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MONTREAL, FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 24, 1911

CANADIAN LIGHT & POWER COMPANY PURCHASE ANOTHER COMPANY.

THE Canadian Light & Power Company have just purchased the Saraguay Electric & Water Company, thereby increasing their hold upon the electric light business of the city. It is stated that there was considerable competition among the various electric light companies as to whom should obtain control of the Saraguay Company, but the Canadian Light & Power Company were successful. This purchase gives the Canadian Light & Power Company a considerable hold upon the power business throughout the city and adjoining municipalities, and was in every sense of the word a desirable move on their part.

The acquiring of the new company not only gives them many valuable customers in various parts of the city and the neighboring suburbs, but it also means that the profits from this business will be much greater under the Canadian Light & Power auspices than they were under the Saraguay Company. The latter generated their power from a steam plant but in future the customers will be supplied by electric power from the plant of the Canadian Light & Power Company. Although the gross revenue of the Saraguay Electric & Water Company for the present year more than doubled that of 1910 the indications are that the future growth of the company's earnings will be still greater.

Some time ago the Canadian Light & Power Company obtained control of the Central Light, Heat & Power Company, who have some 1,200 customers in the heart of the city and they have also a fine working arrangement with the Dominion Light, Heat & Power Company. Altogether the Canadian Light & Power Company have been forging to the front in a remarkable manner and have already become an important factor in the lighting and power business of the city.

The Saraguay Company was brought into official existence in the year 1906, the capital being authorized to the extent of \$3,000,000, and it is stated that the amount already expended on the plant amounts to close on to three-quarters of a million dollars. The bond issue amounts to \$500,000, worth \$125,000 of common stock and \$175,000 of preferred. The board of the Company is composed of French-Canadians with two exceptions, and a good deal of energy on the part of the officials has resulted in franchises being obtained from St. Laurent, Notre Dame de Grace, Cote des Neiges, Cartierville, Bordeaux, Ahuntsic, Sault aux Recollets, Longue Pointe, Tetreauville, Pointe aux Trembles and the City of Montreal. With the exception of the City of Montreal, Notre Dame de Grace, Cote des Neiges and Longue Pointe, franchises mentioned are exclusive.

The company which has just passed under the control of the big concern is composed of Messrs. Gaspard Deserres, president; G. M. Bosworth, Tancred Bienvenue, H. Laporte, William Wainwright, T. Bastien, Hon. Hector Champagne, of St. Eustache; E. Champagne, managing director; Hon. J. A. Ouimet, Alphonse Racine, Ed. Hurtubise, secretary, and Charles Brandies, chief engineer. The officials of the Canadian Light & Power Company are: Howard Wilson, president; E. A. Robert, vice-president and managing director; George G. Foster, K.C.; J. W. McConnell, Senator J. M. Wilson, J. M. McIntyre, N. Curry, R. N. Smyth, Fred J. Shaw and W. C. Finley.

It will be a matter of general satisfaction to the shareholders of the Canadian Light & Power Company to know that their directors have acquired this additional plant. It is also stated that the earnings of the Canadian Light & Power Company have been showing very satisfactory increases. Recently there have been some contracts entered into for the supplying of power with some of the largest industrial concerns in the City of Montreal.

THE MONTREAL TRAMWAYS COMPANY.

Street Railway Financing Successfully
Accomplished.

It is a matter of the greatest satisfaction not only to the directors of the Montreal Street Railway Company, but to their shareholders and the "Street" in general, that a satisfactory conclusion has been reached in regard to the financing of the company. N. W. HARRIS & Company, of Boston, early this week made a public offering of \$10,445,000 of Montreal Tramways Company's bonds. So attractive did this appear to the public that the entire issue was taken up within a few hours after being offered. It is said that the bonds are being widely distributed to many small holders not only in Canada and the United States, but in Europe as well. Following the sale of bonds there was shipped to Montreal between \$9,000,000 and \$10,000,000 in gold, which was deposited with the Merchants Bank. This institution is acting on behalf of the Montreal Street Railway Company in effecting the transfer of its securities for those of the Tramways Company.

It is expected that by the end of the present week upwards of 85 per cent. of the Street Railway stock will have been exchanged for Tramways securities. The deeds of the transfer of the Montreal Street Railway Company and the other subsidiary companies of the Montreal Tramways Company were filed on Saturday with the various registrars of Montreal and in every sense the transfer is now an accomplished fact. The price paid for the transfer amounted to about \$6,000, owing to a deed of trust for \$75,000,000.

There has been considerable speculation regarding the value of the Montreal Tramways debentures. The directors of the company refused an order of 92½ for the entire block, believing that 5 per cent. debentures of their class should sell at a much higher figure. It is pointed out that Toronto Power Company's debentures, which only carry 4½, are being sold in the London market at 96. As the Toronto company is only in course of construction and has no earnings available on its securities, the price at which it is being offered to the British public is either too high or the price offered for the Montreal Tramways debentures is too low. The latter is regarded as the correct explanation by all financial experts. The Montreal Tramways debentures are well secured; they pay 5 per cent. interest and have large earning powers back of them. As is pointed out by the financial editor of the Montreal Herald, on the basis of Toronto's selling values, the Montreal Tramways stock should sell at 106, or 14 points above the price offered the directors for their holdings.

There is no doubt but that the debentures will shortly see higher levels. There has undoubtedly been a great deal of opposition to and adverse criticism of the Street Railway Company, especially in connection with their financing projects. It is only natural to expect that a certain number of dissatisfied shareholders should unload their stock and then seek to minimize the value of the company's debentures. The present directorate of the Street Railway Company and those associated with them in the reorganization of the company and its refinancing, deserve the warmest congratulations for the successful outcome of their up-hill fight. It has been a long drawn out battle, but has terminated in a satisfactory manner.

MEXICAN TRAMWAYS EARNINGS.

MEXICAN Tramways earnings for the month of October increased to \$9,657. Net earnings from January 1 are now \$135,023. Net earnings of the Mexican Light & Power Company for October were \$549,786, an increase of \$58,386. Net earnings for the year show an increase of \$385,361.