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MONEY AND MAGNATES

Incidents In Financial Life.

By one of those curious coincidences which somehow happen from time to time, at the annual meeting of the Montreal Street Railway Company the other day, when the old Board of Directors was gently ousted by the new crowd which had secured control, it just so happened that Sir Montagu Allan, one of the members of the old Board, took his place directly opposite Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon, one of the members of the new Board of Directors, who has played quite an active although quiet part in the negotiations which resulted in a new crowd grabbing hold of the control of the street railway.

The humour of the situation must have appealled very strongly to both

have appealed very strongly to both men, as it was not the first occasion on which they met, when Mr. McGibbon and his friends had succeeded in taking away from Sir Montagu Allan and his crowd the control of a big corporation.

The previous occasion on which

The previous occasion on which they met under such conditions, was when Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon and a few of his friends succeeded in getting control of the Canadian Rubber Co., in which the Allan family had been inter-ested for upwards of half a century, and of which Sir Montagu was one of the principal interests for quite a few years previous to the change in the control.

Sir Montagu Allan.

Under the circumstances one would have been a little piqued at coming to a second meeting when a stock market coup had resulted in the control being taken from the crowd with which he was identified, but to all appearances he was one of the happiest men in the room, and took a great deal of fun out of the whole proceedings. To him the whole thing just seemed to be one of those little instances that all happen in a lifetime, and he was not going to allow himself to be worried about it in the least. it in the least.

Since the time of the transferring of the control of the Canadian Rubber Co., tremendous have been the strides that have been made by Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon and his crowd, and the success that has attended their efforts in gradually accumulating the controlling interest in the Montreal Street Railgradually accumulating the controlling interest in the Montreal Street Railway Co., shows that there is not any deal, no matter what its size, that cannot be successfully swung by them. Of course, owing to the previous encounter with Sir Montagu, it was only natural that Mr. McGibbon should take a certain amount of added pleasure in winning out in the street railway fight, and the expression on his face, as he glanced occasionally across at Sir Montagu showed clearly that he was enjoying it all immensely. One of the nice things about the recent fight for control of Montreal Street Railway is that notwithstanding the magnitude of the transaction, and the keenness of the rivalry that existed until it was seen that the new crowd had won out, was that very few hard blows were dealt, and very little ill-feeling occasioned. As an indication of this it may be practically as a certainty that it will not be long before Mr. W. G. Ross, the former vice-president and managing director of the company, is appointed to the new Board of Directors and will be prevailed upon to accept the office which he formerly held. It is also likely that Mr. Kenneth B. Blackwell, the former vice-president of the company, and president of the Montreal Steel Company, will also return to the Board.

The Steel Industry and the Tariff.

ONE of the questions that is interesting the average Canadian at the present time is whether it is not just about time that the Dominion Government should call a halt on such generous protection as it is affording various forms of iron and steel. Some months ago it



Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon

rather looked as though when the various bounties ran out at the end of the present year, that the Government would not concede an equivalent to them in any other form, but during the past few weeks there have been indications that the big interests have been actively at work up at Ottawa, and that as a result the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. will, even at the end of the present year, secure fairly liberal protection on such lines of manufacture as will be affected by the bounties running out. Of course, it may be that now that a good sound management and administration is in charge at Sydney, that it may not be long before the big Dominion Iron and Steel concern will be able to stand on its own feet, but it does seem unfortunate that the public should be placed in a position where it should have to go ahead and still pay up money amount-

ing into the millions each year, to a concern that has been subject to such

poor administration, and operated oftentimes from a stock market standpoint, as has the big Canadian industry down by the sea.

Hardly anybody will deny that Mr. J. H. Plummer, the president of the
company, who has laboured so assiduously for a number of years past, in
carrying the company back from the brink of liquidation to its present condition where a fair amount of prosperity is being enjoyed, deserves such
assistance as will enable him to finally place the big concern in a safe posi-

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the following very significant statement was made by the President of the Company, Mr. E. P. Clement, K.C.:—

"We adhere to the opinion so often expressed at our meetings that the Security of the principal should be the paramount consideration. As a result of this policy we are able to report that after forty years of anexation we have not lost a simple of operation we have not lost a single dollar of our invested funds."

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