

on the receipts from its suburban extensions. Against this the company appealed to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, by whom the city is declared to have no claim on the suburban receipts of the railway. A new situation will be created when the outlying municipalities are incorporated, as then the lines of the Street Railway Company will run within the limits of the city, and the entire traffic receipts will be liable for a percentage that will be due to the city from lines all over Greater Montreal.

THE PAY-AS-YOU-ENTER CARS have been subjected to a fusillade of epistolary criticism this week, all of an adverse character. Compelling passengers to stand on an unenclosed platform until they find a ticket, or a five cent coin to insert into the conductor's box, will be an intolerable nuisance during the winter season; indeed to aged and delicate persons it will be a source of grave risk to health. Whether conductors can be got to stand ten hours on the open platform of the cars is doubtful. The designer of these new cars is evidently a person not familiar with the severity of a winter in this district. Some change must be made to protect passengers from the weather while waiting to pay their fare.

"MY! BUT YOUR STREETS ARE DIRTY."—This was the exclamation of a clergyman from a country town who arrived here two days ago. He compared our roadways to those in his district to the serious disparagement of those in this city. The snow will soon charitably hide the city's shame in this matter, but, judging from precedents, will create another disgraceful nuisance, unless the authorities adopt some measures to keep the sidewalks in a passably safe condition and the roadways fit for vehicular traffic. How long will village ideas dominate the management of this great metropolitan city as regards its streets!

THE WINDSOR HOTEL ANNUAL MEETING was held on 14th inst., when the following directors were re-elected:—Messrs. J. P. Dawes, W. C. McIntyre, Hy. Joseph, H. Wanklyn, N. J. Dawes, Chas. Cassils and Selkirk Cross. Mr. J. P. Dawes was elected president, Mr. W. C. McIntyre, vice-president, and Mr. W. S. Weldon, was re-appointed manager. The business of the past year was stated to have been gratifying, as it well might be when throughout the tourist season numerous visitors every day were unable to obtain accommodation.

THE WRECK OF THE SS. "BAVARIAN."—The Hon. Mr. Prefontaine, Minister of Marine, has visited the place where the SS. "Bavarian" was wrecked. He has made a searching inquiry into the navigation of the vessel, with the result of deciding that the

pilot was at fault. He is convinced that a thorough reform of the pilotage system is urgently called for, and that changes are needed in the signals for the guidance of mariners in the St. Lawrence route. Such marks as old trees, barns, church steeples, now marked on the charts, are wholly unworthy of so important a channel, which ought to be furnished with permanent guide-marks for the pilots and others to steer by.

NORWAY DECIDES FOR MONARCHY AND CHOOSES A KING.—The people of Norway have decided in favour of a monarchical form of government, and chosen Prince Charles of Denmark as their future sovereign. It is a very happy conclusion to a long quarrel with Sweden, which might have resulted in war. By some authorities in Europe it is believed that, had Russia not been busy with Japan, she would have set Sweden and Norway at loggerheads with the design of acquiring ascendancy, in some form, over one or both those countries.

Both Norway and Sweden will be all the happier for each being independent. They were leashed like two hounds whose tempers were spoiled by being tied together. If these small Kingdoms have wisdom enough to mind their own business exclusively they have a bright future before them of prosperity and peace.

THE ACTION AGAINST THE TORONTO PLUMBERS.—An action is in progress in the Police Court, Toronto, against the local Plumbers' Association, on a charge of conspiracy. The evidence so far offered shows that a formal agreement had been signed by a number of firms who mutually bind themselves not to supply goods to plumbers who are outside the Association, except at 20 p.c. over the rates charged to members.

The firms who signed the agreement undertook not to sell to the general public any plumbing goods, or steam or hot water fittings, but, when asked prices, to quote the enquirers 25 per cent. over the Association's purchase price.

Under the rules of the Plumbers' Association all tenders for work are required to be submitted to it, and the several persons who tender are then called together, the business discussed and an arrangement made as to who is to be the successful tenderer and at what prices. As no outsider could secure a supply of goods except by paying 20 per cent. in excess of the prices charged members of the Association, the effect is to boycott non-members and drive them out of business, and to compel the public to pay exorbitant prices.

A DOUBTFUL PROPOSITION.—A circular is before us issued on behalf of "The British Union Assurance Society, Limited," London. This title of itself is so highly objectionable as to be quite suffi-