

other words, the application of these funds to the property account served to increase the earning capacity of the road very considerably without increasing the interest-bearing liabilities or the volume of the stock entitled to participate in the profits. As the amount received by the company in the way of subsidies and bonuses—\$30,752,195—was also written off the cost of property account, the item was reduced in all by \$66,945,716, from \$275,837,497 to \$208,891,781. In the six years since 1905 the account has increased to \$343,595,230 through construction and acquisition of new property.

Deducting this amount of \$36,193,521, which went for new construction and equipment, from the net proceeds of the land sales, there remained \$55,674,314. Into the irrigation projects in Alberta \$5,018,953 had been placed as at the end of the fiscal year. This, of course, came from the land sales, and the investment has already proved decidedly profitable for the C. P. R. stockholders. A further sum of \$5,000,000 at least will be required to complete the irrigation of the second block of lands near Calgary. After the deduction of the \$5,018,953 for irrigation purposes the balance at credit of land sales was \$50,655,361. This was reduced to \$49,258,770 by the appropriation of \$1,396,591 to buy the Hudson Bay Company's lands scattered through the eastern section of the irrigated lands.

The lands yet owned by the company comprise 7,661,184 acres in the three prairie provinces and 4,427,811 acres in British Columbia, or altogether 11,488,995 acres as compared with 14,545,457 acres six years ago. So far as the balance of \$49,258,770 is concerned, the executive of the company could distribute it, or a portion of it, if they so decided. It comprises a profit fund belonging to the stockholders. And moreover the balance of cash on hand, \$34,371,550, and government securities, \$10,688,734, would permit such a distribution to be made without borrowing. But nobody expects the C. P. R. to cut a melon of that kind. The big cash balance would prove exceedingly useful in enabling the company to go ahead with the construction of branch lines, second tracks, etc., in a protracted period of financial unsettlement in Europe, if such a period were encountered. It could if necessary carry forward its vast projects for a couple of years without looking to any outside market for help. In the long run the re-investment of these funds by the management will give the stockholders better results than they would derive from a big cash bonus.

In the meantime the operations of the land department serve to fortify the cash account in a striking manner. It is interesting to take account of the way the net cash receipts on account of land sales are increasing. In order to understand the figures it should be remembered that the lands are sold on the

ten payment plan—one-tenth being paid down and the balance being due in yearly instalments.

	SALES DURING Amount remaining in Deferred Payments	FISCAL YEAR. Amount paid in Cash	Collections of Deferred Payments on previous Sales	Total Cash received in Fiscal Year
1905	\$ 2,436,174	\$ 321,282	\$2,981,476	\$3,302,758
1906	6,168,752	723,392	4,445,109	5,168,501
1907	4,304,414	3,483,710	4,832,625	8,316,335
1908	1,738,458	131,448	3,570,405	3,701,854
1909	5,811,743	712,394	3,480,735	4,193,129
1910	16,403,347	1,291,579	4,814,908	6,106,488
1911	10,768,253	*	4,593,945	

*The total amount paid in cash is not shown in the 1911 report. It gives the total sales as \$8,448,516 and the amount remaining in deferred payments as \$10,768,253—the latter item exceeding the former by some \$2,320,000. Quite probably this results from the expenditures by the company on irrigated lands. The company builds houses, barns, fences on these farms and puts in the crop. The cost is added to the price of the farm, and nine-tenths of the outlay remains in the form of deferred payments. In that way the deferred payments would be brought to a higher figure than the net proceeds of the land sales.

Judging from this record the company may under ordinary circumstances expect to receive each year in cash, say \$5,000,000, collection of deferred payments on previous sales; \$2,000,000, interest on deferred payments; and, say, \$1,000,000 cash payments on sales made during the year.

MONTREAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Joint Stock Companies and Corporations are now Entitled to Vote.

The following letter has been issued by Mr. George Hadrill, secretary of the Montreal Board of Trade, regarding the eligibility of Montreal Joint Stock companies and corporations to vote in municipal elections:—

As the result of the efforts of this Board and the Canadian Manufacturers Association, the following amendment to the Charter of the City of Montreal has been secured, and in view of the importance of our representatives in the City Council being honest, intelligent, and progressive men, the Council considers it most necessary that the members of this Board should bestir themselves to that end, and that those connected with Incorporated Companies or Corporations should take advantage of this amendment to the City Charter,—

"44a. Joint stock companies or corporations may be entered on the voters' list and vote in the name of and through a representative of the company, duly authorized to that effect by a resolution, a copy whereof shall be filed with the City Clerk on or before the first of December of each year, and they may so vote in all the wards where they pay taxes; provided such representative be a director or employee of the company when authorized and called upon to cast his vote."

The necessary procedure is for the Board of Directors of a Company or Corporation to adopt a resolution on the following lines and send a copy of the resolution to the City Clerk before 1st December, together with a letter stating the date on which the Directors met, and also what office the person authorized to vote holds in the Company or Corporation,—

"Resolved that is hereby authorized to be entered on the voters' list of the City of Montreal, as representing the firm of"