

A conference on radial electric railway accommodation for Toronto was held recently between a special committee of the city council and Manager Keating, of the Toronto Ry. He said he had looked into the question, & had made enquiries as to the probable receipts of radial railways. To the east a line has been surveyed & examined as far as Highland Creek, & as far west as Etobicoke Creek a line had been laid out. He was not prepared definitely to commit the Co. to carry out these projects, but he believed it would be in the interest of the Co. to do so. The matter had been brought before the board, & would be further considered. When the market plans were published he had gone to the City Hall to see that provision was made for these railways. The idea was to carry fruit, eggs, butter, poultry & basket packages generally. What traffic could be got was a matter of speculation. It probably would not pay the first year, but he was convinced it would in the

Quebec Lines.

The Hull Electric Co. has bought for \$100,000 the C.P.R. Co.'s Hull-Aylmer branch, which it has had under lease for some time past, & which it has electrified.

Montreal Island Belt Line Ry.—This Co's line from Bout de l'Isle is being utilized to haul 300 to 400 carloads of ice from the Ottawa River to Montreal.

J. Rowley, Supt. of the Co., has been appointed manager of the Bout de l'Isle hotel, which has been taken over by the Co.

The Co. is applying for power to extend its present line of 13 miles for 40 miles.

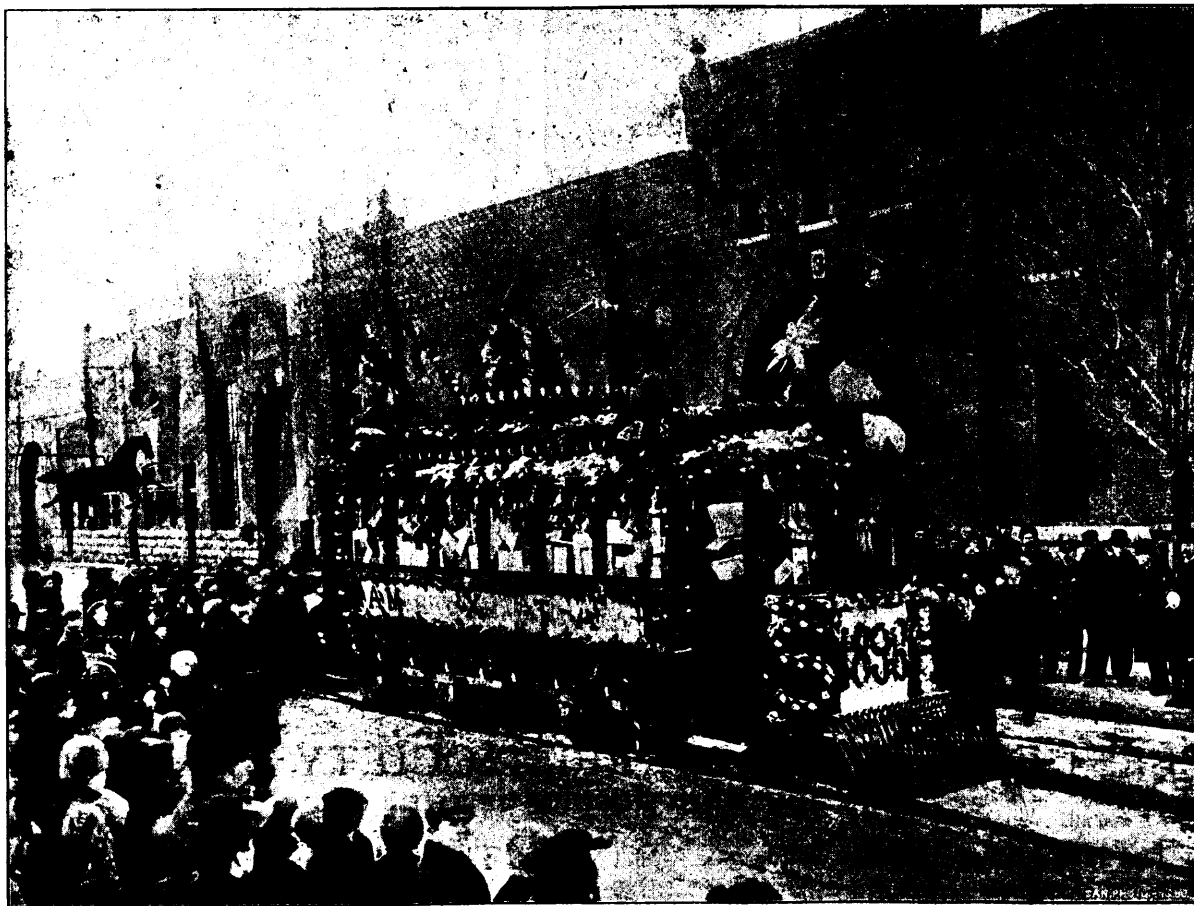
Montreal St. Ry.—The gross earnings are as follows:—

	1898-9.	1897-8.	Increase
Oct.	\$133,419.69	\$116,093.09	\$17,326.60
Nov.	125,125.10	110,608.98	14,516.12
Dec.	127,678.00	113,029.33	14,648.67
Jan.	125,276.04	113,155.96	12,120.08

The Co. declared a dividend of 2½% for the

Eighteen months ago the Co. gave notice to the Postmaster-General that the agreement for carrying the letter carriers for the lump sum of \$200 a month would be terminated on Dec. 31, 1898. The Co. kept a record of the fares represented by the travelling of the letter carriers during both winter & summer months, & found they aggregated from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a month, and concluded that \$200 a month was too little compensation. The Postmaster-General is reported to have said that the Department was indifferent as to whether the contract was terminated or not, as he thought the carriers rode too much anyway, & a satisfactory agreement was not reached.

Sherbrooke St. Ry.—It is reported that this line has been sold to F. Thompson & Co., bankers & financial agents of that city, & that they have also acquired the Brompton Falls water power which will enable them to extend the line & increase the number of cars, which



OTTAWA ELECTRIC RAILWAY SANTA CLAUS CAR.

long run, & he advocated the work before the board. The work of construction did not present very serious difficulties. There were two rather large gorges to the east, one at Highland Creek & another at the Rouge, that would have to be spanned by iron trestle work. In the west, the crossing at Etobicoke Creek, the boundary between York & Peel counties, was the principal difficulty. It would be necessary to get the consent of the councils of both counties to this crossing, & in June last he began correspondence to that end. He had recently seen the York Council, & anticipated no serious difficulty in arranging terms. Authority would probably be obtained to extend the abutments of the present bridge, & add a special span to the superstructure for the passage of the cars.

The Co. has notified the City Council that it does not acknowledge liability to grant transfers from day to night cars.

quarter ended Dec. 31 last, payable after Feb. 1.

The Co. will apply to Quebec Legislature for power to increase its stock from time to time, & to authorize the extension of its lines to any point within 10 miles of Montreal.

The 2-mile extension on Rachel St. & up the Papineau Road to the C.P.R. crossing has been completed.

The Co. having decided to concentrate its car building & repair shops at Hochelaga, recently gave rise to a report that \$500,000 would be expended there in new works, & that not only would cars for the Montreal line be built there, but also cars for the Toronto, London, Winnipeg & St. John, N.B., lines. We are informed there is no truth in this. Some additional buildings are to be put up to permit of a concentration of work, but their cost will not exceed \$100,000, & the shops, &c., will be for the use of the Montreal line, & not to build for the other lines above mentioned.

could not be done with the present water power. This railway was opened about a year ago, & the earnings have been very satisfactory, exceeding the expectations of the Co. There are now 6 miles of road in operation, & it is probable that the line will be extended to North Hatley & other outside points.

The B.C. Electrical Supply Co., for the incorporation of which application is being made to the B.C. Legislature, asks for very extended powers, including the construction & operating of tramways, street railways & telephone systems.

Winnipeg Electric St. Ry.—The City Council has notified the Co. to build a line on Sherbrooke St. from Portage Avenue to Notre Dame Avenue, work to be commenced by May 15 next, & to be finished within a year thereafter. The Council wants the Co. to equip its cars with fenders.