

any one season. This is in part due to the vast extent and great diversity in the character of the territory covered by the lines of the Company, a general crop failure over the whole of which is highly improbable; in part to the development of mining and other industries not affected by local causes, and in part to the establishment of far-reaching connections whereby traffic may be gathered in case of need.

All the property of the Company has been well maintained, and the remarkable freedom from accident during the year is evidence of its excellent condition.

The various works for the protection of the mountain section of the line against snow-slides have answered their purpose admirably, and your railway was the only one of the trans-continental lines that enjoyed immunity from blockades during the past winter.

A statement in detail of the expenditures during the year for improvements and equipment is appended to this report.

The results of the past year's working, in reduced expenses and increased earnings, clearly show the wisdom of the expenditures that were made during the preceding years for improvements and increased facilities. The rapid growth of the business of the Company will require a continued expenditure for additional facilities, and much remains to be done in the way of improvements to secure the cheapest possible working.

It is the intention of your Directors to carry out these