INVESTMENTS AND THE MARKET

News and Notes of Active Companies—Their Financing, Operations, Developments, Extensions, Dividends and Future Plans

Crown Reserve Mining Company.—The directors of the Crown Reserve Mining Company will recommend to the incoming board in 1915, that the present dividend rate be reduced. While the question of the new rate will be left, of course, to the discretion of next year's board, the opinion in financial circles is that the present dividend rate of 2 per cent. a month will be cut in half and the stock put on a 12 per cent. per annum basis.

Ontario Power Company.—A meeting of the shareholders of the Ontario Power Company is to be held at the head office of the company, Niagara Falls, on December 8th, for the purpose of considering, and, if deemed advisable, of sanctioning an issue of three-year 6 per cent. convertible gold debentures, in an aggregate amount not exceeding $400,000, the terms of issue, conversion and redemption to be determined at the meeting.

Trust and Loan Company.—The report of the Trust and Loan Company of Canada, for the half-year ended September 30, issued from the head office in London, shows net profits of £62,459, an increase of £871 over the same period last year.

Reserve funds have been increased by £27,674, and now stand at £515,969.

The usual dividend at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum has been declared, and will be paid December 4.

Dominion Power and Transmission Company.—The directors of the Dominion Power and Transmission Company have declared a dividend of 2 per cent. on the $5,100,000 of limited preference shares, payable December 15 to shareholders of record November 30. This makes the second dividend of this amount paid during the present year, bringing the total payments to date to 7½ per cent. When the dividends total 10 per cent., the limited preference stock will become common stock, of which $2,614,500 is now outstanding.

Royal Canadian Agencies.—The final step in connection with the liquidation of the Royal Canadian Agencies, in which Mr. Sanford Evans and other prominent Winnipeg financial men were interested, has been taken. Mr. A. N. Strong, who was with the Royal Canadian Agencies, is the liquidator.

The liquidation is voluntary. Mr. Strong has stated that the corporation was successful until the beginning of the war, when it became impossible to carry on a financial business between Winnipeg and London. As a considerable period might elapse before operations could be resumed, the directors decided to dissolve.

Brazilian Traction, Light and Power Company, Limited.—The statement of combined earnings and expenses of the tramways, gas, electric lighting, power and telephone services operated by subsidiary companies, controlled by this company for the month of September, 1914, shows:—

	1914. Milreis.	1913. Milreis.	Increase or decrease. Milreis.
Total gross earnings ...	6,096,940	6,028,078	+ 68,862
Operating expenses	2,552,380	2,654,368	— 101,988
Net earnings	3,544,560	3,373,710	+ 170,850
Aggregate gross earnings from January 1st ...	55,170,088	53,823,815	+1,346,273
Aggregate net earnings from January 1st ...	31,674,128	28,970,057	+2,704,071

The above figures are approximated as closely as possible, and will be subject to final adjustment in the annual accounts of the subsidiary companies. In consequence of the fluctuations in the rate of exchange the earnings are given in Brazilian currency, so as to show the actual monthly results of operation. The rate of exchange varied greatly during the month, but the companies' remittances were made at about 14 pence.

Acadia Sugar Refining Company.—The financial statement of the Acadia Sugar Refining Company for the year ended September 30 shows that, including $26,796 brought forward from last year the net trading profit was $332,086. The dividends paid during the year on the preferred and ordinary shares amounted to $149,893, and after payment of $27,213 interest on loans and $7,300 directors' remuneration a balance of $182,193 is carried forward to credit of profit and loss account which now totals $257,140.

Last year, including $24,286 brought forward, the net trading profit was $176,690.

The statement shows that loans against bonds of the company and current from the bank are $838,387 and $814,456 respectively. Trade debts due by the company are $964,337. It is shown that $2,425,907 has been expended on account of rebuilding Woodside refinery. In addition the land, buildings and plant at Richmond, Woodside and Moncton are valued at $1,636,723. The stock of sugar on hand is valued at $1,060,625. Trade debts due to the company are $257,139.

Canadian Car and Foundry Company.—The company's announcement regarding the deferred dividend states:—"The directors beg to inform the shareholders that the financial situation and business depression caused by the war make it necessary to defer paying dividends until conditions improve.

"When war was declared the company was negotiating for the sale of a large quantity of equipment, the work of which would have kept the plants busy for many months, and had reason to expect satisfactorily to complete the transactions. The war, however, not only prevented the railway companies from obtaining funds for capital expenditures, but has further depressed trade, and while this depression lasts the purchases by the railways of new equipment in any large volume will be very uncertain.

"In view of these adverse conditions the directors feel it their duty to conserve the company's resources by withholding the payment of dividends from previous surplus account; they believe that any different action would be condemned by the shareholders.

"The directors call the attention of the preference shareholders to the fact that dividends on their shares are cumulative and must be fully paid before any further dividends can be paid on the common shares. They also inform the shareholders that the various plants of the company and its subsidiaries have been maintained, and are now, in a full state of efficiency, and will be kept properly prepared for any work which may develop."

Sherwin-Williams Company.—The report of the Sherwin-Williams Company for the fiscal year ended August 31, 1914, shows net earnings of $682,736, as compared with $763,348 for the preceding year, and $596,916 for the 1911-12 fiscal year. After charging off $59,733 for depreciation and paying bond interest, there remained a balance of $483,266 available for preferred dividends, being equal to 16.1 per cent. on the $3,000,000 seven per cent. preferred stock outstanding. After payment of the preferred dividends a surplus of $273,000 for the year is shown, this balance being equal to 6.8 per cent. on the $4,000,000 stock, on which, however, dividends are not paid. Total surplus now stands at $821,829. Reserves and surplus together amount to $1,268,769, having been accumulated in a little over three years' operations.

The income account for the year compares as follows:—

Net earnings	$682,736	$763,348
Depreciation	59,733	65,600
Special reserve	......	100,000
Bond interest	139,737	140,186
Balance	$483,266	$458,562
Preferred dividends	210,000	210,000
Year's surplus	$273,266	$248,562
Previous surplus	548,562	300,000
Total surplus	$821,829	$548,562

The balance sheet shows total assets of $11,098,782, or about $65,000 more than the previous year. Property account stands at $8,355,277, additions during the year increasing this item by $57,817. Current assets totalled $2,380,087, or over $30,000 more than last year, while current liabilities amount to only $270,359, or some $164,000 less than a year ago. The surplus of current assets over current liabilities is $2,109,728, an increase of nearly $195,000 for the year.