

INVESTMENTS AND THE MARKET

News and Notes of Active Companies—Their Financing, Operations, Developments, Extensions, Dividends and Future Plans

Kerr Lake Mining Company.—Notices have been sent to stockholders asking assent to dissolution of that company and formation of a new one under the laws of Canada with the same capitalization of 600,000 shares of \$5 par. Stockholders of the old company will receive share for share in the new Canadian corporation.

Bank of Montreal.—The directors have declared the regular quarterly dividend of 2½ per cent., together with a bonus of 1 per cent., payable December 1 to shareholders of record October 31. This is the regular bonus declared at the end of the year. A bonus of 1 per cent. is also declared in the quarter ending June 30, making a total of 12 per cent. for the year.

Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company.—Ore receipts at the Trail Smelter from October 8 to October 14, 1917, show 6,959 tons from the company's mines, and from other mines 3,085 tons. As compared with the preceding week the above total shows a falling off of 1,133 tons. The total output from October 1, 1917, to date from the company's mines is 15,050 tons, and from other mines 7,588 tons.

Quebec Railway Light, Heat and Power Company.—The financial statement of the company showed gross earnings of \$1,832,031 for the year ending June 30th last, as compared with \$1,731,732 a year ago, which is an increase of \$100,299. Operating expenses, however, were \$1,155,969, an increase of \$126,218.

The profit and loss account compares as follows:—

	1917.	1916.
Gross earnings	\$1,832,031	\$1,731,732
Miscellaneous income	230,850	236,868
	\$2,062,882	\$1,968,601
Operating expenses	\$1,155,969	\$1,029,750
Fixed charges, tax	706,326	723,447
Surplus for year	200,587	215,403

Total surplus \$ 684,572 \$ 562,902

The balance sheet shows little change from last year. Accounts receivable are about \$140,000 higher, while accounts payable are almost \$200,000 greater. Cash on hand drops \$40,000, while stores were \$15,000 higher.

The balance sheet compares with 1916 as follows:—

Assets.		
	1917.	1916.
Stocks, etc.	\$19,193,017	\$19,181,389
Treasury bonds	1,611,600	1,742,700
Advanced to contingent companies	1,581,665	1,165,251
General construction	528,820	528,413
Cash	127,072	167,456
Accounts receivable	437,259	297,637
Stores	170,866	155,319
Prepaid expenses	21,054	12,089
	\$23,671,346	\$23,250,257

Liabilities.		
	1917.	1916.
Capital stock	\$ 9,999,500	\$ 9,999,500
Bonds	3,803,000	3,803,000
Bills payable	221,486	175,492
Accounts payable	601,090	412,222
Sundry loans	469,947	495,293
Accrued interest	120,083	129,638
Deferred and uncharged interest	665,297	548,818
Accrued charges	52,125	47,373
General reserve	60,244	82,016
Surplus	684,572	562,902
	\$23,671,346	\$23,250,257

J. T. Donohue, of Quebec, was elected a director to fill an existing vacancy.

Nova Scotia Steel Company.—The third payment on the company's \$5,000,000 common stock issue at par fell due Tuesday, October 16th and the fourth and final payment will be due November 15. The directors stated at the time of the announcement of the issue in June that with the new stock fully paid they would proceed to declare a stock dividend of 20 per cent. to holders of record November 20. At 78¼ for the shares of the original \$7,500,000 stock, the price equivalent of the entire issue of \$15,000,000, when the stock dividend is declared, would be about 65¼.

Ontario National Brick Company.—That proceedings are pending for the winding up of the company, is evidenced by the publication of a notice calling a meeting of the bondholders November 29, to consider what action they should take under the circumstances. The amount of bonds outstanding is \$1,250,000, dated December 1, 1912, and due in 1952. There was also issued \$2,000,000 of common stock. A number of interests in the National Brick Company, of La Prairie, were the promoters of the company, the brick industry at that time being in a prosperous condition. The brick business declined afterwards. No bond interest has been paid since December, 1914.

Russell Motor Car Company.—Net profits of the company for the year ended July 31, 1917, amounted to \$643,590, after making full allowance for war profits tax, writing machinery, etc., off from \$903,093 to \$346,009, increasing plant and investment reserve from \$514,616 to \$881,388 and otherwise providing for contingencies. The profit and loss account, compared with last year, follows:—

	1916.	1917.
Balance forward	*\$703,363	*\$204,009
Trading profits	499,354	643,590
Balance forward	*204,009	47,580

*Loss.

The year was started with an adverse balance of \$204,009, and with a bank advance of \$646,077, and finished with a favorable balance of \$439,580 and a bank advance of only \$126,486. Accounts receivable amount to the substantial sum of \$1,705,081, while accounts payable, including provision for war tax, are \$1,502,606. Allowing for the dividends, which are shown as a liability incurred, the company has a balance of \$47,580 to carry forward into its next year. All these figures are set forth in the following schedule which illustrates the progress made in the last two or three years:—

Assets.		
	1916.	1917.
Cash on hand	\$ 4,118	\$ 19,383
Accounts receivable	409,335	1,705,081
Investments in other companies	1,366,915	1,322,351
Stock on hand	846,287	1,426,449
Realty	34,993	310,177
Machinery, etc.	903,093	346,009
Less depreciation	163,454	163,315
	\$3,401,290	\$4,966,137

Liabilities.		
	1916.	1917.
Bank advances	\$ 646,077	\$ 126,486
Accounts payable	428,529	1,502,606
Dividends declared	392,000
Contingent account	16,075	16,075
Plant reserve	514,616	881,388
Capital	2,000,000	2,000,000
	\$3,605,299	\$4,918,556

The report of the directors states that the demand for bicycles and skates was active, but business was limited by the inability of the factory to deliver goods. The munitions business was by far the largest department of the company's