

Moore, F. Clare & D. Spiers. The report showed last year to be ahead of the previous one in both freight & passenger business & the prospects indicate a further increase this year.

The Hamilton, Chedoke & Ancaster Electric St. Ry. Co. will apply for an amended charter, giving it power to build to Brantford, to change the name to the Hamilton, Ancaster & Brantford Ry. Co., & to increase the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$300,000.

Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville.—A deputation from Vineland recently asked the Co. to extend its line to that place, which is 5 miles from Beamsville. The directors have decided they will not consider any proposition to extend the line to Vineland unless the Co. gets right of way to St. Catharines, & the St. Catharines people build a bridge over the canal.

Hamilton Street Ry.—At the recent annual meeting the following directors were elected: E. Martin, President; J. A. Bruce, Vice-President; W. Gibson, B. E. Charlton, I. Beer, W. J. Harris & F. W. Fearman.

London St. Ry.—Total gross earnings for 1898, \$113,811.73 against \$101,365.94 in 1897. Passengers carried in '98, 2,841,568; miles travelled, 1,074,302; gross earnings per capita of population, \$2.95. The old board of directors has been elected. H. A. Everett is President, T. H. Smallman is Vice-President, replacing E. W. Moore.

The Co. is suing the city for \$20,000 in connection with the recent strike. The claim is "for inciting riots, causing damage to the plaintiffs, & for neglect of duty & for breach of duty."

The appeal of the Co. to have its property assessed as personal, has been allowed by the Court of Appeal. The City contended that the plant of the Co. was realty, & as such should be assessed. The case went through the lower courts, ending with a decision in favor of the City. This the Court of Appeal judgment reversed, & decided the poles, rails, wires, etc., should be assessed as personality.

The Co. was recently mulcted at the Assizes in three amounts, of \$800, \$600 & \$2,500 by reason of claims for injuries.

G. Whitaker, of Toronto, has been appointed Assistant Superintendent.

Metropolitan St. Ry.—A special committee of York County Council recently reported having come to an agreement with the Council of Aurora regarding the extension of the road from Richmond Hill to the latter place. The gauge is to be 4 ft. 8½ in., & the road to be built to the satisfaction of the County Engineer.

At a recent meeting of a committee of Toronto City Council City Engineer Rust explained that at present the gauges of the Toronto Ry. Co. & the Metropolitan were the same, about 4 ft. 11 ins., but that a change to 4 ft. 8½ ins. had been suggested on the northern line. He had heard that the explanation of this lay in the desire of the C.P.R. to carry its

freight cars down the line, so as to compete with the G.T.R. It would make it awkward if the Metropolitan made the change.

A. H. St. Germain is agitating for a cancellation of the 15 years' extension of franchise given the Metropolitan Co. over a year ago by York County Council, on the ground that the Co.'s undertakings have not been performed.

Nepigon Electric Ry. Co.—T. A. Gorham, Port Arthur, gives notice of application to Ontario Legislature to incorporate a company under this name, to build a line from Nepigon station, on the C.P.R., to the shores of Lake Nepigon, with branch lines not exceeding 12 miles in length.

Ottawa Electric Ry.—The illustration on page 61 shows a car which gladdened the hearts of thousands of children in Ottawa on Christmas eve. The idea of the Santa Claus car originated with W. Y. Soper, of Ahearn & Soper, who, under the nom de plume of Santa Claus, had letters in the local daily papers for several days before Christmas. These letters were dated from various points between the North Pole & Ottawa, & announced that on the afternoon & evening of the day before Christmas Santa Claus, attended by a suite of brownies, would go through the streets of the city upon the top of an electric car, & would distribute oranges to the children as he passed. The last letter gave a time table of the hours at which the car would reach various points on its route. The jolly saint, blowing a tally-ho horn, & surrounded by brownies, passed through the streets on the afternoon & evening of Dec. 24, & very large crowds turned out to see him. The car was decorated on each side with appropriate Christmas mottoes, framed in evergreens & incandescent lights; on the front dashboard was the date, 1898, & on the rear 1899; the windows were filled up with toys & boxes in bright colored wrappings. During the trip about five thousand oranges were thrown out to the children. The car was in no sense an advertisement, but was solely for the purpose of giving an afternoon's amusement to the youngsters of Ottawa. It was a most liberal & commendable treat.

Parry Sound.—The local Board of Trade has recommended the construction of an electric railway between Parry Sound & Depot Harbor. The cost is estimated at \$25,000. (Dec., '98. pg. 272.)

The St. Catharines & Niagara Central Ry.—The notice of application to Dominion Parliament, detailed in our Dec. issue, pg. 273, has been withdrawn & another one substituted which states that application will be made for an act incorporating a company having power to acquire from the purchasers thereof the railway heretofore owned by the St. C. & N.C.R. Co. & to operate it, & with power to extend it to Hamilton & Toronto & to a point on the Niagara River, with a branch to a point on Lake Ontario, & with the usual powers conferred upon railway companies. This road, which was closed for traffic some months

ago, the Dominion Government Engineer having reported it unsafe, was sold under foreclosure proceedings to M. Neelon, of St. Catharines for \$35,000, subject to certain prior liens, amounting to about \$15,000, on land that was taken over by the road & never paid for. The purchaser paid \$3,500 down, but the period for the payment of the balance of the money has been extended by the Master-in-Ordinary several times to permit of the completion of negotiations for the transfer of the property to Haines Bros., of New York City, & others. The road now runs from Niagara Jct. on the M.C.R. to St. Catharines, 12 miles. Since the sale to Mr. Neelon it has been temporarily repaired, & is again being operated by steam. It is the intention of the new owners to electrify it, & it will probably be extended 3½ miles to Port Dalhousie, to connect with the boats. S. B. Colvin, of Glen Falls, N.Y., Treasurer of New York State, & J. A. Powers, banker, Albany, N.Y., are said to be interested with Haines Bros. in the scheme.

The St. Thomas St. Ry. Co. is advertising for a manager, "a man with business experience & knowledge of electricity preferred; must be a hustler."

Smith's Falls, Rideau & Southern Ry.—We are officially informed that \$75,000 of the capital stock of this Co. having been subscribed & 20% paid in, the permanent organization was proceeded with at a recent meeting of shareholders. The following are the officers: President, J. M. Clark; Vice-President, M. Ryan; other directors, J. R. Lovell, R. J. Brodie, A. Patterson; Sec.-Treas., R. A. Bennett. The affairs of the Co. were reported to be in a very satisfactory manner, & bright hopes are entertained for the future, the early commencement of the work of construction being looked for. The idea is to construct a street railway for the town of Smith's Falls, to handle passengers & also transport freight to & from the various mills & manufactories of the town & the C.P.R. The manufacturing industries of the town being in a very flourishing condition, will readily take advantage of the improved facilities for transporting their goods by electricity instead of horse power, & thus lessen the cost of production. So soon as the line has become established in the town, it is the intention to extend it in the direction of the Rideau Lakes, & thus open up a section of country at present without railway facilities, & also bring within easy reach the famous lakes of the Rideau, which for "lovely scenery & delightful sport fishing" cannot be excelled, & which only requires satisfactory means of access to make them a favorite resort during the summer months.

Toronto Suburban St. Ry.—Notice is given of application to Ontario Legislature for an Act confirming agreements between the Co. & the Village of Weston, the Township of York, the Town of Toronto Junction, & other municipalities.

Toronto Railway.—Gross earnings for Jan., \$95,690.12, compared with \$86,562.36 in Jan., 1898; increase \$9,127.76.

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MATCHES

Notice is hereby given that The British Yukon Mining, Trading & Transportation Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at the next session thereof, for an Act authorizing the said company to construct & operate a line of railway from a point at or near Fort Selkirk to a point at or near Dawson City; thence westerly to the one hundred & forty-first Meridian; also to construct & operate lines of railway from a point at or near Cariboo Crossing or from or near Tagish Houses to Teslin Lake or River & to Atlin, & with the consent of the Governor in Council, to construct & operate branch lines in the Yukon District not exceeding fifty miles in length: to change the name of the company to "The British Yukon Railway Company," & to divide the undertaking of the company into sections, & to borrow money separately upon each of said sections, or on any two or more of them combined; also to confirm the proceedings taken upon the organization of the company; & to further amend the Act incorporating the company.

CHRYSLER & BETHUNE.

OTTAWA, 19th November, 1898.