

Lake of the Woods Milling Shows Marked Growth

Net Earnings at Rate of 16.46 Per Cent. on Common Stock Amply Justifies Bonus Declaration—Conservative Policy Followed in Use of Surplus—Company in Strong Financial Position.

The annual statement of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company for the year ended August 31st, 1913, is one of the most attractive issued by any Canadian industrial company this year and, on this account, will attract special attention both here and in England. The report indicates a marked improvement in the general flour trade of the Dominion, the earnings showing substantial gains over the past few years. As usual the directors have followed a conservative policy with regards to the surplus, making large appropriations for write-offs on both property account and on good-will and trade marks, etc.

The gross earnings for the year amounted to \$549,677, as compared with \$457,011 in the previous year, an increase of \$92,666 or about 20 per cent.

INTEREST EARNED FIVE AND HALF TIMES.

Earnings available for the preferred stock were at the rate of 30 per cent., as compared with 23.79 in 1912, and for the common 16.46 per cent., against 11.99 in 1912. The company's bond interest was earned approximately 5½ times.

After providing for the bonus recently declared on the common stock, a balance of \$135,677 remained out of the year's profits. Of this \$50,000 was applied to writing off property valuation and \$50,000 to writing off good-will, trade marks, etc., leaving \$35,677 to be added to surplus. The writing off for the year was practically the same as that in 1912, but the deductions in 1912 encroached to the extent of \$25,000 on the old surplus, in contrast to which, after all deductions this year, surplus on August 31st last stood \$35,677 higher than at the same date a year before.

COMPANY'S STEADY GROWTH.

The profits since 1907, before providing for fixed charges, and the final surplus after payment of interest and dividends, have been as follows:—

	Profits.	Surplus for year.
1907-08	\$401,869	\$116,869
1908-09	723,380	891,880
1909-10	475,226	33,726
1910-11	412,154	34,154
1911-12	457,012	83,870
1912-13	549,677	177,677

The profit and loss account for 1912-13 compares with that of 1911-12 as follows:—

	1913.	1912.
Profit	\$549,677	\$457,011
Bond interest	99,000	100,141

At the annual meeting of the Saskatchewan Investment and Trust Company, held at Saskatoon this month, it was decided to re-organize the company under a different name. The directors of the company are: N. G. Boggs, president; Hon. Chas. Littleton, London, England; D. G. Stephenson, London, England; A. J. Adamson, president Western Trust Company, Winnipeg; and J. G. Turriff, M.P., Regina; W. H. Clare, manager.

The London Financial Times, under the heading, "A Canadian Job Lot," comments on the offer of the Canadian Industrial Development Company to sell 100,000 dollar shares of Nakamun Asphalt and Oil Company at three shillings, remarking on the extent of the advertising. It says that evidence of the value of the properties is extremely meagre. Though asphalt had been found, it would appear local investors were chary of the proposition, which did not look attractive to the innocent British investor.

	1913.	1912.
Balance	\$450,677	\$356,870
Preferred dividend	105,000	105,000
Balance	\$345,677	\$251,870
Common dividend	100,000	168,000
Balance	\$177,677	\$83,870
Bonus	42,000	.....
Balance	\$135,677	\$83,870
Written off property	50,000	.....
	\$85,677	\$83,870
Goodwill, etc	50,000	109,370
Surplus	\$ 35,677	*\$25,500
Previous surplus	817,457	842,957
Total surplus	\$853,134	\$817,457

*Deficit.

FINANCIAL POSITION STRONGER.

The balance sheet for the year shows a few important changes. Bills payable have been reduced from \$500,000 to \$225,000, and there is also a slight reduction in accounts payable. In assets, the principal features are the adjustments resulting from generous writing off during the year, and a new item under the head of investments—\$50,000 in stock of the Sunset Manufacturing Company. Stocks of wheat, flour, etc., are valued at about one hundred thousand dollars lower than a year ago. Comparisons are afforded by the following table:—

Liabilities		1913.	1912.
Common stock	.....	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000
Preferred stock	.....	1,500,000	1,500,000
Bonds	.....	900,000	900,000
Accrued interest	.....	13,500	13,500
Bills payable	.....	225,000	500,000
Accounts payable	.....	288,490	298,115
Bonus	.....	42,000	.....
Surplus	.....	853,134	817,457
		\$5,922,125	\$6,129,073
Assets.		1913.	1912.
Realty, etc.	.....	\$3,069,497	\$3,114,833
Stocks	.....	250,000	200,000
Advances	.....	189,461	189,461
Goodwill, etc.	.....	750,000	800,000
Equipment	.....	69,096	62,630
Wheat, etc.	.....	1,050,154	1,163,402
Accounts receivable	.....	529,995	553,874
Bills receivable	.....	795	2,350
Cash	.....	13,124	42,521
		\$5,922,125	\$6,129,073

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The officers and Board of Directors elected are as follows:—

President and managing director—Frank S. Meighen.
Vice-president—Wm. W. Hutchison.
Directors—Hon. Robert Mackay, George V. Hastings, Abner Kingman, R. M. Ballantyne, Tancrede Bienvenu, J. K. L. Ross, John Carson.
Secretary—F. E. Bray. Assistant Secretary, R. Neilson.
Treasurer, T. F. McNally.

A modern double-track bridge across the South Saskatchewan River at Medicine Hat has been completed by the Canadian Pacific Railway. The work was done under the supervision of Mr. P. B. Motley, chief engineer of bridges, with Mr. C. R. Turner as resident inspector. Mr A. W. Starr was in charge for the contractors, the Canadian Bridge Company, Limited.

Fort William real estate men have formed an association. The objects are to promote the growth, prosperity and industrial welfare of the city of Fort William. Mr. J. H. Perry has been elected president, and Mr. J. P. Kenny secretary. The local board will be affiliated with the National association.

The Owen Sound Furniture Company, Limited, has changed its name to that of the Owen Sound Chair Company, Limited.