

as it is partly owing to the condition of the times, but very largely by the competition of the jitneys. It also pays 5 per cent. of its gross revenue to the city. It also pays annually a large sum of taxes to the city. Last year the percentage in taxes was \$280,339.00. It also annually pays a large sum in its proportion of pavements, whereas the jitney operators pay no revenue of any account to the city. The jitneys are taking business, as I pointed out to you a while ago, that was essentially necessary to the development of the system, namely, the business in the down-town parts of the city where the short haul exists. You don't find the jitneys going away out in the suburbs for any five cent fare. Now, these are some of the disadvantages you have by encouraging a system of this kind. As I say, gentlemen, I think that a duty is cast upon you as citizens representing a large business section of the community to see that the proper thing is done. I am not going to suggest what the proper thing is, but on that question I adverted a moment ago to the platitude of competition being the life of trade, and I assure you that in so far as the transportation question is concerned it is not the life of trade. If you are really going to encourage the jitney system you are going to kill the efficient electric transportation system. It is quite true, and I am prepared to admit, that in so far as the introduction of the City Light and Power Department is concerned competition was the life of trade. I am quite willing to state that it was an advantage, although perhaps not quite so great an advantage as it was thought at first, but it was a decided advantage to the people of the city of Winnipeg to have a power system such as that is, owned and operated by the people themselves. Not only that but the Street Railway had no right to a monopoly, and had no right to expect a monopoly of the power and lighting business of the city. They are wide open for any competition of that kind. But that rule does not obtain as far as the transportation question is concerned.

Even with reference to light and power the company can show that it is being subjected to very unfair competition. The city naturally has many advantages over the company in the way of bringing