"In order not to let on how anxious "In order not to let on how anxious we air, we leave a couple of days go by before presentin' ourselves at the Merry Widder shack. It was desarted, same as before, but there was a couple of hunks of silver lyin' round that made me resigned to payin' an extry thousand if the necessity arose. Skinny sizes 'em up, too, takes stock of the growin' dump pile, an' I seen figgers workin' in his coco.

"After several unsuccessful efforts we finally gets the attention of the Boob; him and Pardner, with our help, runs up in the bucket, an' emerges from the interior of the earth more human an' dirty than we ever seen 'em. We repairs to the shack, where, after some preliminaries, Bill, he up an' states our errand.

pairs to the shack, where, after some preliminaries, Bill, he up an' states our errand.

"'Sell the Merry Widder? No, my dear fellars,' they says, 'we don't want to disapp'int you, but we're havin' no end of fun in our own quiet way. You can git a bargain,' they allows, jes' as innocent, 'same's we done, an' if you like we'll help you git started!

"Skinny all but th'ows a fit; the idee of the Boob pickin' out a mine fer us—a bargain, mind ye—an' helpin' us git started, mighty near put the expedition on the kibosh.

"Seems as if the two babes in Silverland, as ye might say, is plum tickled that we think they've did well, an' the Boob he trots out a heap of flossy circulars from Real Estate grafters, p'intin' out which lots him an' pard is goin' to buy, when they begins to sell their silver.

"We three groans in chorus.

"Look a-here, Boob,' says Skinny, 'we might be willin' to give ye an extry thousand er two, if we find, after lookin' over the Widder, her insides is indicative of promise. How would eight thousand do?"

"'Yep,' agrees Bill. 'Suppose you take us down, will ye?"

"But the dern ginks was tight even on the show down; they allows it ain't no use takin' up our time goin' down in the mine, they knows they got a good thing an' they ain't goin' to sell fer no figger.

"By golly, we coulan't sleep that

the mine, they knows they got a good thing an' they ain't goin' to sell fer no figger.

"By golly, we coulon't sleep that night! Along about daylight, we gets up—three minds with a single think, as ye might say—an' takes stock of our earthly possessions. We finds that we've got about five thousand in cash and can borry another mebbe in the course of a couple of days. But we had our work cut out in doin' it—funds wasn't flowin' like the milk an' honey ye read about in Scripter, believe me!

"By the followin' Sunday, however, we was armed with the lucre an' on our way to the Merry Widder. The dump stood up like a pyramid glitterin' an' sparklin' with all the effects of a Christmas tree. We knowed without lookin' we'd find the Boob in the mine, so not stoppin' at the shack we makes fer the mouth an' bellers down. The sound of pickin' an' hammerin' set us crazy—I never did itch so bad to get my hands on a drill in all my prospectin' career. We was jes' decided to let Skinny down by a rope that was lyin' loose, when there come a lull in the operations, and we made ourselves heard. The Boob he comes to the bottom of the shaft, an' hollers quite annoyed:

"You boys, here again? Well, I'm right sorry, but there ain't no time to entertain ye—go in the cabin, if you like and set down, but I stays here.

"Yes, sir!" Lew smiled, reminiscently. "He was plum mad at bein' disturbed, an' it took us the best part of an hour to git him an' pard to come up. They didn't want to talk business, didn't want to sell the mine an' wisht, in short, that we'd go way an' mind our'n.

"I don't want to be introosive, gentlemen,' savs Bill, imposin' that this

our'n.

"'I don't want to be introosive, gentlemen,' says Bill, imposin' 'but this here matter ree-solves itself inter two parts; on one side ye want enough money to travel a bit, an' see the less congested districks'—the Boob grinned a little—'an' on the other side, me an' my pals want to stay here an' work. Now, sir, we'll give ye money to travel an' ye'll give us the Merry Widder; the exchange can be effected by the transfer of six thousand plunks from our hands to yourn, an' in three months we'll pay three thousand more, an' in six months we'll add another three to what ye've already got!'

"Well, sir, Pard, he's fer holdin' on, but the Boob he says he ain't fergot how

The Toronto Railway Company

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1912

To the Shareholders:

YOUR Directors with pleasure submit herewith their Twenty-first Annual Report, together with balance sheet and profit and loss account of the Company for the year ending 31st December, 1912.

A supmary of the year's operations will be found

A summary of the year's operations will be found attached hereto, from which will be recognized the continued increase in the Company's business.

From which net earnings there was deducted the sum of \$2,012,-637.57, distributed as follows:

Dividends\$879,595.85
Bond interest, etc.........190,992.76

- \$1,070,588.61

Payments to City: Percentage on earnings ...\$798,958.66

942,048.96

\$2.012,637.57

The increase in gross passenger earnings is most gratifying, showing as it does the amount of \$567,035.00, when compared with the previous year; the earnings being \$5,367,502.48, while those for 1911 amounted to \$4,800,467.48. Notwithstanding the large increase in gross earnings referred to, said surplus was reduced largely by the operation of additional cars placed in service, a higher rate of wages paid to our conductors, motormen, and of additional cars placed in service, a higher rate of wages paid to our conductors, motormen, and other employees, also the cost of material of all classes having advanced in price. The charges for the year amounted to \$2,866,550.12. When compared with the previous year, which amounted to \$2,653,361.86, show an increase of \$213,188.26. The percentage of operating cost being 53.4% of our passenger earnings.

The payments made to the City of Toronto amounted to the sum of \$942,048.96, which amount, when compared with the payments of the previous year, shows an increase of \$119,815.72, or 14.6 per cent.

In addition to entirely renewing the battery plant at Frederick and Front Sts., there was expended during the year on Capital Account, the sum of \$591,484.70 in building additional rolling stock and procuring electrical equipment for same, the con-struction of new tracks and erection of overhead work in various sections of the city, additions to buildings, and other improvements.

On the 25th day of March last a fire occurred at the King Street East Division, completely destroying the car storage house in rear of the main building, together with about 150 cars, practically all of which cars were of the open, or summer type. The property was insured.

The Company's agreement with its employees having expired on the 15th June, 1912, your Directors are pleased to report that after a number of confe: cinces, all differences were amicably adjusted

conferences, all differences were amicably adjusted and an increase in wages was granted, and a new agreement entered into for three years.

The second drawing of the Company's currency and sterling bond issues, under the terms of the mortgage deed dated 1st September, 1892, took place on the 27th day of June, 1912, the Company being obliged under the mortgage deed to redeem by drawing annually five per cent. of the amount of bonds issued, same to be redeemed on the 31st day of August following the date of drawing, and from which date no interest is payable. The full number of bonds drawn in June, 1911, amounting to \$168,693.33, have been presented and paid, and of the bonds drawn during 1912 \$159,500.00 have been presented and redeemed. The total amount of bonds so drawn for redemption aggregate \$339,386.66.

Careful attention has been paid to the main-

Careful attention has been paid to the maintenance of the plant, rolling stock equipment, and other properties of the Company.

Your Directors declared out of the accumulated

surplus earnings of the Company, four quarterly dividends of two (2) per cent., all of which dividends were paid on the several dates set for

payment.

The Toronto and York Radial Railway Company report that the earnings of the said Company continue to show satisfactory increases, the gross earnings amounting to \$492,922.86, compared with \$449,059.16 for the previous year—an increase of 9.76 per cent.

A regular monthly audit and verification of the books, accounts and vouchers was made by Messrs. Clarkson and Cross, Chartered Accountants, and their certificate has been attached to the Company's balance sheet.

Respectfully submitted, WILLIAM MACKENZIE,

President.

The present Board of Directors was re-elected,

The present Board of Directors was re-elected, and the Board and Officials for the ensuing year as a result of the shareholders' meeting and the subsequent Directors' meeting are as follows:

President, Sir William Mackenzie; Vice-President, Frederic Nicholls; Sir Henry M. Pellatt, C.V.O., Sir Rodolphe Forget, Hon. George A. Cox, W. D. Matthews, James Gunn; General Manager, R. J. Fleming; Secretary-Treasurer, J. C. Grace.

INCOME ACCOUNT		\$5 448 050 36
Gross Earnings Operating, maintenance, etc. Interest on bonds, etc. Percentage on earnings Pavements, taxes	190,992.76 798,958.66	
Surplus Earnings		\$1,448,458.52
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT DECEMBER 31st, 1912. Balance from last year Surplus Earnings, after payment of all expenses, interest, taxes, etc. Dividends, four of 2% each, on the paid-up capital Balance from 1911 Surplus carried forward		\$3 125 894.33
	\$3.125.894.33	\$4,574,352.85
		\$ 879,595.85
		3,694,757.00
The second of		\$4,574,352.85
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