

Local Railway Items from Ottawa Papers - 1913

04/01/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Smiths Falls* *Smiths Falls*

Mr. John Rowley, manager of the C.N.R. at Mularkey is in town and registered at the Windsor. Mr. Rowley reports great progress on the line under construction between Ottawa, Sydenham and Smiths Falls. The line is now built as far as the Jock River, where a steel bridge, 300 feet in length, is now in course of construction. So far, 170 feet has been completed and the work is being rushed with all possible speed.

17/01/1913 *Renfrew Mercury* *Kingston (CP)*

\$3,000 K. & P.R. Bonus.
-- so long as the Kingston and Pembroke Railway Company is not amalgamated with or merged in the Canada Pacific Railway Company then this obligation (to pay Renfrew \$3,000) is to be void and of no effect otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

18/01/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Winchester* *Smiths Falls*

The C.P.R. coal dump was destroyed by fire at 7 o'clock last evening and a large quantity of coal was consumed. The loss will necessitate the C.P.R. loading their engines by hand until a temporary structure is built.

24/01/1913 *Renfrew Mercury* *Beachburg* *Pembroke*

On Monday last the C.N.R. submitted to the town council a new route through the town. In this route the divisional yards and workshops will be situated at White's Farm. From this point the main line runs towards the town crossing the G.T.R. tracks and the Muskrat River near Foster's Axe Factory. Crossing the southern corner of Churchville a spur will run into Pembroke, leaving the main line at Gourley's Farm, then crossing the Indian river at the late Jamieson bridge running over W. Witt's property to the western side of William street on Moffatt's Point, then running on as far north as Mary street near Witt's embankment. The local stations and freight yards will be situated between Mary and Elizabeth streets, occupying the western half of that block. The spur again joins the main line at Churchville. - Pembroke Standard.

28/01/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Beachburg* *Airport spur*

The Canadian Northern has closed with an Ottawa land syndicate re. the purchase of two farms on the other side of Billings Bridge. The farms were formerly known as the Upton and Langstaff properties, and it is understood the railway will use them for gravel pit purposes. As the deal was closed directly with the Toronto office the purchase price is not known. It has been estimated at \$30,000.

30/01/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Montreal and Ottawa* *Hull*

The Canadian Pacific Railway is going to build a new station at Hull on the opposite side of the track to where the present station is situated. The station was built when the line was laid, about 35 years ago and is quite inadequate to meet the demands of the quickly growing city. The company will also build a roundhouse and yard for the engines. There is no engine shed at Hull now and the Ottawa shed is too small and cannot be extended. It is expected that work will start in the spring or summer.

31/01/1913 *Renfrew Mercury* *Central of Canada* *Carleton Place*

Account of a meeting in Carleton Place. - Carleton Place Herald.

31/01/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Beachburg* *Rideau Junction*

Rumors of extensive operations to take place at Rideau Junction next spring are now leaking out from C.N.R. quarters. It the first place it has been almost definitely announced that excavation work on the new station will be commenced in the spring and it is understood that the C.N.R. will erect a modern fireproof structure at this point and it will cost not less than \$30,000. The C.N.R. has sold many new lots on this new townsite and from a statement made by one of the officials this morning the C.N.R. will spare no pains to make this townsite a beautifully and flourishing railway centre.

31/01/1913 *Renfrew Mercury* *Ottawa, Rideau Lakes and Kingston*

Funds raised for Lanark's railway. Full account - Lanark Era.

14/02/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Smiths Falls*

All that is required now for the completion of the C.N.R. line between Ottawa and Toronto is the construction of seven miles of road between the Jock River and Smiths Falls and fifteen miles between Smiths Falls and Sydenham, a total of 22 miles in all.

With the completion of the steel bridge at the Jock River a few weeks ago, the line has been rushed right (--) working out from Smiths Falls with the result that there are only seven miles now between them.

Work has also been rushed on the Toronto end and the fifteen miles that now remain between Smiths Falls and Sydenham will be completed early in the spring.

Mr. C.S. Montgomery, local agent for the C.N.R. stated to a Journal representative this morning, that freight traffic would be operating on the C.N.R. between Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto early in the spring, while they hoped to have the line ready for passenger service by next fall.

The new station costing between twelve and fifteen thousand has been completed at Smiths Falls, while the subway under the C.P.R. and G.T.R. (sic) at the same place is now in use.

19/02/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Ottawa Electric*

Accident to car No. 329.

20/02/1913 *The Equity, Shawville* *Waltham*

Comments on Pontiac Railway extension to meet the needs of the people of the western part of the county,

24/02/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *L'Orignal* *Hurdman*

James Hunter seriously injured as a result of a fall from a freight train at Hurdman's Bridge--

The boy, along with several other lads, had been drawing grips to the C.N.R. station. He boarded the train, intending to get off at the "Y" but in attempting to alight, he fell. He was tossed into the ditch by the engine. Signalman Farrell, picked the boy up in an unconscious condition --

28/02/1913 *Renfrew Mercury* *Locksley* *Pembroke*

Pembroke ratepayers will vote on March 14th, on propositions to grant a fixed assessment to the Grand Trunk Railway for its new station property.

13/03/1913 Ottawa Journal Smiths Falls Smiths Falls

The C.N.R. has inaugurated their freight service over this division and a consignment consisting of a car of cheese box headings was sent the other day from Lombardy to Portland. The track is now laid from Sydenham to within about two miles from Smiths Falls. The road bed is not in the very best condition, with the result that only an average speed of about 14 miles per hour is obtained. The train is now running regularly between Lombardy, Forfar and Portland carrying construction material.

14/03/1913 Perth Courier Smiths Falls

Canadian Northern Railway

The Canadian Northern Railway has the track laid from Sydenham, north of Kingston to within two miles and a half of Smiths Falls. The first freight over the new road was in the shape of a consignment of cheese boxes from Lombardy to Portland.

A big construction camp will be established at Smiths Falls by the Canadian Northern Railway, within the next few of weeks to complete the work on the line through there. It will have accommodation for 300 men and this number will be employed at that point working both east and west.

14/03/1913 Renfrew Mercury Renfrew Renfrew

The Grank Trunk station is looking a good deal better than you, this week. The company's painters passed by last week, and cleaned up both inside and outside.

19/03/1913 Ottawa Journal Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric

Brockville wants the road extended to Brockville. More.

It is expected that construction work on this line will be started in May and that in two years time it will be practically finished.--

20/03/1913 Ottawa Journal Smiths Falls

Track laying on the Canadian Northern between Toronto and Ottawa is nearly completed, Mr. S.M. Montgomery, C.N.R. ticket agent, told the Journal this morning.

"Yes, the bridge over the Rideau is finished," he said, "All the bridge work is finished, and all that remains to be done, with the exception of ballasting, is a few miles of track laying.

"This should be finished by the end of July, and I expect that our regular service between Toronto and Ottawa will be established during the present year."

As regards the Canadian Northern plans for a permanent station here, Mr. Montgomery could give no definite information. "Sir Donald Mann has something in his hat, but he hasn't divulged to anyone what that something is," he told the reporter..

26/03/1913 Ottawa Journal New York Central Ramsayville

The flood, which raised so suddenly on Good Friday, is now over, --

This side of Hawthorne, the railroad was almost submerged, but the little frost we have had has held the waters in bond, and one is no longer reminded of a large lake, with a train trying to wade through it, as it seemed a few evenings ago.

27/03/1913 Ottawa Journal Alexandria Maxville

G.T.R. train 23 derailed completely at Christie's Pit, between Greenfield and Maxwell (sic).

01/04/1913 Ottawa Journal Beachburg Pembroke

C.N.R. access to Pembroke to be decided by Board of Railway Commissioners.--

03/04/1913 The Equity, Shawville Beachburg

Several heavy blasts were heard on Sunday in the direction of the C.N.R. line. Evidently the ordinances of the Sabbath do not figure of the estimates of railroad builders to any greater extent than with the managers of the railways after which they are built.

04/04/1913 Ottawa Journal Prescott Ottawa West water

The C.P.R. is taking steps to curb the abuse of their artesian well, which is situated in the company's roundhouse, from certain persons who take the water away for the purposes of selling it. More.

04/04/1913 Renfrew Mercury Beachburg Pembroke

Application by C.N.R. for a route through Pembroke heard by the BRC - to come up next week.

10/04/1913 The Equity, Shawville Beachburg Portage du Fort

The engineers of the C.N.R. gave a swell dance in the Town hall, Portage du Fort, on Wednesday night last. These gentlemen were lavish in their invitations, and the response was generous, representatives from the whole surrounding district being present. Young people from Shawville, Bryson, Campbell's Bay, Coulouge, Westmeath, Pembroke, Renfrew, Arnprior and Ottawa were in attendance and shared fully in the distinguished function. Valentin orchestra supplied the music.

11/04/1913 Ottawa Journal Hull Electric Aylmer

Mr. R.J. Biggs, the Hull Electric Railway engineer, is making a survey for a siding into the Ritchie Mills. It is expected that this siding will be used to remove the new lumber as it is turned out of the mills, to the Ritchie farm opposite the Fraser Mills, thus complying with the new by-law which states that no lumber can be piled within a certain distance of the town. The lumber at present piled within the town limits must be removed in two years.

11/04/1913 Ottawa Journal Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric

Possibility of extending the line to Charleston lake via Athens.--

11/04/1913 Ottawa Journal Prescott Ottawa West

Problem of smoke emissions from the C.P.R. roundhouse at the Union station.--

For many years, says the Ottawa Journal, the patrons of the Ottawa and New York Railway, using the line between Ottawa and Cornwall have been complaining bitterly of the equipment and accommodation provided by this company in operating its passenger trains. Two or three years ago the matter was drawn to the attention of the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada and the road ordered to clean up its cars. To a certain extent the company obeyed, but in so doing it evidently did not go far enough to satisfy the travelling public and the matter was brought up before the Board again on Tuesday April 1.

The complainants were represented by George May, ex-president and Cecil Bethuge, secretary of the Ottawa Board of Trade and R.B. Faith. Evidence was given by these gentlemen, backing up these complaints and letters were read from the Ottawa Commercial Travellers association and the Board of Trustees, Russell Village, setting forth the conditions as everyone who has had occasion to use the road knows them - and calling attention to the apparently deliberate failure to make connections at Finch Junction, which is a great inconvenience to many travellers.

Mr. Gays, General Manager of the road, said the company would provide spittoons for its smoking cars and that it would not be necessary for the Board to pass an order to this effect.

After considerable cross-firing the Board of Railway Commissioners decided to withhold their decision until A.J. Nixon, chief operating officer, had investigated the matter and made a report to the Board.

21/04/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Ottawa and St. Lawrence Electric* *Ottawa*

That the preliminary survey work for the St. Lawrence and Ottawa electric belt line had been completed and that grading and track laying would be accomplished during the present year were statements of Deputy Magistrate, J.E. Askwith, president of the company, to the Journal.

"I don't know what the intentions of the people behind the Morrisburg and Ottawa Railway may be," said Mr. Askwith of the rival company. "I do know, however, that we intend to go ahead with our line. While the two lines would run rather close for a certain distance, I do not think that they would necessarily interfere with each other."

"How will the St. Lawrence and Ottawa enter the city?" the reporter asked.

"Arrangements have been made with the Ottawa Street Railway towards coming in over the Holland Avenue line. The street railway authorities have agreed to consider such a solution to our problem, and an understanding will probably be reached."

There is now sufficient subscribed capital behind the St. Lawrence and Ottawa belt line to carry the project to a successful culmination.

22/04/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *New York Central*

Arrangements are now being made to put an end to the Ottawa and New York Railway Company.

Superintendent Gays, of the Ottawa and New York, this morning, explained the situation.

It seems that the Canadian end of the line is chartered as the Ottawa and New York Railway Company and the New York end as the New York and Ottawa Railway Company. Both of these companies are really owned by the New York Central Railway Company, which holds indirectly all the stock and bonds of both.

The change which is now in course of negotiation, will do away with the Ottawa and New York Railway Company, and will bring the American section of the line directly under the control of the New York Central.

Mr. Gays states that there will be no change either in the management or ownership of the Ottawa and New York Company.

The reason for elimination of the subsidiary American company is that it involves complications in book keeping and reports. So long as the New York Central has no running rights in Canada in its own name, however, the Canadian company will be necessary.

23/04/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Beachburg* *Ottawa*

The Canadian Northern Railway will have a station in Ottawa before the end of the year, according to Mr. S.J. Montgomery, city ticket agent.

"We expect to have trains running over the line from Ottawa to Toronto within the present year," Mr. Montgomery said to the Journal.

"Will you resume the service from Ottawa to Quebec before the completion of the Toronto line?" he was asked.

"No," he replied, "it don't pay to carry passengers for the Quebec service down to the station in automobiles. When the Toronto line is finished, however, a station in the city will be absolutely necessary, and we will have one."

03/05/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Prescott* *White Bridge*

The new C.P.R. bridge over the Rideau river a mile below Hog's Back has been practically completed. It is a low black bridge and the piers used for the former structure have been used.

The bridge is on the Prescott line of the Canadian Pacific.

09/05/1913 *Renfrew Mercury* *Beachburg* *Pembroke*

The difficulties over the entrance of the C.N.R. line to Pembroke seem within reasonable distance of settlement, and along lines we feel sure will prove satisfactory to the town as a whole. If we can have the trains run into the Grand Trunk station, either over the Grand Trunk tracks or by a parallel road, and all through passenger trains run into Pembroke, as well as local trains, and a grade separation be made at Mary street by the erection of a new bridge, we believe it will prove the most sensible and practical and servicable arrangement from every standpoint. - Pembroke Observer.

22/05/1913 *Chesterville Record* *New York Central* *Newington*

What about that new station we heard so much about a little while ago? It still continues cool.

22/05/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric* *Ottawa, Billings Bridge*

A party of surveyors in the interests of the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway started work at Billings Bridge last week and are about seven miles out the Metcalfe road working now.

23/05/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric*

It was stated this morning by Mr. J.G. Kilt, president of the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway that the contract for the construction of their line into Ottawa had been given to the Reliance Contract Company of Chicago.

It is understood they will furnish all cars and that the line will be operating from South Gloucester by October.

The Hydro Electric are under bond to provide power.

28/05/1913 *Ottawa Journal* *Cornwall Street*

Henry Quinville, aged about 40 years, an employee of the Cornwall Electric Street Railway Company, received injuries yesterday afternoon that resulted in his death at the Hotel Dieu Hospital last evening. Quinville was one of the crew of the motor car which is used for hauling freight. An empty freight car was being backed into the yard at the St. Lawrence brewery and in some unaccountable manner his body was crushed between a platform connected with the brewery and the freight car. His injuries were so severe he died two hours later. He leaves a wife and family.

The Canadian Northern Railway had trouble in construction near Sydenham, owing to sink holes. It was learned this morning, however, that the difficulty had been overcome. The line from Ottawa to Toronto is completed now with the exception of four miles a little west of Richmond. The telegraph line between Ottawa and Smiths Falls is now constructed and the train service on this part will probably open this fall. The plans for Rideau Junction have been laid out and among other buildings allowed for are a roundhouse and several section houses. There will be thirty tracks at least in the yard. About 200 men are in camp now on the west side of the Jock River, working on the ballast pit. The first lift of ballast has been laid from Rideau Junction west to Richmond.

The C.P.R. has applied to the Board of Railway Commissioners for the approval of plans for a change in the location of the station at Farm Point, Que., Maniwaki subdivision, Township of Hull.

The Ottawa Electric Street Railway Company has fifteen more big steel cars under construction similar to the five green cars at present running on the Britannia line. Some of the new cars will shortly be put into operation and will run on the Bank street and Britannia lines.

Very heavy traffic will be occasioned by the Jockey Club races at Connaught Park during the week of June 14th to 21st. As usual every effort will be made to handle the crowds but it is recommended that passengers to Aylmer and other points avoid the rush between the hours of 12.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. each day. "Race Track Specials" will leave Ottawa every 3 minutes making stops at the Company's Office and Bridge street, Hull. The special cars will make no other stop. The fare on the race track specials will be 10 cents straight, and will be collected "Pay as you Enter" at Ottawa and other points. A car running between Rivermead and the race track will connect with all main line cars. The fare from Rivermead to the race track will be 5 cents.

From an authoritative source the Journal learned this morning that the contract for the building of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa electric railway has been let to a Toronto construction company of which Mr. J.A. Morden is head, at a contract price of \$5,000,000. It will take about five years to complete the building of the road and the Ottawa-Arnnprior and Ottawa-Morrisburg branches will be built first. It is understood the contractors have taken over the bonds of the road. The annual meeting of the railway was held yesterday and as a matter of convenience to the contractors it was decided to transfer the head office of the company from Ottawa to Toronto. A branch office will, however, be kept open in the Blackburn Building on Sparks Street. The transfer of the office and the election of officers was the chief business dealt with. Deputy Magistrate J.A. Askwith, former president of the road, was again returned to the presidency and the remainder of last year's board of directors and officials was returned en bloc.

C.P.R. Tunnel Scheme temporarily abandoned.

The electric railway carried 24,000 passengers to Connaught Park during the jockey meet last week. Twenty four cars were kept running steadily between Ottawa station and the park. On Saturday, 4,100 passengers were carried.

Full account of wreck near Britannia, 11 dead, 40 injured. Pictures in edition of 26th.

Williamsburg township has negated bylaws for the granting of right of way and bonus of \$8,000 to the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Electric Railway Company. There was a majority of 33 against the right of way and 131 against the bonus. A hard fight against both by laws was put up by officials of the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway Company, which company proposes to ask about the same thing of the same township. Many shareholders of the latter company are residents of the township.

From a railway source the Pembroke Observer is told that an agreement between the companies was signed last week whereby the C.N.R. will be given running rights over the G.T.R. track and joint use of the G.T.R. station. As a matter of fact negotiations for the land for the necessary sidings at the junction are now in progress and may be concluded at any time, it is the intention to have the junction at or near Foster's axe factory and the plan on the part of the C.N.R. is that trains from the west shall back into the station, while trains from the east will run in and back out.

Cars cannot collide - new device for Hull Electric
Electric switch installed at station under Chateau Laurier, throws off power in cars.
One of the first electric automatic switches in eastern Canada has been installed by the Hull Electric Railway at the Ottawa station. The switch is worked by electricity and entirely does away with the possibility of a collision between the cars and an out bound or incoming train. The system has been installed by the Hull Electric Company of New Jersey at a cost of \$2,000. The new system has now been in use only a few days but has proven satisfactory in every way. When a train is approaching the cars are warned by signals. If the signals are not seen, however, and the cars still approach the electric power is shut off automatically. The Hull Electric Railway, in the past, have kept two signal men at this station. It is a question, however, whether the Railway Commission will allow it to dispense with their services in lieu of the new system.

Ten men killed in construction camp.
Heavy loss of life in explosion of dynamite
Inquest to be held today
Italian consul in Toronto asked for delay in the inquiry so that he might be represented by counsel - eight bodies recovered.
Kingston June 26 - At 11.30 o'clock Wednesday night a terrible fatality occurred eleven miles west of Parham in No. 2 construction camp of the new C.P.R. line. Ten men were killed.
Michael Guirrey, an Italian foreman for Johnson Bros. assisted by a dozen of his fellow countrymen, were engaged in preparing a heavy blast to be set off in order to have material to muck out to-day, when in some unknown way a spark was generated causing the explosion. More.
Repeated in Ottawa Journal for June 26. Globe account is more detailed.

11/07/1913 Ottawa Journal

Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric

President J.G. Kilt of the Morrisburg and Ottawa electric railroad, announced this morning that construction work on the new road would in all probability be commenced during the first week of August. He said that a section of the new road would be under construction before the winter.

At a special meeting of the board of directors held yesterday afternoon, Mr. Lyon Sydow, C.E., was appointed chief construction engineer of the new road. Several tenders for the construction of the new road were received by the directors. The lowest contract was decided upon and will be referred to the shareholders meeting on July 25th before being awarded. The contract may be awarded for twelve or forty miles of construction work.

17/07/1913 Chesterville Record

New York Central

Grand Trunk is seeking running rights over the O&NY between Cornwall and Ottawa.

17/07/1913 Ottawa Journal

Ottawa and St. Lawrence Electric

Surveying operations will be commenced in the course of the next two weeks in connection with the proposed new railway into Ottawa, the construction of which is contemplated by the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Electric Belt Line Company.

It is understood the route to be surveyed at the out set is from Ottawa to Almonte and Arnprior, but later on it is proposed to survey the whole of the eastern part of Ontario.

A charter has already been granted to the company and was renewed last session.

24/07/1913 Ottawa Journal

Ottawa Electric

Experimental Farm

The single street car track on Preston street from Broad street to the Experimental Farm is now completed and should soon be in operation.

24/07/1913 Chesterville Record

Renfrew

Arnprior

The other evening Samuel Spence was the means of saving a boy's life. The boy, who was the twelve year old son of Mr. John McGonigal, had his thumb caught in a "D" rail, which is operated in the diamond hose at the intersection of the GTR and the CPR tracks.

A through freight on the GTR was coming along just as Mr. Spence. He managed to have the freight stopped, while another boy informed the signalman of McGonigal's predicament and had the switch opened.

The thumb was much flattened and a physician had to be summoned.

31/07/1913 Ottawa Journal

New York Central

Over fifteen hundred people yesterday attended the excursion of the Ottawa and New York Railway employees held at St. Lawrence Park, Cornwall. A special train of twelve cars bearing five hundred and fifty people pulled out from Ottawa at 8.45 a.m. Two other cars were added on the line and altogether the Ottawa train carried about seven hundred and fifty people. Some six coaches were required on the Tupper Lake line to bring excursionists from southern points to Cornwall.--

06/08/1913 Athens Reporter

Westport

Thirteen coaches crowded with passengers passed through here, Washburn's Corners, via the B&W & CN Railway to spend the day at the park. Carloads of wood are leaving here via the B&W railway for Delta.

06/08/1913 Ottawa Journal

Ottawa Electric

Work stopped on Preston street because G.T.R. has not yet received the double crossing.

07/08/1913 Chesterville Record

New York Central

Finch

A number from here took in the NY&O employees picnic to Cornwall on Wednesday.

08/08/1913 Ottawa Journal

New York Central

The Ottawa and New York Railway has failed to comply with the arrangement come to by the Board of Railway Commissioners regarding accommodation on the company's road between Ottawa and Cornwall.

Complaints about the condition of the coaches and lack of smoking accommodation. - no new cars have been put on, some have been repaired and painted.

14/08/1913 Chesterville Record

Chalk River

Carleton Place

Twenty head of cattle, belonging to a herd of 175 that wandered on the CPR track near Carleton Place at an early hour Friday morning were struck by trains and killed. The herd was a shipment that was being made by Willows Bros.

The cattle had been driven into town the previous afternoon and driven to the stock yards at the station for shipment. Fifteen cattle were struck by a freight train between 10th and 11th concessions of Beckwith. Two others were killed on the main line and three east of the station.

In all cases the engine and trains held to the rails.

14/08/1913 Chesterville Record

Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric

The first sod on the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway, working out from the Ridgmont end, will likely be turned the latter part of this week and the work of constructing the line will be rushed along. It will be remembered that a couple of years ago Hon. J.P. Whitney turned the first sod on the other end of the line, near Morrisburg.

The contractor is now getting his materials on the ground and is practically ready to start work on the line. This section is about 12 miles long and will be the first to be built, the remainder to be constructed in sections and linked up.

"We have not much idea how soon the work on this section will be completed," said one of the directors of the company, "It all depends on the contractor. As it is to his own advantage to hurry the work along as fast as possible to do it properly, we do not anticipate any needless delay. Much of course depends on the weather."

18/08/1913 Ottawa Journal

Prescott

Rideau Canal

Hand car plunges into canal - see accident file.

About \$15,000 worth of lumber was burned last night at the Mason Street yards of the Shepard and Morse Lumber Company and provided one of the most spectacular fires that has occurred in Ottawa since the big fire in 1901. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

That the hundreds of piles of pine, valued at thousands of dollars, and probably a big section of the Mechanicsville district were not burned was due to the splendid work of Chief Graham and his men; also to the fact that there was hardly a breath of wind blowing. Only 20 piles, however, were licked up by the flames.

Cause not known

What caused the fire is not yet known, but it started in a pile of pine in the southwest corner of the yards about 11 o'clock, and a few minutes later the lurid glow along the skyline in the Mechanicsville district told the fact that the flames had quickly spread to several nearby piles, which were as dry as a tinder box.

Hundreds of people hurried to the scene on the street cars, in motor cars, cabs and on foot, until the street and yards were packed with crowds. Gangs of young men climbed to the top of the piles of lumber in the yard beneath the danger zone to watch the blaze and the firemen fighting it.

Overall Alarm from Box 61

Even before the blaze could be seen in the sky the tolling of No. 61 by the fire bell nine district times told those who were not in bed that either in the yards of Shepard and Morse or in that district a big fire had broken out.

By half past eleven huge tongues of flame were shooting up fully fifty feet high and eating their way through one pile after the other with incredible rapidity. Chief Graham turned out every bit of available apparatus possible and a few minutes after the alarm was rung in he had lines of hose from every conceivable hydrant in the district sending eleven big streams of water into the burning piles and onto those not reached by the flames. The water pressure was fairly good. Under control in an hour.

By 12 o'clock he saw that the method of fighting the fire he had outlined had proven successful. At one time there were few persons in the crowd who would have given very much for the thousands of dollars worth of lumber in the yards so hopeless was the outlook.

In spite of intense heat the firemen got dangerously close to the flames. How some of them escaped being either burned or badly scorched is remarkable. They had many willing helpers from among the crowds of young men around.

Hurried from their beds

People living in the houses on streets near the yards hustled their goods some distance away fearing that the flames would spread beyond the lumber in the yards. The first lurid glare came by the tongues of flame and the crackling of the burning lumber awakened many people who were sleeping in houses nearby and sent them hurrying to the street in more or less scant attire.

Other yards threatened

Directly opposite where the fire was, that is, on the east side of Bayview Road, Shepard and Morse have several hundred more piles of pine. This was threatened several times when big burning embers flew across the road and dropped on the other side of the fence enclosing the yard. Employees of the CPR in the roundhouse close by stood ready to run the valuable locomotives out should the fire spread to there.

Some of the CPR trains were delayed by the fire, as it was necessary to run lines of hose across the tracks. The Toronto train, however, got through just before the fire started.

Contractors loss \$3,000

Mr. Tom McLaughlin, the contractor for the west end drains, had some of his temporary buildings and materials burned, as they were near where the blaze started. His loss will be \$3,000.

The Ottawa and New York Railway has failed to comply with the arrangement come to by the Board of Railway Commissioners regarding accommodation on the company's road between Ottawa and Cornwall.

Early in the year complaint was made to the Railway Board with respect to the condition of passenger coaches and to the lack of smoking accommodation. The Board's Chief Operating Officer thereupon took up the matter with the General Manager of the Ottawa and New York, who arranged to provide two new first class coaches and also to make such improvements in the smoking accommodation as would very materially improve the conditions. This arrangement was come to prior to April 24th, and the improvement was promised to be affected within sixty days.

Up to the present no new cars have been put on. Some of the old cars have been repaired and painted. It is stated also that the only improvement in the smoking coach is the provision of cuspidors.

The Board of Railway Commissioners is looking into the matter again.

Without any undue ceremony and unmarked by any particular outburst of enthusiasm, the first furrow in the construction of the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway was turned yesterday afternoon. Only a few witnessed the first act of construction - including members of the directorate, the engineer, contractor, and several representatives of the press.

The commencement of the work was made in the Potvig farm, situated in the townsite of Iberville, about three miles past Billings Bridge. About 3 o'clock the handles of a waiting plough were turned over to Mr. J.G. Kilt, president of the line, and without any baptism of speeches or wet goods the first furrow was turned. The teamsters immediately continued the work.

Already the route has been prepared as far as Greely, which is some ten miles from the starting point. The construction work will be carried on in this direction for a short time, after which the grading will be started in the direction of the city.

Besides President Kilt, there were Mr. J. Tully, vice-president; Mr. R. Bishop, secretary/treasurer; Mr. Coplin, director, and contractor Tierney. After the task of turning the sod had been completed engineer L. Von Sydow, under whose charge the work will continue, tendered those present a real camp dinner at his headquarters.

A very comfortable camp had been set up by contractor Tierney. There will shortly be forty men engaged in the work of construction.

The C.N.R. it is learned, is about to commence preparation for the construction of a roundhouse, a station and part of its shops at Rideau Junction this fall.

For some time there has been doubt as to whether the railway would begin work on the new buildings in the near future. Undoubtedly financial conditions had considerable to do with the delay. Now, however, that the C.N.R. has succeeded in selling its bonds in England, and in securing subsidies from the government, it is learned that the company has decided to go ahead with the work at once, and will award contracts for the building and materials in a short time.

The construction of a round house is becoming absolutely necessary in view of the fact that while the company expects to put into operation its Ottawa Toronto run by January first, it has no place in which to house its locomotives in this district.

As was rumored some time ago, it is practically decided that the line from Rideau Junction into the city will be electrified. This is a matter of considerable importance, as it practically means fast suburban train service from the city to Rideau Junction - the district which, on this account, will likely develop very rapidly from Hurdman's Bridge up to the Rideau.

The Exhibition train, sent through the province by the Provincial government for demonstration purposes, visited Waltham on Tuesday last, and the following morning was switched off at the station yard where it remained until 11 p.m. --

The train consisted of two cars, one of which contained a few animals of very ordinary merit and was confessedly a disappointment to the majority of those who went through it. The other car containing the cereal display, was prepared and equipped by the staff of MacDonald College, and gave evidence on every hand of the great work which is being carried on at that institution-- More.

03/09/1913 Ottawa Journal Smiths Falls

Vice president D.B. Hanna, of the Canadian Northern Railway, announces that the new road from Toronto to Ottawa will be opened about October 15. The road is practically complete at present, all the ballasting being finished and the steel almost laid. Although the line will be officially opened next month, no passenger trains will run over it for some time. Large quantities of freight will be handled, however. The new stations along the line are almost complete and the agents and operating staffs secured.

Following are the names chosen by the railway for the new stations commencing from Kingston (sic) to Ottawa: Strathcona, Newburgh, Camden East, Yarker (sic), Harrowsmith, Sydenham, Perth Road, Bedford Mills, Chaffey's Lake (sic), Elgin, Brockville Junction, Forfar, Portland, Lombardy, Smiths Falls, Kilfoyle, Dwyer Hill, Richmond, Twin Elm Fallowfield, Merivale, Rideau Junction, Billings Bridge, Montreal Junction and Ottawa.

03/09/1913 Ottawa Journal Beachburg Airport Spur

A peculiar case was heard in the chambers of Judge MacTavish at the court house this morning, in which the C.N.R. sought to take possession of a right of way for the construction of a spur line in the Township of Gloucester, for the carrying of gravel. The proposed line would cut through the properties of nine farmers of the township. The railway company offered \$5,000 compensation but the farmers wanted a larger figure.

Counsel for the railway company made application to deposit a few hundred dollars in court as an evidence of good faith.

The property in question partly belongs to the Ottawa Hunt Club, Messrs. J. Gillespie, Dowler and McCarthy, farmers of the township.

The company requires a lease of five years and offered as compensation amounts averaging twenty-five dollars a year per acre. The judge decided to give the company permission to go ahead with the building of the line upon paying a deposit into the court for each farmer.

The final amount will be decided at a later date by arbitration.

09/09/1913 Ottawa Journal Ottawa Terminal

C.P.R. finally abandons Tunnel Scheme. New proposition made to government includes use of G.T.R. right of way into city.

15/09/1913 Ottawa Journal Hull Electric Hull

The officials of the Hull Electric Railway feel that the Hull city council are blocking their efforts to improve their lines and thus prove a greater convenience to the people of Hull. Therefore they have decided not to install a "Y" on Outremont Street as they had proposed doing. For some time they have been desirous of having permission to install this "Y" claiming that it would facilitate traffic in the locality. The council last night were willing to grant permission, but on the understanding that a belt line service would be laid on the Mountain road, Chelsea road and Montclair ave.

In reply to this demand which the company considers unjust, Mr. Gordon Gale, superintendent of the road, states that the company is willing to extend its lines just as soon as conditions warrant it. As to completing the belt line in two years he states that the company would not bind itself down to a specified time. Until the council meets the company on a fairer basis the installing of the "Y" will be left in abeyance.

19/09/1913 Renfrew Mercury Locksley Pembroke

The Observer says the latest plans to be received of the new G.T.R. station show an even better building than that first proposed. According to the new plan, the Wellington block, occupied by Dr. Graham, Dr. Belair and Mr. Rollins, barber, is to be removed entirely, in order to give more yard room. The entrance to the station will be at the westerly corner of main street, with portcullis covering and with four doors aimable to those in use at the Central station in Ottawa. The floor inside will be mosaic while the walls will be panelled, and the whole will have a very ornate appearance. The tower will be transferred from the east to the west main street corner and will make the building an imposing one. While there will not be quite so much of a frontage on Pembroke street, the station will be extended considerably further back on McKay street than at first proposed. The interior arrangements are the most modern and will provide the best of accommodation, including waiting rooms for ladies and gentlemen and a large general waiting room, ticket offices, baggage room, express room and all other conveniences. The new station and yard improvements will make a complete transformation on that corner, which will be one of the most attractive in town. The work will involve an expenditure of about \$50,000 and the Council, accepting the new plans at Friday night's meeting, decided to give the company a reasonable extension of time in which to complete the project.

02/10/1913 The Equity, Shawville Waltham Shawville

The C.P.R. are operating a gravel train on this section of the road at present, with a view to improving the grades in certain places east of Shawville.

03/10/1913 Brockville Recorder Smiths Falls

Laying of Steel between Toronto and Ottawa Completed.

Tuesday was one of the red-letter days among the officials of the C.N.R., as it marked the beginning of the end of a great enterprise - the building of a railway between the Capital of the Dominion and the Capital of the Province. That day, the laying steel was finished on the Toronto - Smiths Falls and Ottawa line, and a new link was formed between Ontario east and west. It has been watched with much interest for the past two years, and now it is nearing completion. The last gap has been closed and trains may now be run over the whole line. There are finishing touches to be put on it yet and passenger traffic is not to be inaugurated until spring, but freight trains will be running in a few weeks.

03/10/1913 Ottawa Journal Smiths Falls

The last rail on the Canadian Northern Railway line from Ottawa to Toronto was laid yesterday and today Sir William MacKenzie, president of the road, is making a tour of inspection of the new division. He is travelling in his private car, and will probably arrive at the temporary station of the Canadian Northern Railway on Henderson avenue some time this evening.

The new road will be opened for freight traffic in about two weeks, and it is expected that the passenger service will be inaugurated at the beginning of the new year. At first the company will probably run two express trains to Toronto each day, with possibly a third leaving at noon. It has not yet been decided what station will be used.

With the opening of the new division, the Canadian Northern, it is claimed, has the shortest route between Ottawa and Toronto.

03/10/1913 Ottawa Journal Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric

It is rumoured that the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway is to enter Ottawa from the west end.

It has been stated during the past few days, though not by officials of the road, that the company is buying up land out on the Britannia district with a view to making entry in that direction.

Questioned today regarding this rumor, Mr. J.G. Kilt, one of the directors, refused to say anything beyond that the company was going ahead with its operations and was pushing the building of the road as fast as possible.

04/10/1913 Ottawa Journal Smiths Falls

Special over the new line arrived at Henderson Avenue station at 1.30 p.m.

09/10/1913 The Equity, Shawville Locksley Pembroke

The contract for the building of the Grand Trunk station at Pembroke has been awarded to Mr. Jas. F. Munro for a figure in the neighbourhood of \$35,000. This does not include the building of concrete retaining wall or any of the filling in or yard improvements.

Ottawa, October 3. The last rail of the new Canadian Northern line was laid yesterday and this afternoon the event was officially marked by the arrival of the first through train, with Sir William MacKenzie, head of the CNR system on board. Sir William arrived at 1.15 p.m. at the temporary CNR station at Henderson Avenue on the southeast corner of the city.

He was accompanied on his car by several officials of the road and the whole trip was made without accident of any kind. He expressed himself well satisfied with his inspection, although, of course, there is still much to be done before it will be in condition for regular train service.

The new route brings Ottawa and Toronto sixteen miles closer together. Yesterday the CPR was the shortest railway line between here and Toronto. It is 256 miles long. Today, the CNR, 240 miles long can claim the honor.

Sir William says that the beginning of 1914 will probably see the inception of a regular passenger service over that line between here and Toronto.

No official information regarding the building of a new station in Ottawa has been given out. The CNR may get running rights into the Central Station but nothing is known about that.

Principal advantage of the new line is the scenery.

10/10/1913 *Ottawa Journal**Ottawa Electric**Ottawa Car*

The Ottawa Electric Railway is going to repaint all the old big double-truck pay-as-you-enter cars a light green the same color as the present new cars are painted. Already car No. 538, which originally was red and green, is now running on the Somerset street line repainted.

The cars will be taken into the repair shed one by one or possibly two at a time and re-painted. This will have all the big cars the same color as is the case in Montreal.

14/10/1913 *Ottawa Journal**Smiths Falls*

A rumor to the effect that the Canadian Northern Railway will run its passenger trains into the Grand Trunk Central station has been started. Mr. D.B. Hanna, vice-president of the road, who is in Ottawa on business, when seen at the Chateau Laurier today, did not deny the rumor. When asked as to whether the Canadian Northern intend to erect their own station here, Mr. Hanna wanted to know what the objection was to the station we already have. "That's a fine station over there, isn't it?" he said, indicating the Central depot. That, however, was the farthest, Mr. Hanna would go toward a statement of the Canadian Northern's policy.

14/10/1913 *Ottawa Journal**Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric*

Operations in the work of the Ottawa and Morrisburg electric railway are going ahead rapidly now and President Mr. J.G. Kilt expects to have cars running on a part of the road by this time next year.

Yesterday afternoon, the management of the road took a party out from town to view the operations. The members of the party were met at the works by Mr. Kilt, who went with them over the grading which had been done. There are now about four miles of road bed ready for the ties. At the present time about one mile of roadbed is being graded per week.

Mr. Kilt and the other officials of the road are optimistic of its future. They claim that it is usual to take in a ten mile strip, five on each side of the road when considering the possibilities. This road will, however, be serving a population of 2,500 every mile, taking only a four mile wide strip.

Already the company has made arrangements for the carrying of freight into Ottawa. The farmers are looking forward to the possibilities of shipping their milk and other produce and getting quick transportation into the city.

Almost all the rights of way have been secured and the work of construction is being pushed ahead as rapidly as possible.

16/10/1913 *The Equity, Shawville**Waltham**Morehead*

On Saturday morning a Polander lost his life in a gravel slide at Wallace's gravel pit, half a mile east of Morehead station. Work at the pit had just been completed when the accident occurred, and the men were preparing to remove the steam shovel which had been operating in the pit for the past two or three weeks. Without warning a huge mass of gravel slid down the slope and buried the unfortunate man, and injured a comrade. The man was dug out as quickly as possible but all efforts to revive him were fruitless. The body was taken to Ottawa on the afternoon train.

16/10/1913 *Ottawa Journal**Ottawa and St. Lawrence Electric*

The Ottawa and St. Lawrence Electric Railway will be in operation between this city and Morrisburg within a year, according to a statement made by Mr. E. Malone, chief engineer of the company this morning. The engineering staff is engaged on the section between Ottawa and Arnprior. The company has secured street railway franchises in both Winchester and Morrisburg and several municipalities along the route have bonussed the road at the rate of \$1,000 per mile. The fare over the new line will be at the rate of 2 cents a mile, and it is probable that an hourly service will be run. The company is planning to install a seventy foot steel car with a side entrance and very low steps.

23/10/1913 *The Equity, Shawville**Beachburg*

The laying of the steel in the line of the Canadian Northern Railway between Pembroke and the point of crossing the Ottawa River at Split Rock began at Pembroke last week, and the contractor, Mr. J.P. Mullarkey, expects that section, 27 miles in length, to be completed before the real cold weather sets in. The work of laying the steel on the section between Ottawa and the Chats rapids, will, it is also expected be completed at about the same time. Work on the two bridges, that at the Chats and the one at Split Rock, - will be carried on all winter with the object of having them completed in the Spring. Then tracklaying will be undertaken on the section running along the front of this county, the grading of which is now well advanced. The whole line between Ottawa and Pembroke, which is said to be 36 miles shorter than the C.P.R., will likely be in operation early next fall.

23/10/1913 *Chesterville Record**Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric*

The directors of the Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway report the purchase of 300 acres of gravel and sand within 20 miles of Ottawa. The pit has a 40 ft face, and is possibly the largest and most valuable in eastern Canada.

28/10/1913 *Rideau Record**Winchester**Smiths Falls*

For some months it has been known that the C.P.R. has been planning big improvements and extensions of its plant here. The two chief features of the programme are a subway on Chamber street to cost about \$100,000 and a large extension of its yards in the east end. Of late it has bought a good deal of land for the latter proposition and negotiations are under way through Mr. J.E. Burns the real estate broker for many other properties. The record understands that the company has options on \$35,000 worth of land in addition to what has already been bought. Before some of the properties can be acquired that are necessary for the new subway it may be necessary to take expropriation proceedings. That is all that is holding back the awarding of the contract.

06/11/1913 *The Equity, Shawville**Waltham**Shawville*

The removal of a locomotive from the station here to the line of the C.N.R. near Portage du Fort, is the task which Messrs. Lynch, Peckham and Gorman have in hand this week, and the work is certainly not of the lightning express variety, considering that the "iron horse" only moves one rail length in between breathing spells, and very slowly and carefully at that. The locomotive is a good deal smaller than the ordinary type, and is designed exclusively for railroad construction. She is to be used presently to haul material to make the embankment required between the Bryson road and the approach to the big bridge across the Ottawa, now almost completed. A number of small gravel trucks and a steam shovel complete the outfit. These will be dismembered at the railway yard here and hauled by team to the point where the operations are to be carried on.

Residents along the Britannia line can now have tangible hope of a five cent fare from the city all the way to Britannia.

This is not a tender tug at the heart strings of the O.E.R., but a quick move on the part of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Electric Railway to have a double track road in operation by the end of next July from the city to the Connaught Rifle Ranges, and the fare, one way, will be five cents.

Where line will be

On enquiry from the Journal, this announcement came straight from Mr. E.E. Malone, chief engineer of the new road.

From Holland Avenue, the route of the new electric line will be roughly speaking, parallel to the O.E.R routes running between the two.

There will be at least fifteen flag stations along this latest suburban project, at the chief centres of population, and while they will be considerably south of the present O.E.R. route, some of them will correspond very nearly to the present car line stops at Westboro, Woodroffe, Richmond Road and McKellar.

The nearest point at the Britannia end will be a station at Britannia Heights, while the temporary city terminal will not be given out at present, but it is the intention of the company to ultimately have a station in the heart of the city.

Ready in August

Mr. Malone stated that work would be commenced on the first of May and rushed through to completion so as to be in operation for the opening of the new Connaught Ranges on August 15 and very probably before that date.

It will be a double track road as far as the ranges, and from there on around its big loop it will be single track. From the city terminal to Britannia Heights the fare will be five cents and from there on 2 cents per mile.

Book tickets

For the convenience of suburban residents book tickets will be available. This will make the fare three cents one way between the city and the Heights or about six cents for the round trip.

Any further information on the subject Mr. Malone would not vouch safe at present.

A spur line is being built from the newly opened marble quarries in Ross to the line of the C.N.R near Portage du Fort.

The cost of building the new St. Lawrence and Ottawa Electric Railway was announced to be between seven and eight million dollars, and it is understood that the bonds of the company will be placed on sale on the English market before next spring.

It is believed that the company will start construction work on the Britannia line to the South March Rifle Ranges early next summer, and that the new road will be in operation for the 1914 D.R.A. shoot.

Work of building the Ottawa and Morrisburg branch of the road will also be commenced next spring.

The entrance of the new road into the city has not been definitely decided upon, but the Journal was given to understand that a private right-of-way will be purchased to bring the interurban cars to the city terminal.

Three plans

"We have three plans under consideration at present, and have not decided upon which one we shall enter the city by," said Mr. J.A. Morden, financial director of the road, who was in Ottawa today.

Mr. William Grey, of London, another director of the new electric road, was also in Ottawa today.

It has not been decided whether or not power for the new road will be secured from gasoline or gasoline-electric engines, or from a trolley system. Hydro-Electric power may be used, if the company decides upon the trolley system.

Brockville - To John R. Graham, engineer, and George L. Horton, conductor, belongs the honor of making the first trip from here to Ottawa and return entirely over the tracks of the Canadian Northern Railway.

The company found it necessary to secure a gravel grader and donkey engine which had been left at the capital, and accordingly a special train made up of a locomotive and one coach left here for Ottawa. It proceeded by way of Brockville Junction; the objects of the trip were secured and Brockville was reached on the return trip in exactly seven hours.

Considering that the complete distance in each direction is 96 miles, exceptionally good time was made over a new road bed.

Proposed by law 233 of village of Chesterville to grant \$5,000 by way of bonus to Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway to aid the procuring of a right of way through the village of Chesterville.

Also township of Winchester proposed by law 222 by granting a right of way.

Mr. G.A. Mountain, chief engineer of the Railway Commission and Assistant Engineer Simmons returned this morning from an inspection of the Canadian Northern Ontario railway from Ottawa to Napanee, which has recently been completed and which is a continuation of the Toronto Napanee line.

Mr. Mountain found the line to be in good condition generally and it will be opened for freight and local passenger traffic on Jan. 5. Through service will begin in the spring.

Splendid steel bridges have been constructed and preparations are being made for the manning of stations along the line.

A telephone system is being installed along the line of the Pontiac branch of the C.P.R.

The Grand Trunk Railway has promised that in the spring the Madawaska - Golden Lake mixed train will be run into Pembroke to reach there about 9.30 a.m. and return at 10 o'clock. Plans have been prepared for a line two miles in length to give interswitching with the C.P.R. On it two bridges will have to be built, one over the Muskrat and one over the Indian River.

We understand the C.P.R. authorities have sanctioned the lighting up of the station here by electricity. This will be both a boon to the public and a convenience to the agent in charge.

Freight valued at over 1 million dollars was transferred from the CPR across the river to the NYC railway at Prescott on Friday when eleven car loads of silk from China was hastened to its destination.

The goods were only six days out from Vancouver, where they arrived on the 10th by the steamer "Empress of India", and consisted of 8 cars of raw silk and 3 cars silk goods.

This is one of the largest consignments ever sent across the border from this point.

On Monday January 5 the Canadian Northern Railway will begin a local passenger and freight service over the new line between Ottawa and Toronto. As announced by Mr. S.J. Montgomery, city freight and passenger agent of the C.N.R., passengers will leave the station at the foot of Henderson avenue at 11.30 a.m. each day, connecting at Napanee with the Napanee-Toronto service at half past four in the afternoon, and arriving in Toronto at 9.15 in the evening. Returning, passengers will leave Toronto at 8 p.m., and arrive at Ottawa at noon the next day. Connections can be made at Brockville Junction for Brockville and Harrowsmith for Kingston.

This is not the regular express service that the company intends running but is specially designed to give residents of towns along the line which have no train service such as Merivale, Fallowfield, Richmond, Lombardy and Portland, facilities for getting to the cities. The regular service, for which the company is now building four exceptionally fine trains, will begin next spring or summer, and a station in the centre of the city will be secured.

The new freight service will allow of freight shipped from Ottawa in the morning being delivered in Toronto the next day, and means that a fast freight service will be in operation between Ottawa, Quebec, Montreal, Toronto and points east and west.