

tion in electric light and power rates should be made on Schedule L. A., as also on several of the higher rates of some of the other schedules, especially those affecting smaller consumers of power. Should, however, in the meantime a public utilities commission be appointed, this recommendation will not be required.

VICTORIA

1. It is recommended that for the reasons given in the body of the report, and in accordance with the details specified, the jitney competition with the street cars along the routes and in the districts served by them be eliminated, but that in the districts not served by the street cars the jitneys and motor busses may freely operate, and that in order to reach the centre of the city they may ply along North Quadra Street to its junction with Yates Street and down Yates Street to Douglas Street.

2. It is recommended that the charter under which the British Columbia Electric Railway Company operates in Victoria and district be amended so as to bring it into harmony with the charters granted to Vancouver and the adjoining municipalities, except as to the proportion of gross earnings to be paid to the City of Vancouver.

3. It is recommended that, since by the Provincial Act of March 10, 1910, the rates for domestic light which apply to Vancouver and to the districts adjoining are made applicable to the City of Victoria and district, the reductions which are recommended for the domestic lighting schedules of Vancouver and its district shall apply also to the schedules for Victoria and its district respectively.

"It required many years to convince the people of America that there were a number of very essential public utilities which could only be conducted as natural monopolies."

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"At the present time, it is not a question as to whether the Company can pay dividends of even the most modest proportions, but whether it can maintain an equilibrium between income and fixed charges."

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"It is very evident that the first condition of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, as a transportation Company, being able to comply with all the conditions, is that the Company itself shall be able to exist at all."

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"Nothing is more dangerous and misleading than the constant attempts made to identify with the public interest the merely sectional or class interests of a small but clamorous minority. Under the cry of protecting the public interest against the encroachments of large corporations or other combinations of capital, such small and irresponsible groups would destroy some of the most permanent and essential interests of the public at large."