

Quebec Railway Light, Heat and Power Co.—Preliminary figures of the annual financial statement of the company for the twelve months' period ended June 30th last, to be submitted at the forthcoming annual meeting of the shareholders, shows that gross earnings from operations amounted to \$2,372,034, compared with \$2,077,621, an increase of \$294,413 over those of the previous year, representing a gain of slightly over 14 per cent. The 1919-20 figures are also \$574,182 in excess of those reported two years ago, an increase of over 32 per cent. Costs of operation and maintenance, however, in common with the experience of other public utilities, were higher by \$325,047 than in the previous year, the aggregate to the end of last June being \$1,769,563, against \$1,444,516 in the previous statement.

Net earnings from operation for the twelve months under review amounted to \$602,471, compared with \$633,105, being a decrease of \$30,634, insufficient by \$44,703 to meet the requirements of fixed charges, taxes and depreciation on equipment placed out of service during the year. This deficit of \$44,703 compares with one of \$65,273 in the preceding statement. After charging this and an amount of \$55,055 in connection with the recent adverse Privy Council judgment against surplus account, there remained a credit balance in the latter of \$582,704, compared with \$582,463 as at June 30th, 1919.

RECENT FIRES

Gladstone Avenue Rink, Producers Dairy, Ltd., and Other Ottawa Properties Suffer Loss of \$150,000—Dominion Shingle Co., New Westminster, Loss \$70,000

Belleville, Ont.—September 1—Residence, barn, wagon-house and drive-house belonging to Wm. J. Tufts, of Zion's Hill, Thurlow township, was destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$12,000, partly covered by insurance.

Brantford, Ont.—September 4—Brown Garage on Colborne Street was damaged by fire. The loss is estimated at \$3,500.

Capilano, B.C.—September 4—Two million feet of saw-logs, belonging to Capilano Lumber Co., were destroyed. The damage is \$50,000.

Chapman, Ont.—August 30—Residence of Mrs. Florence Lusk, Hungerford township, was destroyed by fire. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

Chatham, Ont.—September 2—Buildings on the farm of John Hinks, 3rd concession, was damaged by fire. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

Courtland, Ont.—August 27—Sawmill, owned by John House, together with a considerable quantity of lumber, was destroyed. There was no insurance on the mill or the lumber.

Gatineau Point, Que.—September 5—Business section of the village damaged by fire. The loss is estimated at \$30,000. The fire is believed to have been caused by incendiarism.

Grafton, Ont.—August 31—Barn, belonging to Arthur Birmingham, destroyed by fire. The fire was caused by lightning.

Guelph, Ont.—September 1—Bookstore of C. J. Nelles, Upper Winham Street, was destroyed. The loss is \$10,000.

Ingersoll, Ont.—September 4—Barn on the farm of Alfred Downing, 3rd concession of Dereham, was destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$1,000.

Ioco, B.C.—August 29—Large oil tank damaged. The fire was caused from an explosion. Loss is estimated at \$50,000.

Kingston, Ont.—September 2—R.C.H.A. stables damaged. Large quantity of hay, straw and oats destroyed in the fire. The loss is not yet known.

Knowlton, Que.—September 2—Guthrie Block on Main Street damaged by fire. The fire was started by an oil lamp exploding.

Moncton, N.B.—August 29—Barn, owned by J. Fred Steeves, Cable Street, was destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$1,500 and is covered by insurance.

Moss Glen, N.B.—August 31—Barn, belonging to Ellsworth Puffington, was destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$4,000. Fire was caused by lightning.

Napanee, Ont.—September 3—Lennox Garage damaged by fire. The loss is not yet known.

New Westminster, B.C.—September 2—Plant of the Dominion Shingle Co. was damaged by fire. The loss is estimated at \$70,000.

Ottawa, Ont.—September 5—Gladstone Avenue rink and the Producers Dairy, Ltd., were destroyed and twenty-two residences damaged by fire. The loss will amount to \$150,000.

Ste. Rose du Lac, Man.—August 31—Sixteen farmers have lost their homes, barns, implements and crops in bush fires in this district.

St. Thomas, Ont.—September 2—Barns, belonging to Alex. Duncanson, were destroyed by fire. The fire is believed to have been caused by spontaneous combustion. The loss is estimated at \$8,000, with \$4,500 insurance.

Toronto, Ont.—September 3—Third floor of Levitt Brothers' fur shop, 245 Yonge Street, was damaged. The loss is \$4,500. Fire is believed to have been caused by incendiarism.

Vancouver, B.C.—September 2—Tunstall Block, in Granville Street, was damaged to the extent of \$10,000. Fairfield Block, on Granville Street, was damaged by fire. The loss is estimated at \$30,000.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES

Marmora, Ont.—August 20—Planing mill, lumber sheds and office of Pearce Co., Ltd., damaged by fire. The total damage was \$27,000, with insurance of \$7,000 in Dominion Fire and London Mutual.

Moncton, N.B.—August 24—Brunswick Hotel was damaged by fire. The fire was caused from spontaneous combustion in laundry chute. The total damage to contents and building was \$120,000. The insurance on the stock was \$40,000, with \$153,000 on the building in the following companies: Insurance Co. of Canada, Provincial-Washington, British Crown, the Acadia, the Eagle, Star and British, Hartford, London and Lancashire, Yorkshire, Ltd., Canadian Assurance, La Union Fire, Nationale Fire, American Equitable, North River and Richmond.

Moncton, N.B.—August 24—The insurance on the Brunswick Hotel was \$145,000 and on contents \$40,000 in the following companies:—

	Building.	Contents.
Providence-Washington	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000
North America	37,500	5,000
Richmond	5,000	5,000
North River	5,000	5,000
British Empire Underwriters	5,000	5,000
British Crown	5,000	5,000
Eagle, Star and British Dominion	7,500	5,000
Acadia	23,000	7,000
Yorkshire	5,000	5,000
Union	2,000	3,000
Canada Accident	5,000	5,000
London and Lancashire	5,000	5,000
Hartford	5,000	5,000
Montreal Underwriters	5,000	5,000
Fire Insurance Company of Canada	10,000	5,000
American Equitable	10,000	5,000
National of Paris	10,000	5,000
	<u>\$145,000</u>	<u>\$40,000</u>

Vancouver, B.C.—The fire chief's report for August, 1920, shows that during the month there were 166 alarms. Fires where damage occurred, 30; fires (no loss resulting), 21; bush fires, 75; chimney fires, 3; false alarms, 4; rubbish fires, 2. The total loss sustained by fire was \$29,623, of which \$18,603 was covered by insurance. The following shows the causes of fires: Backfire (carburettors) 1, carelessness with cigarettes, matches 19, coal oil stove 1, defective chimneys 2, rubbish fires 3, sparks flying 16, spontaneous combustion 1.