

The necessity of increased drydock accommodation on the B.C. coast is becoming apparent with the increasing number and size of vessels frequenting the ports. The Esquimalt dock is barely large enough for some of the warships on the Pacific station, and too small for some of the merchant vessels. It is reported that the Imperial Government is in favor of arranging with the Dominion Government for the enlargement of the dock, or for building another in the naval yard.

The Upper Columbia Navigation and Tramway Co. will improve its steamers North Star and Duchess during the winter. The North Star is to be remodeled after the style of the C. P. R. steamers on Kootenay lake, and provided with accommodation for 150 passengers; and the Duchess is to be rebuilt and enlarged. Capt. Armstrong, of Golden, B.C., is largely interested in the Co., which has entered into an agreement with the C.P.R. to run its steamers next season to fit in with the arrival of C.P.R. trains at Golden.

Press reports are current as to the time when the C.P.R. will start a steamship line between Canadian ports and Europe. Sir Thos. Shaughnessy says: "When any announcement is made it will come from the C.P.R. direct."

Among the Express Companies.

The Dominion Ex. Co.'s route on the stage route between St. Basil, N.B., and St. David, Me., has been closed for the winter.

H. L. Meyer, heretofore tariff clerk of the Dominion Ex. Co., has been appointed Superintendent of Tariffs, office at Toronto.

Scott Griffin has been appointed Superintendent, and W. C. Muir, Auditor, of the Canadian Northern Express Co. Offices at Winnipeg.

The position of Superintendent of the Alaska Pacific Ex. Co. at Seattle, Wash., formerly held by D. C. Jackson, has been abolished.

The B.C. Express Co. is running an extra stage on Fridays from Ashcroft to 150-Mile House, B.C., in addition to the usual weekly stage carrying the mail.

W. Aitchison, cashier of the Dominion Ex. Co. at London, Ont., has been appointed agent at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., being succeeded by W. A. Gurney.

J. Anderson, an employee of the Dominion Ex. Co. at Portage la Prairie, Man., left recently, and a shortage of \$700 is alleged to have subsequently been discovered in his accounts.

The Canadian Northern Ex. Co. has extended its service over the Neepawa branch of the Canadian Northern Ry., and has opened offices at Mayfield, Mekiwin, Humberston, Hallboro, Glendale and Neepawa.

Robert Hally, a Toronto bank clerk, recently obtained \$200 from the Dominion Ex. Co. by means of a cheque which he had marked accepted with the bank stamp. He was subsequently arrested and convicted.

The Great Northern Ex. Co. has extended its service over the Great Falls and Canada Ry., which has been bought by the Great Northern Ry., and has opened offices at Collins, Conrad and Sweet Grass, Mont.

The Great Northern Ex. Co. has extended its service over the section of the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Ry., recently opened, and has opened an office at Grand Forks, B.C., common with the Dominion Ex. Co.

The Great Northern Ex. Co. has placed its service on the Crow's Nest Southern Ry.

from Gateway, on the International boundary, to Morrissey Creek, B.C., and has opened offices at Elko, Swinton and Morrissey Jct., B.C.

Alaska Pacific Ex. Co.'s agents have been authorized to cash the money orders of the Northern Pacific, Great Northern, Wells, Fargo & Co., Pacific, Dominion, Western, American, United States, National, Adams, and Southern express companies.

Telegraph and Cable Matters.

Scott Griffin has been appointed Superintendent, and W. C. Muir, Auditor, of the Canadian Northern Telegraph Co. Offices at Winnipeg.

The Pacific Cable Board is reported to have made an offer to purchase Fanning island, the mid-ocean landing place of the all-British trans-Pacific cable.

A. McKay, of St. John's, Nfld., who opened the first telegraph office in Liverpool, N.S., in 1851, sent New Year's greetings to the present operator in the office.

The Premier of Newfoundland has expressed a hope that when the charter of the Anglo-American Telegraph and Cable Co. expires in April, 1904, Marconi will establish a wireless station in that colony.

A London, Eng., press report states that owing to the successful establishment of wireless telegraphy between Canada and Great Britain the projected cable, under government control, will not be further considered.

The Pacific Commercial Cable Co.'s cable from San Francisco to Honolulu was opened for public service Jan. 5. The rate from Toronto to Honolulu is 62c. a word. The line is to be extended from Honolulu to Manila, and thence to Shanghai.

The Government telegraph line from Alberni to Clayoquot, on Vancouver island, has been completed. The extension of the line to Clayoquot necessitated laying a cable from the Alberni canal across Barkley sound; and across Clayoquot sound to Stubbs island. The cable was laid by the Government str. Otter.

The C.P.R. telegraph department is stringing a new copper wire between Little Current and Port Arthur, Ont., and it is reported that it will be continued across the continent to the Pacific coast. Several car loads of cross arms have been sent easterly from Vancouver to be distributed along the line to Winnipeg. J. Wilson, Superintendent C.P.R. telegraphs at Vancouver, the Vancouver World says, has confirmed this statement.

In consequence of the numerous interruptions of the telegraph line from Ashcroft, B.C., to Dawson, Yukon, it has been decided to substitute an insulated wire carried along the ground for the overhead wires in a number of places. The section of the line where this cable will be laid is between Telegraph Creek and Tagish, about 400 miles, a wild mountainous country, in which all the interruptions have taken place. An appropriation for this purpose will probably be asked next success of Parliament.

Wireless Telegraphy in Canada.

The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. of Toronto (Ltd.) has been incorporated under the Ontario Companies Act, with a capital of \$5,000,000 to acquire the patent rights in the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy and any future inventions along the same lines, and to invest in the stocks and bonds of any similar corporation. The incorporators are W. Barwick, H. C. Osborne, J. Payne, of Toronto; J. N. Greenshields, of Montreal, and W. R. Green, of New York. This company

apparently does not propose to be an operating company, and J. N. Greenshields states that the charter was first obtained in Ontario because the procedure there was more expeditious. Notices have been issued that application will be made next session of the Dominion Parliament for an act incorporating the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. of Canada (Ltd.) to carry on a business of telegraphic communication by means of wireless or other system of telegraphy in Canada and between Canada and the U.S., Europe, or elsewhere; with power to enter into agreements with the Dominion and Provincial Governments and municipalities for the establishment of local systems. The organization of the Co. has been completed as follows: President, Col. F. C. Henshaw; Vice-President, G. Marconi; Secretary, B. Shepard, other directors: A. A. Allan, W. R. Green, of New York, and J. D. Oppe, representing the English Marconi Company. J. D. Oppe will be General Manager, with headquarters in Montreal. The Co. acquires all the rights for Canada and Newfoundland, including the station at Glace Bay and the benefit of the contract entered into with the Canadian Government. The Co. has engineers in the field locating sites for stations, and it is expected that stations will be located at Mount Royal, Montreal, and at Stony Mountain, Man. Negotiations are pending with the Canadian Government for an annual subsidy for the maintenance of a patrol system on the St. Lawrence river and gulf and the Straits of Belle Isle. A factory for the manufacture of the apparatus will probably be established at either Montreal or Toronto.

The installation of the wireless telegraph station at Glace Bay, N.S., has been completed and communication has been inaugurated with the British station at Poldhu, Cornwall, Eng. The announcement was made Dec. 21, when Signor Marconi sent congratulatory messages from the Governor-General to the King, but prior messages had been sent, among them being one from Dr. Parkin, of Toronto, to the London Times; and on Jan. 7 several messages were sent during a blizzard and a thunderstorm. At a complimentary dinner in Sydney, N.S., Dec. 30, Signor Marconi, replying to the toast of his health, expressed his gratitude to the Governments of Canada and Italy for the assistance given him in perfecting his invention. Wireless telegraphy would prove a means of reducing the cost of communication between the new and the old worlds. The Co. was now under a contract to transmit messages at the rate of 10c. a word, but he would not be surprised to see the cost brought down in time to 1c. a word. Cablegrams at first cost £4 a word, but the rate was now 25c. a word. The Marquis Solari, who it was claimed was the original inventor of the special apparatus used by Marconi, was present at Glace Bay during the tests as a representative of the Italian Government. Signor Marconi has a contract to establish a wireless station at Cape Cod, Mass., and went there to instal it Jan. 13. A station has already been established at Willflett, Mass., 600 miles further from Poldhu than Glace Bay, and messages have been successfully exchanged.

Montreal Telegraph Co.'s Meeting.

The 56th annual meeting was held in Montreal Jan. 8. The balance sheet for the year ended Dec. 31, 1902, was as follows:

ASSETS.	
Telegraph lines in Canada and the U.S.	\$1,625,800.00
Telegraph cables in Canada and the U.S.	33,487.39
Telegraph offices and equipment of offices in Canada and the U.S.	212,500.00
Real estate in Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec and Toronto.	279,945.46
	\$2,151,823.85