

INVESTMENTS AND THE MARKET

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

Barcelona Traction Company.—The company having arranged its finances by the issue of £4,000,000 in prior lien bonds, as recently authorized, is going ahead again with its construction programme, and work on its hydro-electric project in Spain is to be pushed so as to be completed within the time limits.

Dome Mines.—The company's record for July makes the best showing for many months. In the value of production per ton, which was \$4.67, an increase of 22 cents was shown over June, and a considerable increase over any month since April, 1914. Eleven hundred more tons of ore were milled in July than in June, the total being 28,300 tons. This, indeed, was the largest showing since before January, 1914. The total value of gold produced was \$131,928. This was \$11,106 more than in June and \$21,000 in excess of any previous month during 1915 or during 1914.

Montreal Tramways Company.—The terms of the new issue of \$1,000,000 common stock, recently authorized by the directors of the Montreal Tramways Company, were arranged at a meeting of the board this week.

The new stock will go to shareholders of record September 10th, in the proportion of one share of new for every three shares of old. The price, as already announced, will be par, and the first payment will be 10 per cent., payable October 25th, when subscription lists will be closed. Dates for the remaining payments are left open, but two months' notice will be given by the directors before making any calls on shareholders.

In the spring of 1913, when the issued common stock of the company was only \$2,000,000, the shareholders gave the directors authority to issue from time to time, at such prices as they might decide, the remaining \$18,000,000 of the \$20,000,000 authorized. An issue of \$1,000,000 was made in 1913 under that authority, and now a further issue of like amount is being offered to shareholders.

Cedars Rapids Manufacturing & Power Company.—The statement of earnings for June, and for the half-year ended June 30th last, shows a surplus for the six months, after deducting all allowances, operating expenses and fixed and other charges, amounting to \$60,178, of which the month of June contributed over a third, or \$22,126, representing earnings on the common stock of about $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 per cent. for the six months.

The gross revenue for June was \$86,690, against the total for the half-year of \$384,845, while net for the thirty-day period was \$59,515, and the six months' figure \$267,037, showing that the more recent earnings of the company are higher than those of previous months.

The output of power at the Cedars Rapids plant is increasing, the July total being approximately 20,000 horse-power over that of June.

The statement for June and the first half of the current year is as follows:—

	June, 1915.	Six months to June 30.
Gross revenue	\$86,690	\$384,845
Less credits to Cedars Rapids Transmission Company and Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company, for transmission of power Messina to Montreal	27,175	117,807
Net revenue	\$59,515	\$267,037
Operating expenses, etc.	3,638	21,652
	\$55,876	\$245,385
Fixed charges	33,750	185,207
Surplus	\$22,126	\$60,178

In the estimate of earnings for the first six months, fixed charges are shown as \$200,000, whereas in the actual statement

fixed charges are \$185,207.01. This difference arises from the fact that for a few days in the month of January, and until the company actually began selling power under its contracts, all fixed charges were charged to construction.

Canada Bread Company.—Manufacturing profits are shown in the company's annual report as \$287,195. The income account compared with the previous return follows:—

	1915.	1914.
Manufacturing profits	\$287,195	\$254,097
Bank interest earned	10,761	11,330
Bond discount and interest	769	1,489
	\$298,725	\$266,916
Interest on 6 per cent. first mortgage bonds	72,235	73,432
	\$226,490	\$193,484
Dividend, 7 per cent. on preferred stock	87,500	87,500
	\$138,990	\$105,984
Reserved for depreciation	50,000	50,000
Surplus	\$ 88,990	\$ 55,984

The company has issued preferred stock valued at \$1,250,000; common stock, \$2,500,000, and first mortgage bonds, \$1,209,000. After reserving \$50,000 for depreciation, there is a surplus of \$88,990, as against a surplus of \$55,984 last year, so that a dividend of over three per cent. could be paid on the common stock.

The comments of the general manager, Mr. Mark Bredin, were as follows:—

"Considering the very unusual world conditions we have been and are passing through, we feel that the growth of the company's business during the year has been of a most gratifying character, our manufacture of loaves being about 10 per cent. in excess of the previous year, and our increase in the number of customers has been about 4,600. Cash receipts have increased by over a quarter of a million dollars, and our net results are also ahead of last year in amount about equal to the pro rata basis of our increase in business. A special feature of our increased business this year is that it has been built in our own name, we having made no purchases of any going concerns during the year.

"The prospects of our western wheat crop were never better than at the time of writing, every report speaking of a very bountiful harvest, so that we are looking forward to a favorable purchase of our flour supply for the coming year."

WAR HAS COST CANADA NINETY MILLIONS

A year of war has cost Canada \$90,000,000. It is costing Canada \$300,000 a day. The total war expenditure up to July 31, or practically 12 months after war was declared on August 4th last year, was \$81,500,000. The ratio of expense is going up all the time as the Dominion places more and more troops in the field. Almost the whole expenditure is military in character. The pay of the troops alone costs little less than \$100,000 per day.

Of the \$90,000,000 which constitutes the total expense of the war so far, \$50,000,000 was voted at the special August session of parliament last year and \$40,000,000 came out of the war appropriation of \$100,000,000 made at the last session, and which is being borrowed in England. Besides providing for the direct war expenditures, the minister of finance had to increase the revenues, which were falling as a result of the war, and for that purpose imposed extra tariff and direct taxation. That this will be sufficient to take care of the financial situation till the next session is being demonstrated, customs revenues during the past few months having largely increased.