

MONTREAL SECTION

Office B32 BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING Phone M. 2797.
Also the Montreal Office of The Market Record and The
Daily Grain Letter, both published in Winnipeg.

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STEEL-COAL SUIT.

Steel Company Issues Report and Coal Company Meet —Atlantic Steamship Rates—Banking and Financial Notes.

Monetary Times' Office,
Montreal, Sept. 26th.

The supplementary financial report of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. directors was doubtless issued this week as the result of Judge Longley's decision.

The report says, in part:—

"The claim for damages against the Coal Company amounted on August 31st, 1907, to the following (subject to proof):—

Paid for extra cost of coal purchased from Dominion Coal Co.	\$829,247 64
Extra cost of coal purchased from others....	356,142 71
Damages due to short delivery in August, September, and October, 1906	132,252 75
Damages to cessation of deliveries in November, 1906, estimated	479,000 00
Total as on August 31st, 1907, exclusive of interest	\$1,796,640 35

Reckoning coal at the contract price, the following report of earnings for the period from June 1st to September 21st, was given:—

Gross earnings	\$705,347 93
Proportion of interest charges and sinking fund for first mortgage bonds	189,514 58
Net earnings	\$515,833 35
Proportion of instalment on second mortgage bonds	62,500 00
Available surplus	\$453,333 35

Coal charged at \$1.28 per ton.

In the above statement, the coal used is charged at \$1.28 per ton, the extra cost, amounting for the three months at \$333,412.58, is charged to the Dominion Coal Co.

It was confidently expected that a statement such as this would have the effect of advancing the price of Dominion Iron and Steel securities on the Montreal stock exchange. Such was not the effect. Common stock continued to sell at a fraction under 22 and down to 21, preferred advancing two points only, at 56½, and bonds holding steady around 74.

The annual meeting of the company, the postponement of which, by President Plummer, in order to prevent the capture of the company by the Coal Company, caused some sensation, will be held at the Windsor, on October 9th.

Early this week, a meeting of the directors of the Dominion Coal Company was held, Mr. James Ross having returned from the East. This was the first meeting since Judge Longley's decision was given, and the situation was fully discussed. It looks as though there would be no settlement save by the courts. The Coal Company apparently are fully determined to try to reverse the decision.

It is said that Mr. F. H. McGuigan is about to rejoin the G.T.R., though it does not yet appear in what capacity. Meantime, the transfer of Mr. J. W. Loud, from the position of freight traffic manager of the G.T.R., to that of freight traffic manager of the G.T.P. is announced. This appointment, it is believed, will assure the most absolute harmony in the handling of freight between the two lines.

Harbor Commissioners Win Suit.

The Court of Appeal has reversed the decision of the Superior Court in the case of the Montreal Grain Elevating Company, vs. the Harbor Commissioners of Montreal. This was an action for \$26,000 against the Commissioners, being the value of the elevator "St. Lawrence" (plus damages) which was so lost in the Harbor by striking on a portion of the Commissioners' wharf. The Elevating Company gained a decision against the Commissioners, for \$13,500, which decision, upon appeal, has been set aside, thus disposing of a somewhat noted case.

Montreal will this year lose about \$47,000 on account of non-collection of water rates. The loss is largely due to the fact that the rates are so very high, default being made principally by tenants in small houses. Water rates in Mont-

real are based on the rentals of houses. Fully one-third of the electorate was disfranchised at the last elections because of inability to pay their rates by a given date.

A dividend of 3½ per cent. has been declared on the New Brunswick Railway, largely owned in Montreal, against a dividend of 4 per cent. the previous year. Including \$5,920 brought down, the net profits on stumpage are \$112,215. The amount carried forward is \$7,215.

Allis-Chalmers Bonds.

The Montreal Water & Power Company has made application to the London Stock Exchange Committee to allow a further issue of £67,000 first mortgage 4 per cent. bonds, registered.

It may be remembered that several months ago, public comment was made concerning the marketing of the bonds of the Allis-Chalmers Company. It has lately been stated that the syndicate, which under-wrote approximately \$10,500,000 of the \$12,000,000 issue, is being dissolved, and although it was successful in disposing of quite a quantity of the bonds the transaction was not particularly profitable.

Mr. Thornton Davidson, of the firm of Hickson & Davidson, members of the Montreal Stock Exchange, has just returned from an extended vacation during which he visited Prince Rupert and various points in the West.

In connection with the establishing of Prince Rupert as a large Pacific port, it is said that both the Allan and Dominion Steamship lines are anxious to establish a business made in the trans-Atlantic passenger rates by the American Companies. Passengers bound eastward may now book their passage at a reduction of about \$10 in first-class accommodation, and at reductions of about \$5 to \$2.50 in second-class. Rates westward, from the other side of the Atlantic, are likely to be reduced shortly.

Atlantic Steamship Rates Cut.

At a meeting of representatives of the C.P.R. Atlantic Line, the Allan and the Dominion Steamship Lines, held at the Windsor last Saturday, it was decided to meet the cuts being made in the trans-Atlantic passenger rates by the American Companies. Passengers bound eastward may now book their passage at a reduction of about \$10 in first-class accommodation, and at reductions of about \$5 to \$2.50 in second-class. Rates westward, from the other side of the Atlantic, are likely to be reduced shortly.

Mr. Geo. Caverhill, of Caverhill, Learmont & Co., and president of the Board of Trade, is leaving on the Allan's "Virginian" on a six weeks' visit to England and France.

The Grand Trunk Railway earnings from September 15th to 21st were \$954,311, an increase of \$48,251 as compared with those for the corresponding week of last year.

The C.P.R. earnings for the week ending September 21st, were \$1,426,000, an increase of \$57,000 as compared with a year ago.

The Montreal Street Railway earnings for the week ending 21st inst., were \$74,353.50, an increase of \$8,695.28, as compared with one a year ago.

Mr. D. R. McCuaig, of C. J. McCuaig & Co., has just returned from a trip over the lines of the Illinois Traction Company and Western Railway & Light Company's road, which he made with Mr. C. H. Lewis. Mr. McCuaig has reassuring things to say of the road to the many Canadian stockholders.

Banking and Financial Notes.

Much to the disappointment of those who purchased Lake of the Woods common stock, largely upon a report that a bonus would be declared in addition to the regular dividend, the customary dividend of 3 per cent. for the half year, on the common stock has been declared, the bonus, apparently, having not even been seriously considered.

The special committee of the city council, appointed to consider the application of the Southern Counties Railway Co., to construct a line for electric cars on the streets, in order to connect across Victoria Bridge, with the south shore, has decided to report in favor of the application. The company has the right, from Ottawa, to proceed from Victoria Bridge to Black's Bridge.

The first dividend on the common stock of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company has been declared. The dividend amounts to 1 per cent. for the quarter, equal to 4 per cent. per annum. Very few knew in advance even that the directors were considering a dividend and the announcement was a pleasant surprise to the shareholders. The stock advanced from about 46 to 53 and 60 was being asked for it to-day. It is largely held in England and Montreal.

The total amount of assessed property for the newly incorporated town of Vonda, Sask., is \$208,234. The rate is 6 mills.