of the lines completed up to Dec. 31, 1900, the Minister of Public Works said 41,816 messages had been sent, and the revenue amounted to \$107,712. The average number of messages per month was 2,681 and the monthly revenue was \$7,302.87. He added that the cost of the line so far had been \$430,000, while the total estimated cost was \$460,000. (Aug., 1900, pg. 249.)

The Minister of Public Works stated in the House of Commons, April 22, that the \$18,500 voted for the extension of the Belle Isle telegraph line was for the section between the Bay of St. Paul and Belle Isle. Owing to the wrecking of the cable steamer Newfield, when on the way to Halifax to receive the cable for laying between Chateau bay and Belle Isle, this portion of the work has been delayed. A steamer is now being fitted up for cable laying purposes and the work will be completed by August 1. There will be 23 knots of deep sea cable and 2 knots of locked armour at the shore end. (Nov., 1899, pg. 341.)

### Dominion Telegraph Service.

The following amounts were voted at the recent session of the Dominion Parliament:

#### CHARGEABLE TO INCOME.

|                                              |          |
|----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Land and cable lines, St. Lawrence Gulf..... | \$19,500 |
| British Columbia.....                        | 19,000   |
| Salaries of staff.....                       | 4,000    |
| Repairs to Pelee and Port Rowan cables.....  | 8,400    |
| Repairs to B.C. lines.....                   | 8,050    |
| " Gulf of St. Lawrence lines                 | 20,100   |
| " Magdalen Island cable..                    | 4,000    |

#### CHARGEABLE TO COLLECTING REVENUE.

|                                                                       |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Quesnelle and Atlin line, working expenses.....                       | \$40,000 |
| Yukon District line, working expenses.....                            | 47,500   |
| Prince Edward Island cable, working expenses.....                     | 2,000    |
| Land and Cable lines of the Coast, working expenses.....              | 32,000   |
| Lines in the N.W.T.....                                               | 20,000   |
| " British Columbia.....                                               | 12,000   |
| Telegraph service generally.....                                      | 2,750    |
| Special operator at Father Point....                                  | 500      |
| Gulf of St. Lawrence lines.....                                       | 14,920   |
| Working expenses, Bennett-Dawson, Tagish, Atlin lines.....            | 29,260   |
| Additional working expenses, B.C.:<br>" " " Gulf of St. Lawrence..... | 13,000   |

#### CHARGEABLE TO CAPITAL.

|                                             |          |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|
| Telegraph line, Quesnelle to Atlin..        | \$30,000 |
| " " Dawson to Fort Egbert.....              | 8,000    |
| " " Yukon Telegraph....                     | 11,176   |
| Line Port Simpson to Hazelton.....          | 40,000   |
| Line Fort Fraser to Manson Creek..          | 48,000   |
| C.P.R. for transportation of materials ..   | 2,238    |
| C.P.R. for transportation of materials..... | 3,879    |

### General Telephone Matters.

The St. Maurice, Que., Telephone Co. has been incorporated.

A long distance line is proposed between Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta.

A movement is on foot to connect Bala, Port Carling and Bracebridge, Ont., by telephone.

The Rat Portage town council has offered the Citizens Telephone and Electric Co. \$30,000 for its plant.

It is said that negotiations are taking place for the absorption of the Eastern Telephone Co., in Cape Breton, by the Nova Scotia Telephone Co.

Paris telephone girls are ordered to discontinue the customary "Hello!" They are to say instead, "I hear you!" the new term being more polite.

The Inverness and Victoria Telephone Co. of Nova Scotia is about to extend its line from North Sydney to Port Hood and other points in Cape Breton.

The Victoria County Telephone Co. of Lindsay, Ont., is reported to have under consideration an offer from the Bell Telephone Co. for its franchise.

The Bell Telephone Co. is reported to be arranging to extend its long distance lines from Brandon to Souris and from thence to Hartney and Deloraine, Man.

The New Brunswick Telephone Co. is about to erect an office building on Chipman's Hill, St. John, N.B. It will be of brick with stone trimmings and 3 stories high.

J. B. Ford, who is applying for a telephone franchise in Buffalo, N.Y., offers, if given a franchise in Toronto, to provide a service at