

The Co. does not issue an annual report, but we are informed that the statement of the year's business showed a considerable improvement over the previous year, & the opinion was expressed that with the new connections & extensions of the Co. it might reasonably look for a still further improvement during the current year.

Alex. Hunter, assistant chief operator of the Co. at Toronto, & who had been in the service of the Co. & its predecessors for over 30 years, died Oct. 3, aged 57, of typhoid, leaving a widow, 2 sons & 3 daughters. He went to the front with the Queen's Own in the Fenian Raid of 1866.

### Canadian Pacific Railway's Telegraph.

The Co. is stringing a wire between Truro & Halifax, N.S.

The new commercial office in Winnipeg is being fitted up under the personal supervision of Electrician Camp, of Montreal.

The Co. recently assumed control of the 74 miles of telegraph lines formerly owned by the Erie & Huron Ry. Co., extending from Sarnia to Rondeau, which it is now operating as it does the lines on the other part of the L. E. & D. R. R. Co.'s system.

The new copper wire from Montreal received a practical test recently, when a message was sent from Vancouver to Montreal & reply transmitted in the space of one minute. The wire was duplexed. The handling of 2 messages took just a minute.

The Postal Telegraph Co. is extending its lines from Rossland, B.C., to Spokane, Wash., which will give the C.P.R. telegraphs another U.S. connection. The only line between these points at present is operated in conjunction with the Western Union.

### A Yukon Telegraph Line.

Last session the Dominion Parliament granted a charter to some English & Canadian investors, empowering them to construct a telegraph or cable line from the coast of Alaska through to Dawson City by way of the valleys of the Yukon & its affluents. The promoters allowed the summer to slip away without making a move towards construction, & now the charter has fallen into other & more active hands. J. Roche, M.P., has charge of the scheme for a number of English capitalists, including Sir John Pender, of cable fame. Mr. Roche has secured the transfer of the franchise, & has been in Ottawa arranging with the Government in regard to the importation of the plant & location of the line. The plan is to construct a double land line from Skagway via Lake Tagish & Fort Selkirk to the Klondike. It is said the work will be begun forthwith, & that the line is expected to be in operation by Jan. 1 next. It is also said that as soon thereafter as possible a cable will be laid to connect Vancouver with the land line at Skagway.

### Telegraph Office Changes.

#### CANADIAN PACIFIC.

OPENED: Fernie, B.C.; Cascade City, B.C.; Cranbrook, B.C.; Ferguson, B.C.; Grand Forks, B.C.; Greenwood, B.C.; Kuskanook, B.C.; Wardner, B.C.; Cache Lake, Ont.; Masokama, Ont.; Ostersund, Ont.; Woman River, Ont.; Darwin, Man.; Dauphin, Man.; Hargrave, Man.; Macdonald, Man.; Midway, Man.; Plumas, Man.; Sifton, Man.; Winnipegosis, Man.; Ernfold, N.W.T.

CLOSED: Stanley, B.C.

#### GREAT NORTHWESTERN.

OPENED: Myrtle, Man.; Oakville, Man.; Marieapolis, Man.; Rosebank, Man.; Dunham, Que.

CLOSED: Glanworth, Ont.; Treadwell, Ont.; Aylwin, Que.; St. Janvier, Que.

Queen Victoria & other members of the royal family have shown great interest in experiments in wireless telegraphy which have been conducted at Osborne, Isle of Wight, by Mr. Marconi, the inventor of the system. Many messages were exchanged between Osborne House & the royal yacht, having on board the Prince of Wales, & during a period of 10 days the Queen received a morning bulletin of the condition of the Prince. The yacht was anchored 2 miles from Osborne House, the positions being intercepted by a hill. All the messages were successfully transmitted, some of them while the yacht was under steam.

Among the old-time telegraphers of Ottawa, Ont., who have become prominent in other walks of life, are C. W. Spencer, now a General Superintendent of the C.P.R.; O. Higman, now Superintendent of Standards & Chief Electrical Engineer of the Inland Revenue Department; W. Y. Soper, an electrical engineer & capitalist; T. Ahearn, an electrical engineer & capitalist; N. W. Bethune, Superintendent of the G.N.W. Telegraph Co.; G. F. Macdonald, Superintendent of the Ottawa fire-alarm system; J. A. Parr, Chairman of Public School Board; H. B. Spencer, a Superintendent of the C.P.R., & D. C. Dewar, now Local Manager of the Bell Telephone Co. in Montreal.

## TELEPHONES.

### The Bell Telephone Company.

The following, from the Carberry, Man., Express, is a sample of the nonsense that finds its way into recklessly conducted newspapers:—"The long distance telephone scheme which was announced some weeks ago, has fallen through, owing to the action of the directors of the C. P. R. It appears that the directors of this big corporation are also directors of the Bell Telephone Co., & on hearing of the steps being taken to extend the long distance telephone throughout the province, a hurried meeting of the directors was called at Montreal, when it was decided that as the long distance telephone would, to a certain extent, hurt the telegraph business of this country, a quietus should be put on the scheme, at least for this year. The poles were on the spot & everything was in readiness to commence building the line from Carberry to Neepawa, but the C. P. R. has spoken & operations have ceased. It is lucky that they had no control over the private line to Wellwood."

The directors of the Bell Telephone Co. are C. F. Sise, R. Mackay, J. E. Hudson, R. Archer, W. R. Driver, H. Paton, C. Cassils, & T. Sherwin. We fail to recognise any of the C. P. R. directors in this list, & it would be interesting to know on what the Carberry paper based its information. Is it aware that the Bell Co. has its long distance lines throughout Ontario & Quebec? If the C. P. R. Co. had any control over the Bell Co., & wanted to stop long distance extension, is it not likely that it would have exercised it in the most populous provinces?

We are informed there was no warrant for the publication of the rumor to which we referred in our Sept. issue, pg. 196, to the effect that it had been decided to establish a long distance service in Manitoba. The Carberry Neepawa line may be constructed this fall.

The Co. has declared a quarterly dividend of 2%, payable Oct. 15.

The application of the People's Telephone Co., of London, for a franchise in Kingston, Ont., was refused by the City Council.

### Spokane & British Columbia T. & T. Co.

The controlling interest in the Spokane & British Columbia Telephone & Telegraph Co., which operates the line from Spokane, Wash., to Republic, & nearly into Rossland, B.C., has been transferred from W. H. Oakes to C. O'Brien, Reddin & Co., of Rossland. The deal involved stock of the par value of \$255,000. The capitalization of the Corporation is \$500,000 in \$5 shares, & the purchasers secured 51,000 shares. The Company's lines reach from Sheep Creek station into Spokane, & all the business at present transacted by telephone between Rossland & the Washington cities is conducted over its system in connection with the wires of the Vernon & Nelson Telephone Co., which connect between Rossland & Sheep Creek. It is possible the new management of the Co. will extend its own lines into Rossland. It has a franchise for that purpose. The extension would give it independent service between Spokane, Rossland, Greenwood, Republic & all way stations. C. O'Brien, Reddin & Co. have not yet announced how they will handle the controlling interest which they have acquired. The purchase, they say, was for themselves & not for clients.

### Telephone Items.

A contemporary recently stated that a telephone exchange was being established at Indian Head, Assa. Several telephones have been installed there for private use, but hardly on the exchange system.

The Baltimore & Ohio Ry. is stringing copper telegraph lines between Baltimore & Pittsburg, 340 miles. They will be so arranged that when necessity arises they will be available for long-distance telephone communication, & if the experiment proves a success, other lines of a similar nature will be put up.

The New Brunswick Telephone Co. has recently been put to considerable trouble by parties breaking insulators on telephone poles & cutting wires, & the Co. offers a reward of \$10 for information that will lead to conviction. The Co. is now stretching copper wires on the eastern section, & near Moncton some miscreants climbed the poles & cut the wires in 7 or 8 different places.

At the annual meeting of the Merchants' Telephone Co., in Montreal, Oct. 4, it was decided to increase the capital \$100,000. The directors were re-elected as follows:—President, A. S. Hamelin; Vice-President, J. E. Beaudoin; Treasurer, L. E. Beauchamp; other directors, A. S. Delisle, L. H. Henault, S. L. Archeveque, J. B. Thibodeau, J. N. Ducharme, R. Beauchamp.

The People's Telephone Corporation, of New York, was incorporated at Albany Oct. 12, with a capital stock of \$5,000,000, to operate a telephone system in New York City & other cities, towns & villages in New York & other States, & in Canada. The capital stock is divided in \$2,000,000 preferred & \$3,000,000 common stock. The directors are S. B. Dutcher, J. E. Nichols, E. S. A. Deluna, F. C. Travers, F. Brainard, J. F. Ackerman & D. R. James, of New York City.

A contemporary says:—"An effort is being made in Winnipeg to establish a rival telephone system which promises very much reduced rates. Two wealthy U. S. telephone manufacturing firms are said to be backing the scheme." No doubt. They are probably acting in line with the People's Telephone Co., which has been operating in Ontario, but which, up to date, has not accomplished much. We are probably not far wrong in expressing the opinion that what the "wealthy U. S. manufacturers" want to do is to sell instruments.