

Montreal Street Railway Company.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS

For the Year ended 30th SEPTEMBER, 1899.

*Submitted at the 39th Annual Meeting of Shareholders, held on Thursday,
November 2nd, 1899.*

Your Directors beg to submit the statement of the past year's business, showing a Net Profit of \$630,870.61, as compared with \$601,704.18 for the previous year. Out of this amount there have been declared four quarterly dividends of 2½% each, amounting in all to \$478,333.33, leaving a surplus of \$152,537.28, of which amount (following the policy established last year) the sum of \$50,000 has been added to the contingent account, and there has been charged against that fund an amount of \$8,575.00 expended during the year for fenders of a new type and for other special renewals.

The road-bed, rolling-stock and other property of the Company have been maintained in a high state of efficiency, and the cost thereof, as in previous years, has been charged to the Operating Expenses.

While it will be noticed from this statement that the Company's business continues to increase satisfactorily, the percentage of operating expenses shows an increase of 3.08% as compared with last year. This increase is due to the fact that a larger amount has been expended in the maintenance of road-bed and rolling-stock, to increased wages, increased car-mileage, and a general advance in the cost of all materials and supplies.

The buildings and rolling-stock destroyed by fire at Hochelaga on the 16th September, 1898, have been replaced by others of the latest and most modern type. New car-shops, machine-shops, blacksmith-shops and motor-shops have been erected at Hochelaga, those at Côté Street having proved too small to cope with the increased business of the Company.

Large additions to the rolling-stock necessitated corresponding additions to the car storage capacity. To meet this, new running-sheds and car-storage sheds have been erected, and are in course of erection, at Hochelaga and on St. Denis Street, north of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The Company's rolling-stock has been increased during the past year by the addition of 64 closed motor cars, 100 open motor cars, one pay car and twelve electric sweepers, and there are under construction 36 closed motor cars of increased seating capacity, all of which will be available for service this winter.

It was decided, after careful consideration and consultation with the City Authorities, to change the type of fender in use for the "Sleeman" fender, which it is believed will afford greater protection against accidents.

The result of the cast-welded rail joints introduced last year has been satisfactory, and our experience justifies the expense of gradually applying the system to the whole line.

During the past year the Company has paid to the City of Montreal the following amounts, viz.: Taxes on earnings, \$70,811.42; on account of snow clearing, \$60,456.00; real estate and business taxes, \$8,832.13; making a total of \$140,099.55. This information has been asked for by certain Shareholders, and should be noted by all, as the City Departments are advancing the claim that the Company must contribute a greater proportion of the expense of snow removal, as well as largely increased taxation, both of which claims your Directors are contesting, believing such demands to be unjust and uncalled for by the Company's contract with the City.

Respectfully submitted,

L. J. FORGET,

President.

MONTREAL, 28th October, 1899.