

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF CANADA.

The electric railway systems throughout the Dominion, in common with other industrial enterprises, have received a large share of the general prosperity of the past year. To state the total of the net profits would be impossible at this early date; the net profits of seven of the more prominent railways, however, amount to \$10,500,000.

Several of the western cities have placed electric lines in operation during the year 1911, and these, though giving in nearly every instance satisfactory returns, are not as yet on a profit-making basis. Electric railway construction has not been entirely confined to the west, however, as the central and eastern municipalities have constructed considerable extension work. Along this construction work will be found the extension of the Halifax Tramway Lines into Point Pleasant Park; during this present year it is proposed to increase the efficiency of the service by double tracking the belt line, which will necessitate the laying of about three and one-quarter miles of track, additional cars, increased car housing facilities and the installation of an additional unit in the power plant; the whole involving an expenditure of approximately \$200,000.00.

The Montreal Street Railway Company do not report any line extension of magnitude; on the question of expansion along other lines, however, this company has been exceedingly active. During the past year this company secured an amendment of its charter, authorizing the sale, lease or transfer to any person or company of all its undertakings. Following this a meeting of the shareholders was held for the purpose of considering the sale of the belongings of the company to the Montreal Tramways Company; the majority of the stockholders being in favor, the sale was concluded. By thus disposing of the property of the Montreal Street Railway to the Montreal Tramways Company, all the subsidiary companies previously partially controlled by the Montreal Street Railway, together with the latter mentioned company, are all under one control. It is thus hoped that this amalgamation will materially assist to speedily complete negotiations, now under way, for a new franchise.

In Toronto there has been considerable activity with rail laying, but most of this has been confined to the civic car lines. The Toronto Railway Company completed improved car housing facilities and increased the rolling stock by the addition of one hundred double truck cars. Track and overhead construction on various streets, which was completed last year, has given improved traffic handling facilities by allowing the company to change the route of several lines.

As a result of the Dominion census of 1911 the municipality of London, Ont., is entitled to 1.73 miles of additional track. Various routes and localities have been considered for this but no definite agreement has been concluded with the city as yet.

Among the seven companies mentioned above probably none have been so active as the Winnipeg Street Railway Company. 10.84 miles of track with concrete foundation have been laid, thirty large double truck cars have been purchased, 1,134 new poles were erected, and 216,424 pounds of wire with 189 transformers were put up. A new auxiliary steam plant of 12,000 horse-power was constructed during the past year. The company now has auxiliary power to the extent of 20,000 horse-power available in event of a serious break-down at the hydraulic plant.

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Table Showing Comparison Between Different Companies for Year 1911.

City.	Total earnings.	Operating expenses.	Percentage of operating expense to income.	Population of city.	Passengers carried.	Car mileage.	Gross earnings per car mile.	Operating expense per car mile.	Number of miles of track.
Halifax	\$ 502,399	\$ 256,874	51.97 %	46,081	5,212,257	918,121	54.6¢	28.08¢	14.62
Montreal	4,775,300	2,679,805	56.12 %	466,197	118,268,000	16,117,298	29.5¢	16.95¢	154.36
Toronto	4,851,541	2,653,361	55.2 %	376,240	120,097,841	16,354,871	29.5¢	16.28¢	110.88
London	154,703	93,248	60.2 %	46,177	3,887,598	1,227,285	12.61¢	7.59¢	29.51
Berlin & Waterloo	38,099	15,222	39.9 %	15,192 4,360	734,823	92,134	42.4¢	16.91¢	4.39
Port Arthur & Fort William	172,976	117,496	67.8 %	11,216 16,498	3,557,570	614,015	26.4¢	17.89¢	22.33
Winnipeg	3,829,749	1,900,967	49.64 %	135,430	4,281,245	5,453,432	70.2¢	34.84¢	69.50