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CANADIAN MILLING COMPANIES' RESULTS.

For milling company managers in Canada, the year 1908-9 was in gratifying contrast to 1907-8. The comparative failure of the wheat crop of 1907, both as to quality and quantity, was a source of no little worry to the flour trade generally. Canada's fairly large crop in 1908, at a time of scarcity abroad, gave rise to conditions much more favourable to milling interests during the year ending with August 31, 1909. And thus it came about that the Lake of the Woods and the Ogilvie milling companies showed substantial gains in the year's profits, as did also the Western Canada Flour Mills Company and many lesser concerns throughout the Dominion.

As in former years THE CHRONICLE gives its readers a general idea of milling conditions by considering the twelvemonth's outcome of the two leading companies, The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Ltd., and The Lake of the Woods Milling Co., Ltd., both of Montreal.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

	Ogilvie		Lake of Woods	
	1909.	1908.	1909.	1908.
Profits.....	\$716,054	\$511,473	\$723,380	\$401,869
Less Adjustments....				16,950
	\$716,054	\$511,473	\$723,380	\$384,919
Depreciation	*100,000	100,000		
	\$616,054	\$411,473	\$723,380	\$384,919
Bond Interest.....	105,000	65,516	+105,000	60,000
	\$511,054	\$345,957	\$618,380	\$324,919
Pension Fund.....	30,000	10,000		
	\$481,054	\$335,957	\$618,380	\$324,919
Preferred Stk. Div....	140,000	140,000	105,000	105,000
	\$341,054	\$195,957	\$513,380	\$219,919
Per Cent.....	13.64	7.84	24.44	10.99
Com. Stk. Div.....	175,000	175,000	112,500	120,000

* The Ogilvie Co. transferred this sum of \$100,000 to Property Reserve Account, amounting to the same thing practically as a writing down for depreciation.

† The Lake of the Woods Milling Company now guarantees the Keewatin Flour Mills Company Bonds for \$750,000 and interest at 6 per cent.

‡ A bonus of \$10 per share will be paid out of surplus profits on November 8th to holders of common stock on record Oct. 30th. Dividend still at rate of 6 p.c. per annum.

§ Next dividend will be at rate of 8 p.c. per annum instead of present 7 p.c.

Combining the two results it will be seen that the companies had \$854,434 available for common stock this year as compared with \$415,876 in 1908 and \$748,027 in 1907. In view of this circumstance it is not surprising that the directorates of both companies decided upon increased payments to stockholders—the Ogilvie Company by raising its future dividends from 7 to 8 per cent. per annum, and the Lake of the Woods (keeping to a 6 per cent. rate for the present) by declaring a bonus of \$10 per share of common stock payable out of surplus profits. It will be noticed that the Ogilvie Company increases its contribution to the staff pension fund this year, and again adds \$100,000 to property reserve account, bringing this "safety fund" up to no less than \$300,000. Both companies show increase in bond interest, the Ogilvie on account of the \$750,000 bond issue made in 1907-8, and the Lake of the Woods on account of the guarantee of 6 per cent. on \$750,000 Keewatin Flour Mills Company's bonds. Of course, income from the holding of Keewatin stock goes to swell Lake of the Woods earnings.

The Ogilvie capital account remains at \$6,250,000, comprising \$1,750,000 bonds, \$2,000,000 preferred and \$2,500,000 common stock. The Lake of the Woods capital account was increased during the year by \$100,000 of common stock, issued at a premium of \$28,250—the total capitalization of \$4,600,000 now consisting of \$1,000,000 bonds, \$1,500,000 preferred and \$2,100,000 common stock. As already noted, the Lake of the Woods Company also guarantees \$750,000 of Keewatin bonds. Other indirect liabilities of the Woods Company are stated at \$232,067. Those of the Ogilvie Co. total \$600,066.

Assets of the Ogilvie Company total \$7,155,153. Of these \$1,096,070 are active, including no less than \$905,473 cash. Lake of the Woods assets amount to \$6,000,808—active assets, if stable equipment, etc., be included, amounting to \$1,578,808. Working resources compare as follows:

	1909.	1908.	1907.
OGILVIE.			
Cash.....	\$ 905,473	\$ 597,282	\$ 170,001
Bills and Accounts receivable..	462,359	507,332	1,118,144
Wheat, etc., on hand.....	532,189	656,969	1,154,164
Investments, stable, plant, etc.	96,049	98,746	69,593
	\$1,996,070	\$1,860,329	\$2,511,903
Current Liabilities.....	131,835	148,759	1,728,524
Working Resources.....	\$1,864,235	\$1,711,570	\$ 783,379
LAKE OF WOODS.			
Cash	\$ 214,023	\$ 79,293	\$ 9,054
Bills and Accounts receivable..	389,848	417,493	445,536
Wheat, etc., on hand.....	914,549	659,947	1,466,460
Stable equipment, etc.....	60,388	60,314	61,865
	\$1,578,808	\$1,217,047	\$1,980,915
Current Liabilities.....	116,412	119,037	951,818
Working Resources.....	\$1,462,396	\$1,098,010	\$1,029,097