

mit the receipts to balance expenditure for the year ending June 30th, 1920, were argued this week before the Quebec Public Utilities Commission. Decision was reserved.

The city of Montreal last week asked for delay in order to bring a Chicago expert to Montreal to study the matter. The expert arrived, Jas. R. Bibbins, assistant chief engineer of the firm of B. J. Arnold and Co., well-known traction experts. He had only a few days to go into the figures, and his evidence before the Utilities Commission was restrained because of that, he being unable to give answers in a definite way to many questions asked him because of lack of opportunity to study the whole matter, as he said on each occasion, but for the present year at least, he said, he could not see any chance in the way of reduction in the budget of estimates as laid down by the Tramways Commission, and, consequently no lessening of fares is fixed by that body.

RECENT FIRES

Loss this Week Lighter—Insurance on Oromocto Property

Belleville, Ont.—October 1—Barn of Mr. S. Kellar, Wellington Street, just south of the Agricultural Park, was destroyed. The loss is partially covered by insurance.

Brantford, Ont.—September 28—A firebug started fifteen fires within the past few days. The damage was small.

Kingston, Ont.—October 2—Homes of Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Vancoughnett, 110 and 112 St. Stephen Street, were damaged. Estimated loss, \$1,200.

Moncton, N.B.—October 1—Residence on Dominion Street was damaged. Estimated loss, \$1,000. Insurance was carried to the amount of \$3,500. Insurance allowed, \$950.

Montreal, Que.—October 2—Cheese factory of the J. J. Joubert Dairy Co., 975 St. Andre Street, was damaged. Estimated loss, \$2,000.

October 4—Premises of the De Laval Co., Ltd., dealers in dairy supplies at 21 St. Peter Street, were destroyed. Estimated loss, \$50,000.

New Westminster, B.C.—September 28—Residence of H. Boyle, 508 Royal Avenue, was damaged. Estimated loss, \$1,500.

North Sydney, N.S.—October 1—The Western Union Telegraph office and the fruit store of A. Allan were destroyed. Estimated loss, \$10,000.

Pasqua, Sask.—September 28—Barn and contents of Geo. Durie were destroyed. Estimated loss, \$10,000, with no insurance.

Pembroke, Ont.—October 2—Stables at the Windsor Hotel, four horses, one calf and other contents were destroyed and an adjoining residence of I. Fortier was damaged. Estimated loss to stable and contents, \$11,000; to residence, \$2,000.

Point Grey, B.C.—September 30—The Dominion cedar shingle mill No. 2, across the second bridge on Lulu Island, was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$100,000.

Quebec, Que.—October 8—The Le Mesurier tobacco factory, on St. Valier Street, was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$17,000.

Rockhead, N.S.—October 2—The smallpox hospital was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$7,000.

St. Leonards, N.B.—October 1—The Cyr Hotel, owned by Chas. Cyr, was destroyed. Estimated loss, \$30,000.

Toronto, Ont.—October 7—Garage in the rear of the house on Baldwin Street, one touring car and a motor truck were destroyed. Estimated loss, \$10,000.

October 8—Store of J. Hanna, 324 Queen Street West, was damaged. Estimated loss, \$2,000.

Vancouver, B.C.—The estimated damage by bush fires along the British Columbia coast during the past week is \$500,000. About \$200,000 of this is represented in property and the balance in standing timber and logs ready for shipping.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES

Brantford, Ont.—September 25—Factory of the Brantford Roofing Co. was damaged. Cause, overflowing of asphalt into fire. Estimated loss, \$1,000 on building; on contents, \$100. Insurance was carried to the amount of \$40,000 on building and \$100,000 on contents.

Brussels, Ont.—September 27—Dry kiln and contents of Philip Ament were damaged. Estimated loss on contents, \$1,468; on building, \$391. Insurance was carried to the amount of \$8,000 as follows: Gore, \$4,500; Economical, \$2,000; Nationale, \$1,500.

Cargill, Ont.—September 27—House and contents of W. D. Cargill were destroyed. Estimated loss to contents, \$5,811; to building, \$30,000. Insurance was carried to the amount of \$15,000 in the following companies: Gore, \$5,000; Perth, \$5,000; Economical, \$5,000.

Halifax, N.S.—September 10—The machine shop and contents of Moirs, Ltd., were damaged. Estimated damage on stock, \$1,600; on building, \$2,000. Insurance was carried to the amount of \$5,000, \$2,500 in the Palatine Insurance Co. and \$2,500 in the Insurance Co. of North America.

London, Ont.—September 20—Garage and chicken-house of R. A. Somers, 694 Colborn Street, were damaged. Estimated loss, \$750. Insurance carried, \$450.

Manitoba.—The following is a report of fire losses, as submitted by the Fire Commissioner, for the month of August: Number of fires reported, 155; estimated value, \$641,432; amount of insurance, \$456,313; estimated loss, \$115,195; loss ratio per capita, 0.1879; fatalities reported, nil. For the year: Number of fires reported, 1,034; estimated value, \$19,096,192; amount of insurance, \$14,385,698; estimated loss, \$1,026,434; loss ratio per capita, 1.6744; fatalities reported, 7.

Ontario.—The report of the fire marshal for the month of July, 1919, shows losses to the amount of \$793,796, with \$548,233 insurance loss and \$245,563 not covered by insurance. For the seven months of this year the loss is \$5,249,764, compared with \$8,661,281 for the first seven months of 1918, a decrease of over \$3,000,000. The insurance loss for the seven months is \$3,804,680, and the loss not covered by insurance is \$1,445,084.

Oromocto, N.B.—September 30—A further estimate of the loss by fire which nearly destroyed the town brings the total to \$400,000. The insurance carried amounted to a little over \$100,000. The insurance carried on the mills of the River Valley Lumber Co. was \$70,000 on contents and \$11,000 on buildings. The following gives the amount of insurance on some of the property, with the names of companies interested: On the lumber destroyed, the property of the River Valley Lumber Co., \$5,000 in the Sun and \$5,000 in the Phoenix Fire Insurance companies; \$2,000 on A. B. White's general stores; \$3,000 on A. B. White's barn and contents; \$1,000 on Arthur White's dwelling-house in the Sun; \$700 on Rev. S. C. Gray's household furnishings in the Law, Union and Rock Insurance Co.; \$1,750 on T. J. McElroy's store in the Royal; \$3,000 on Mr. McElroy's residence in the Royal; \$2,000 on the Methodist parsonage in the Royal; \$2,000 on Felix McGarr's residence in the Royal; \$1,000 on T. J. McElroy's store and stock in the Union of Paris.

Toronto, Ont.—An inquiry is being held regarding the fire at 46 Murray Street recently. The odor of coal oil and the finding of a cushion soaked in the oil was evidence brought in by the firemen. It was further said that there was but little clothing or provisions in the house. The contents were insured in July for \$7,000, and a claim was made for \$1,345, while the adjuster fixed the loss at \$782, with a valuation of about \$2,000 on all contents, excluding a player-piano.

Vancouver, B.C.—September 12—Fuel-house of the Vancouver Lumber Co. was damaged. Estimated loss on stock, \$3,000; on building, \$8,000. The total adjusted claim was for \$11,000. The following companies are interested: Lumbermen's Indemnity Exchange, Lumbermen's Underwriting Alliance, Manufacturing Lumbermen's Underwriters and National Lumber Manufacturers.