

## COAST TO COAST.

**Regina, Sask.**—To encourage the growth of smaller industrial companies, a movement has been begun in Regina to secure cheaper power for concerns using from 50 horsepower up. This means that the city council will be requested to grant the minimum rate to users of 50 horsepower or over instead of 100 horsepower as at present.

**Ottawa, Ont.**—The civic waterworks committee has appointed a sub-committee to investigate the meter system on water services as in vogue in some cities. This action has been taken merely to gain information concerning a method that might show how much water each place is consuming, so that the water rates might be based on the quantity of water consumed.

**Fort William, Ont.**—Actual work is now in progress on the extension of the Empire Avenue street-car line across the new C.P.R. bascule bridge to island number two. The work on the island has been proceeding for some time, and before the frost sets in, it is expected that all the rails will be laid from the bridge approach along Sixth Avenue to Eighth Avenue, and from thence down to the Mission River.

**Hamilton, Ont.**—Engineer Sifton, of the Hydro-Electric Department, has submitted statements to the board of control showing that the gross profits from the department for the past eight months have been over \$26,000, the net almost \$6,000. He furnished in addition an estimate of the amount required to complete the system so as to provide for the increased demands, showing an expenditure of \$335,264, according to one plan, and \$320,330, according to an alternative plan. For the larger amount, he informed the board that he would be in a position to supply eight times the number of customers that could be accommodated by the original system; and that cost about \$500,000.

**Fredericton, N.B.**—The repairs and improvement being undertaken on the Fredericton-St. Mary's highway bridge are progressing satisfactorily both as far as efficiency and economy are concerned. The original estimate of cost was between \$45,000 and \$50,000; and President Remington, of the Foundations Company, Limited, the contracting company for the work, has stated after carefully inspecting the work and accounts thus far, that the estimate will not be exceeded, but rather that with favorable conditions, the work will be completed at less than the estimate, and will be a permanent piece of construction with which the best experts in America will be unable to find fault.

**Ottawa, Ont.**—Mr. L. G. Denis, expert for the Hydro-Electric Commission, has taken a thousand-mile trip through the northern Manitoba and Hudson Bay districts, and has given a report of his survey of important water powers, which disbursts the possibility of the operation of the Hudson Bay Railway by hydro-electric power, an idea which has at times been promulgated. He states that though there are many water powers, economic conditions for development are not probable; since a continuous market for the power, for which there is little prospect, would be necessary to insure profit. The economic potentialities of the territory are such that any saving which might be effected by the operation of the road would hardly repay the cost of development.

**Vancouver, B.C.**—Mr. O. B. Dickeson, president of the White Pass and Yukon route, who has spent the greater part of the summer in the north, upon arriving in Vancouver, confirmed previous statements sent from Dawson City that his company will undertake important extensions to the transportation system in the North, and will also make every effort to provide for the present activity along the trails into

the Shushanna country and the scene of the recent gold strike. The company's extensions into the White River district will be carried out, provided the development continues and it is possible to secure Governmental assistance. This he did not doubt, since the company's mining engineer had examined the territory, and had reported that, if transportation could be offered, the future of the White River country copper deposits was very promising.

**Victoria, B.C.**—Mr. Chambers, of the Irrigation Board of the Department of the Interior, recently visited Victoria, and while there made some interesting statements relating to the irrigation projects being developed in the Northwest provinces. He claimed that thousands of acres of semi-arid lands are being turned into valuable tracts and gave concrete evidence in instances of vastly improved germination that had come under his personal notice, to the greatest extent in the Bow River district. He said concerning the Bow River scheme that it was one of the largest projects of its kind on the continent, that the first two sections are completed, and their contributory lands under tillage, that the third section, which is fed by the Bassano dam, is rapidly nearing completion, and that the water will soon be let into the dam. The first section, which embraces an area of 300,000 square acres, is situated almost entirely south of the Calgary and Medicine Hat line down to the Bow River, and has been an important factor in the agricultural development of a section that was not looked upon very favorably in pre-irrigation days. Although these three units serve an immense area, it is the general opinion in Alberta that the C.P.R. will further develop this scheme and make it eventually one of the largest irrigated areas in the world. The dams are of concrete and splendidly constructed, and it is expected that there will be a big demand for the affected land when it is put on the market. In addition to the C.P.R., the South Alberta Land Company has irrigated large areas in that province. The Irrigation Board is not concerned with the actual work of construction, but it issues licenses for the utilization of the necessary number of cubic feet of water per second required for the development of the project, and all irrigation schemes and the structural details of the dams and ditches are submitted to the engineers of the board for sanction before the work is begun.

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### PERSONAL.

B. W. SETON, of the Dominion Engineering and Inspection Company, Montreal, has been appointed Toronto manager of his firm in order to handle the inspection work on the new Royal Bank Building, the Central Technical School, etc.

F. B. TAYLEY, resident engineer at London, Ont., for the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been transferred to the Montreal division, and is being succeeded at London by S. S. ROSSITER, of Cranbrook, B.C.

WALTER J. FRANCIS, C.E., consulting engineer, Montreal, read an address to the University of Toronto Engineering Society at the opening meeting for the 1913-14 session. The subject was "Engineering as a Profession."

CUNNINGHAM CRAIG, former geological surveyor of Great Britain and of Trinidad and Tobago, consulting geologist to the British Government, is in Alberta at present, conducting a rigid survey of the oil lands to the south-west of Calgary. He has announced, unofficially, that the territory indicates that the possibilities for oil in abundance are tremendous. The Province is receiving wide attention from oil experts at present.

W. S. HARVEY, the new city engineer of Lethbridge, as recently announced in this column, has been connected