

## MONTREAL TRAMWAYS COMPANY

Declared Dividend on Common Stock—New Bond Issue  
—Tramways and Power is Holding Company

Monetary Times Office,

Montreal, April 3rd.

Something of a surprise was sprung on the street when the announcement of a dividend of 5 per cent. on the common stock of the Montreal Tramways Company was made.

Accompanying the announcement concerning the dividend, was one concerning the issue of \$1,000,000 of new stock at par, in the proportion of one share of new to each two shares of old stock, the rights to subscribe going to shareholders of record of April 15th and subscription lists to close on May 15th. The first payment on the new stock will be due on June 20th, later payments to be made on the call of the directors but not to exceed 10 per cent. per month.

Although nothing to the effect that a dividend might be declared on the Tramway Company's common stock had been heard, the possibilities of dividends had been discussed upon more than one occasion extending back for many months. Up to the present the Tramways Company has been very reticent in the matter of its earnings. The weekly reports which appeared in the days of the old management have ceased entirely and for a long time past the reports of earnings have not been of a nature to throw any very great light on the situation.

## Declaration May Just be Preliminary.

From time to time have appeared statements which, although not sufficient to provide the basis for accurate comparisons with the past, have yet indicated that the company was making a balance on its common stock of at least the amount of the dividend just declared, namely, 5 per cent., and in all probability would still have two or three per cent. left to be placed to the credit of surplus account. In this connection, it may be well to point out that the dividend just declared, while it was 5 per cent., is not necessarily at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, this being simply an interim dividend. It is considered, however, that this declaration is preliminary to placing the company on a dividend basis. As to what the rate of dividend may be, when the declaration is finally made, there is considerable speculation. Some place it at 10 per cent. and even more, however, it does not seem likely that it will be as high as 10 per cent., and 6 per cent. is thought all that any conservative shareholder could expect.

## Shareholders are not Numerous.

There are very few shareholders of Tramway. Practically the entire issue of common stock has been exchanged for the stock of the Tramways and Power Company, which is the holding company formed for the purpose of taking over the Tramways Company, the Canadian Light and Power and other smaller power concerns of the city. The total issue of Tramways common stock amounts to about \$2,000,700 while the total issue of Tram-Power stock is in the vicinity of \$15,753,700. It is believed that almost the entire issue of Tramways stock has been exchanged for Tram-Power stock, so that nearly the entire dividend payment would go to that concern. When divided over the entire stock of the Tram-Power, it will be seen that the percentage will have shrunk from 5 per cent. to between one-half and three-quarters of one per cent. It seems to be the general opinion that the Tram-Power Company is hardly likely to make a distribution of such a small percentage, and as this is the first revenue the concern has ever received out of the earnings of its subsidiaries and it is likely to be in need of funds—possibly for the new stock issue—it is thought no distribution will be made to shareholders at the present time.

Neither Tramways stock nor Tram-Power stock is very widely held among shareholders on the street. Almost all the Tramway stock, as already said, has been exchanged, and even the ownership of Tram-Power is thought to be mainly among the Robert-McConnell group.

## PAPER MANUFACTURERS MAY REMOVE

The placing of newsprint on the free list will result in the removal of all the International Paper Company's plants from United States to Canada, according to Mr. P. T. Dodge, president. The company already has an option on half an interest in a large Canadian water-power concern, as a preliminary step towards removal to the Dominion.

Not only will this apply to the International Company, says Mr. Dodge, but to all paper manufacturers at present located in the United States.

## WESTERN CANADA

Immigration from United States—Financial Conditions  
—Winnipeg Real Estate Exchange

Monetary Times Office,

Winnipeg, April 2nd.

If the expectations of Mr. J. Bruce Walker, Dominion immigration commissioner, are realized, nearly 200,000 United States people will make their homes in Western Canada this year.

Mr. Walker, as is his annual custom about this time, has given out his anticipation of the prospects for immigration from the south. He thinks the increase will be 20 or 25 per cent. over that of 1912. Last year there was practically 150,000 American immigrants.

With regard to immigration work from the United States I do not know, remarked Mr. Walker, that it differs very much from previous years, excepting that probably those who are going now take with them more money. They are more inclined to go into the districts where land can be purchased than to go back the distance that is now necessary in order to secure free homesteads.

## Improving Commercial Conditions.

Western business conditions are generally improving. Spring weather has come and there is great activity on the part of those, implement houses and others engaged in supplying the needs of the farmers.

Tight money is still in evidence and is curtailing expansions in some lines of business.

Building in the west will not equal last year's returns as loans are not easily available.

Optimistic business men state that this tight money situation will have disappeared in a month or two, they say this without considering conditions. It will be some time before the money market will be very greatly improved. Collections are undoubtedly poor and the loaning business is quiet.

There is a good demand for loans on farm as well as city property, but the local companies admit that they have not the necessary supply of money, when the European situation clears up more will be available for investment purposes. The opening of navigation and the resumption of industrial activity will also help matters. There is a satisfactory wholesale movement of general merchandise. Drygoods and millinery houses especially are busy. Much hardware is being shipped to country points, although builders' supplies are not as active as was anticipated.

## Winnipeg Real Estate Exchange Annual Meeting.

The Winnipeg Real Estate Exchange elected the following officers at its annual meeting:—President, Dr. T. H. Crotty; first vice-president, Mr. Fred. H. Stewart; second vice-president, Mr. George A. Metcalf; and secretary-treasurer, Mr. Philip Langley. Directors: Ex-mayor Waugh, Messrs. George H. Balls, J. A. Dart, C. D. Chepard, William Grassie, W. W. Hancock, T. J. Langford, A. H. Oakes, James Scott, C. E. Simonite, and L. A. Walch.

Mr. A. H. Oakes, the retiring president, spoke particularly about the forthcoming National Convention which is to be held in Winnipeg this year.

Mr. Oakes in reviewing some of the conditions, said the building permits for the past year were approximately \$200,000,000, which was an increase of \$3,000,000 over last year.

## MR. J. P. MORGAN'S LAST PUBLIC STATEMENT

Some of the epigrams in Mr. Morgan's testimony before the Pujo committee on December 19 last were as follows:—

"The control of credits is not the control of money."  
"What I call money is the basis of banking."

"England comes nearer than any country in the world to having outstanding obligations supported dollar for dollar in gold. This country's trouble is with greenbacks."

"Men who control credits control money. You cannot control money but you can control business."

"If one man had the credit and I had the money, the man would be badly off."

"Money cannot buy character, and commercial credit is based principally on character."

"If a man is not satisfactory to me, I call his loan."  
"I think stock manipulation is always bad."

"I favor the English system of full publicity and an absolutely correct prospectus of all concerns to be listed."

"Stock Exchange members would say regulation interfered with their business. There would be another Exchange."

"I never in my life sold short, but I don't see how you can get along without short selling."