THE CATHOLIC REGISTER, THURSDAY, FEERUARY 16, 1905

THE GROWTH OF TRAFFIC ON TORONTO RAILWAY

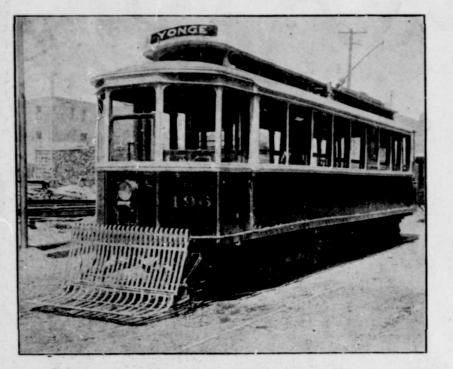
One of the Wonders of the Past Decade.

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Through the development of its system great areas of residential quarters were opened up, affording comfortable homes for the citizens - Access to the City Parks - The city repaid large sums for mileage - growth of suburban lines-Power soon to come from Niagara.

daily, and it is a place of which lovers of nature and seeluded woodland seenery never tire. In addition to its woods and valleys, spendid drives and running streams, there is the lake beach of clean sand, unsurpassed anywhere, stretching for a mile or more. The park is reached by the street railway at both the north and south ends. Reservoir Park takes its name from the presence there of the reservoir in connection with the city's water system. The park is the outcome of a laudable attempt is

enough to see it. Picnics are held there



THE growth of traffic on the Toron | beautify the surroundings. From the to Railway Company's system has been one of the wonders of Toronto's development during the past decade. Several causes might be alleged-the growth of the habit of riding, cultivated by the introduction and development of urban rapid transit; the opening up for residential purposes of districts before unavailable, because of their distance from the business centre, and the growth of population. These are all causes of street railway traffic that suggest themselves at once, but there is another that might be overlooked, and yet it is a very important element in the growth of street car travel, that is, the development of the city's park system.

There is no available data upon which to base even an approximate estimate of the number of people who visit the city parks in a year and use the street doing so, but they would run into the millions. Just to name the parks that most feed the street railway : There is Munro Park, the com- to the deep ravine north and west of the

The Yonge Street line of street cars approaches within a few minutes' walk of the park. Its accessibility, its incomparable situation high above the city and the beauty of the park itself have made it a favored place for impromptu picnics and a place of interest to all sightseers.

Coming Park Wonder.

Island Park, if it is not so already, is bound to become the pride of the city. Though reached by ferry boats, its visitors come by street car to the ferry dock from all parts of the city. It contains now 389 acres, but might just as easily contain 3,000, and some day the whole island will be improved and reserved for park purposes. The desultory improvements of the past few years have worked wonders, and, when a definite plan has been adopted to work to, the Island will become one of the park wonders of the continent. Some day, and that before long, it will be reached by trolley. Another fine sand beach is Simcoe Park, separated from the Island only by the eastern gap. It is as yet wholly unimproved, except that many summer cottages are being built upon it, but there is a good roadway to it, and a line of electric railway would quickly convert it into a very populous resort. There are 150 acres in the park, as it stands at present. Woodbine Park is another unimproved reserve of 50 acres on the land side of Ashbridge's Bay.

The Zoo a Drawer.

Riverdale Park contains the Zoo, and for that reason is one of the largest contributors to street railway traffic. Within a few years, largely by the efforts of ex-Ald. Lamb, a very fine collection of animals has been got together, and is growing steadily. For thousands of young people it is perhaps the chief attraction in the city. On holidays the people assemble at the Zoo by thous-



In Queen's Park on the line of Toronto Street Railway

the Toronto Railway Co. has se-

cured control of all the four suburban

lines radiating east, west, north and

northwest from Toronto. Therein is

doubtless another large development of

In High Park on the line of Toronto

Street Railway

up Toronto. Besides the building up of the Annex, Rosedale, South Parkdale and other outlying sections, great areas of territory are being added to the city because of the development of rapid transit. Just how the street railway traffic has increased during the twelve years since the Toronto Railway Co secured the franchise is seen by a glance at the gross receipts. During the first full year of operation, 1892, the receipts were \$817,683, and last year they were \$2,165,142, or more than two and a half times as much. The percentage received by the city as its share was, in 1892, \$65,239, and last year \$206,932. The mileage rental at the rate of \$800 per mile of single track received by the city in 1892 was \$55,134, and in 1903, \$71,986, showing an increase in the mileage from about 70 to nearly 90 miles. During the twelve years the company has been steadily improving the design and qual-The ity of its rolling stock. figures show that the company carried

last year over 54 million passengers, or, in other words, that every man, woman traffic. The next advance will be the and child in the city "took a car" 216 operation of the system by power from times during the year. Niagara, and that is promised within

It has been recently announced that the next few months,

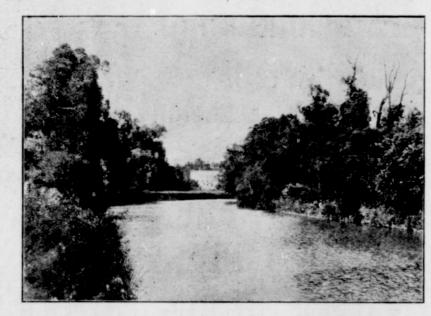


INTENDING INSURERS

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Don't be misled by statements with regard to what companies have done in the past or what they estimate that they will do in the future, but get definite guarantees clearly set forth in the contract you buy.

It is too important and too serious a matter to leave any uncertainty as to what your family are going to get in case of your death or what you are going to get should



The Humber River Reached by Toronto Street Railway

a magnificent view of the city. The improvements have spread gradually in-

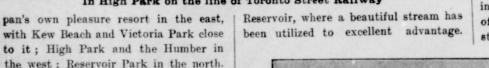
Reservoir embankment is to be obtained

In High Park on the line of Toronto Street Railway

with Kew Beach and Victoria Park close to it; High Park and the Humber in the west ; Reservoir Park in the north. Island Park to the south, besides Exhibition Park, Allan Gardens, Queen's Park, the big newly-acquired park area on the waterfront, Simcoe Park, and the newly-purchased Gzowski Park.

Company's Own Park.

Munro Park is a 26-acre tract of wood and ravines and slopes charmingly situated on the lake shore. It is owned by the Toronto Railway Co, who have provided all the accessories for making picnicking easy, and twice a day during the summer a clean and excellent vaudeville performance is provided. It is splendidly lighted at night by electricity, and has become one of the principal summer evening resorts. High Park is 375 acres in extent, and is one of the finest natural parks in America, arousing the wonder and admiration of every visitor to the city fortunate



Street Railway either side of the River Don, comprising 162 acres. In recent years much of it has been improved, but there is still much to be done. Through the

In Rosedale on the line of Toronto

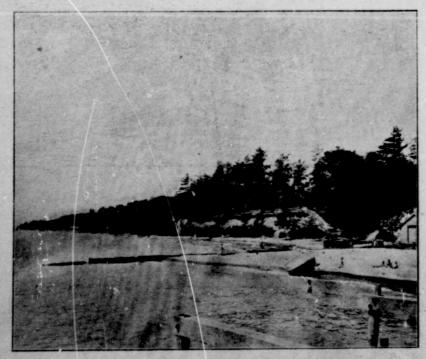
ands, and so great has been the crush

that people had scarcely room to move

about. Riverdale Park itself is a beautiful tract of hill, meadow and ravine on



Riverdale Park on the line of the Toronto Street Railway



park the way leads to the beautiful Rosedale ravines. Riverdale may be reached by several lines of cars.

Every Line to a Park.

There is not a line of street railway in the city that does not lead to a park and this imperfect sketch of only the principal city parks will give some idea of what an enormous traffic is developed by the city's park system, and also what a splendid means of seeing the city a street car offers. Mention has not been made of Garrison Park, rich in historie interest, the city's newly acquired property of 100 acres, which stretches for a mile and a half along the harbor and lake almost to the heart of the city. Plans are now developing which will make it one of the finest parks in the world, and consequently a great stimulus to street railway traffic.

Reciprocity in Building.

If Toronto has built up the street

you live till the maturity of your endowment policy.

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