AMONG THE COMPANIES

WAYAGAMACK PULP AND PAPER CO., LIMITED.

A new high record for the company was established in the year ended November 30th last when net earnings, after the war tax was provided for, amounted to $1,057,742 as against $966,349 the year before.

Comparisons of profit and loss figures for three years follow:

	1918.	1917.	1916.
Earnings..	$1,057,742	$966,349	$979,362
Depreciation..	160,000	160,000	154,638
Balance	$897,742	$806,349	$824,724
Bont interest	208,980	210,000	210,000
Balance	$688,762	$596,349	$614,724
Written off	144,726	82,383	10,000
Surplus	$544,036	$513,965	$604,724
Previous surplus	864,023	*350,058	632,550
Surplus	$1,408,060	$864,023	$1,237,274
Reserves, etc.	500,000	......	540,000
Surplus	$908,060	......	$697,274

* After adjustments.

The balance sheet shows some radical changes for the better. Current liabilities were reduced about $520,000, while current assets were increased about $278,000. Net working capital rose to $1,230,650 against $432,752 a year before. Bank loans, which have overhung the company's position for several years, have been finally liquidated. Cash on hand was increased from $12,499 to $499,414.

Comparisons of the working capital position at the end of each of the past three years follow:

	1918.	1917.	1916.
Assets	$1,979,274	$1,701,571	$939,563
Liabilities	748,624	1,268,819	639,102
W'k cap...	$1,230,650	$432,752	$300,461

The president's report says in substance:

"Your directors found it necessary during the past year to spend a considerable sum in repairs and a general overhaul of your plant to put it in a thorough state of efficiency. This work has now been completed and a reduction in costs is already realized.

"In view of the cessation of hostilities, the shipping facilities should be greatly improved, thereby increasing the company's opportunities for developing its export trade."

Comparisons of balance sheets of the past two years are given in the following table:

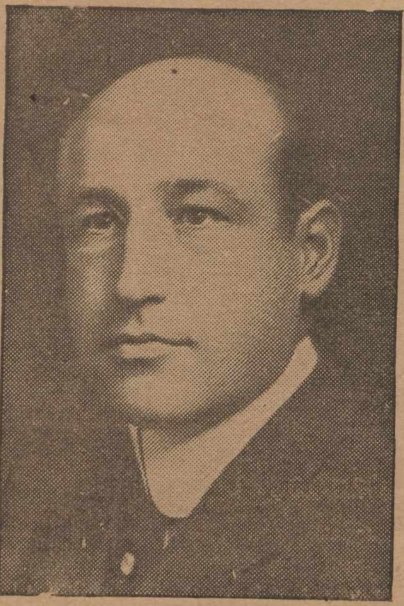
ASSETS.

	1918.	1917.
Cash	$499,414	$12,499
Accs. rec.	396,499	350,659
Inventories	1,173,710	1,325,133
Bonds	9,651	13,278
Plant, etc.	3,127,730	3,075,177
Limits	6,038,244	6,204,138
Bond discount	331,074	346,595
Total	$11,476,323	$11,327,482

LIABILITIES.

	1918.	1917.
Accs. pay.	$678,333	$596,120
Bills pay.	......	312,840
Loans	......	281,682
Accr. int.	70,291	78,175
Bonds	3,395,000	3,430,000
Cap. stock	5,000,000	5,000,000
Res. deprec.	924,638	764,638
Res. gen.	500,000	......
Surplus	$908,060	$864,023
Total	$11,476,323	$11,327,482

In a footnote there is listed a contingent liability of $244,500 for paper lost on S.S. "M. P. Connolly," which is stated to be fully covered by insurance.



H. C. COX,
President of the Imperial Guarantee and Accident Insurance Company of Canada, whose Annual Report has Lately been Issued.

PARIS BRANCH FOR BANK OF MONTREAL.

It is announced that the Bank of Montreal is arranging for a site on which to open a branch in Paris, France.

RAILWAY EARNINGS.

Traffic earnings of the three principal Canadian railroad systems for the third week in January aggregated $5,431,317, an increase of $1,506,890, or 38.4 per cent. over the corresponding week a year ago. This compares with an increase of 30.9 per cent. for the previous week. The increase of the Grand Trunk was the largest for the week, being 66.4 per cent.

Following are the earnings for the past week, with the increases from a year ago:

	1918.	Increase.	P.C.
C. P. R.	$2,949,000	$625,000	26.9
G. T. R.	940,925	375,421	66.4
C. N. R.	1,541,392	506,469	48.9
Totals	$5,431,317	$1,506,890	38.4

THE GUARANTEE CO. OF NORTH AMERICA.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the Guarantee Co. of North America was held on Thursday last, and the financial statement for the past year was submitted. An increase of $77,509 in surplus was reported after providing for all outstanding liabilities, and after payment of the usual dividend of 10 per cent. and bonus of 2 per cent. This compares with an addition of $51,231 to surplus in the preceding year. The total now stands at $1,613,372.

The following directors were elected for the ensuing year: Henry E. Rawlings, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., E. F. Hebden, Wm. McMaster, John Macdonald, Toronto; James B. Forgan, Chicago; Hon. E. C. Smith, St. Albans, Vt.; Philip Stockton, Boston; Thomas DeWit Cuyler, Philadelphia; Sir Augustus Nanton, Winnipeg, and Frank Scott, Montreal.

At a subsequent meeting of the board, Henry E. Rawlings was elected president and managing director, and Wm. McMaster, vice-president. Richard B. Scott was re-appointed secretary and treasurer; William S. Chadwick and Walter T. Rawlings, assistant secretaries.

BRAZILIAN TRACTION EARNINGS.

The company's net earnings continue higher than a year ago in spite of the contraction in gross earnings and the adverse influence of the influenza epidemic. The outstanding feature is that the company appears to have solved the problems growing out of the higher operating costs of a year ago, and conditions should continue to work in the company's favor in that respect.

The influenza epidemic was at its height in Rio in November, and the effect on the company's receipts are plainly evident in the following comparisons of monthly returns (in mileries) this year:

1918.	Gross.	Net.	Net increase.
January..	7,837,000	3,696,000	*306,000
February	7,315,000	3,565,000	*320,000
March	8,094,000	3,925,000	*226,000
April	8,330,000	4,053,000	38,000
May	9,030,000	4,642,000	353,000
June	9,087,000	4,783,000	761,000
July	9,465,000	5,063,000	1,214,000
August	9,491,000	5,210,000	1,193,000
September..	9,081,000	4,865,000	965,000
October	8,052,000	4,301,000	585,000
November	7,581,000	3,723,000	231,000

* Decrease.

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

At the eighty-seventh annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Nova Scotia, held on the morning of January 22, 1918, at Halifax, assurances were given that the dividend of 14 per cent now payable on the capital stock of the Bank would be increased in the next declaration.

It was decided that application should be made to increase the bank's authorized capital from $10,000,000 to $15,000,000. The Bank of Nova Scotia now has a paid-up capital of $6,500,000, but the proposed amalgamation with the Bank of Ottawa will absorb most of the remaining authorization and the present application will provide for any further issues that may be deemed necessary.

In the course of his remarks, General Manager H. A. Richardson said:

"We wish to state and to emphasize that merely to grow large has been and will be no part of our policy. We never have and never will, I hope, sacrifice quality to size. So far as we are able by the acquisition of desirable business connections to enlarge our operations and make the Bank of Nova Scotia a more useful factor in the development of Canada we shall do so, but our first care must be to preserve in all its strength the foundation on which we are building. In order to strongly buttress that foundation we have created a very large reserve fund. That has been done largely by issuing to shareholders from time to time shares at a very considerable premium, the premium so paid in by them going into our reserve fund.

"While this has resulted in placing us in the van of Canadian banks for strength and stability, it has not been productive of more than very moderate dividends to shareholders; for our present dividend of 14 per cent yields them on their investment only 5.42 per cent. Such high class investment as the bonds of our government yield more than that, while many gilt-edged securities yield very much more. No increase has been made in our return to shareholders since 1911. In the meantime the cost of living generally has grown and the recently imposed income tax further reduces the revenue from our shares. We therefore feel warranted in intimating that at our next dividend period the shareholders will receive an increased return on their holdings of our shares."