

HIGHWAY CROSSINGS OVER RAILWAY LINES.

On the operated lines of steam railways in and about Toronto there are 105 crossings of which only 22 can be called absolutely safe, while 34 are provided with gates or watchmen and 49 are unguarded.

Of the safe crossings six are by subways under the railways, viz:

Keele Street, Toronto Junction—Canadian Pacific Railway.
Queen Street, Toronto—common to both railways.
King Street West, Toronto—common to both railways.
Carlaw Avenue, Toronto—Grand Trunk Railway.
Winchester Street, Toronto—Canadian Pacific Railway.
Amelia Street, Belt Line East—Grand Trunk Railway.

And nine by highway bridges over the railways, as follows:

Weston Road, Toronto Junction—Canadian Pacific Railway.
Dundas Street, Toronto (double)—common to both railways.
Gerrard Street, over Don Valley—common to both railways.
Daves Road, York—Grand Trunk Railway.
Strachan Avenue, Toronto—Grand Trunk Railway.
Bathurst Street, Toronto—common to both railways.
Brock Street, Toronto—common to both railways.
John Street, Toronto—common to both railways.
York Street, Toronto—common to both railways.

All level crossings are a source of danger to the public and to the working of the railways and, unfortunately, at times they are the scene of accidents with loss of life and property, therefore, it is incumbent upon the City, County, and Railway Companies to carefully study the question, then meet, discuss and formulate a plan for their elimination or improvement.

On main lines routes of travel, so far as circumstances warrant, bridges over, or subways under, the tracks, should be constructed, while at points where such cannot well be carried out, watchmen, gates, lights and automatic gongs, should be in constant use.

At less important points where the travel is generally large during the daylight hours, day watchmen, gates, gongs and signals should be provided, while for the night hours danger lights and automatic electric gongs, (such as the Hall system) should be operated.

At all other crossing points in or near a large City automatic gongs and signals should be in constant use.

The following list sets forth the position and character of each crossing in and about Toronto, also whether protected or unprotected.