

LARGER ST. PAUL DIVIDEND

Directors Declare 3 1-2 and 1-2 Extra on Common Stock.

Annual Report of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway System Also Made Public.

The Directors of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company yesterday set at rest the guessing, speculative fraternity in Wall Street by their semi-annual dividend declaration. The announcement, as officially given out, is as follows:

Notice is hereby given that from the net earnings of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1902, there has been declared a dividend of \$3.50 per share on the preferred stock and a dividend of \$3.50 per share and 50 cents per share extra on the common stock of this company to stockholders of record at 3 o'clock on the 7th day of October next; payable Oct. 28 at the office of the company, in the City of New York.

Peter Geddes, one of the Directors of the company, said that this placed the common stock on a 7 per cent. basis, which is the same as that of the preferred stock.

The declaration of the increased dividend was expected to bring about a rise in the market generally, but this expectation was not realized. It was said that some one improved the occasion by "shoveling out" a lot of stock, so that even the price of St. Paul declined after its sudden upward movement, which lasted for about five minutes after the news of the board's action.

The thirty-eighth annual report of the road was also made public yesterday. The income account for the year shows:

Gross earnings	\$45,613,124.84
Less operating exp., including taxes	30,196,893.04
Net earnings	\$15,416,229.80
Income from other sources.....	434,314.68
Net revenue	\$15,850,544.48
Interest accrued during year on funded debt	6,210,086.11
Dividends	3,346,921.00
Balance	\$6,293,537.37
Credit balance June 30, 1901.....	14,388,531.24
Credit balance June 30, 1902.....	\$20,682,068.61

Speaking of the earnings the report says:

The results from operation, compared with the previous year, show an increase of \$3,244,112.19 in gross earnings, an increase of \$2,219,391.72 in operating expenses, and an increase of \$1,024,720.47 in net earnings.

The earnings from freight traffic were \$33,516,812.26—73.48 per cent. of total earnings—an increase of \$2,158,819.77. The number of tons of freight carried was 19,885,573—an increase of 1,874,890 tons. The number of tons of revenue freight carried one mile was 3,990,048,676—an increase of 350,070,757. The revenue per ton per mile was .8400 cent—a decrease of .0215 cent. The average miles each ton of revenue freight was carried was 200.65—a decrease of 1.45 miles, miles.

The number of tons of revenue freight carried per loaded car was 13.340, against 12.937 last year. The number of tons of revenue freight per freight train mile was 254.25, against 236.55 last year.

The earnings from passenger traffic during the year were \$8,918,966.30—19.55 per cent. of total earnings—an increase of \$979,750.54 over the previous year.

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO REPORT

Expenditures for Improvements Out of the Net Income Reduced the Surplus.

The annual report of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway for the year ended June 30 last was made public yesterday. While there were increases in gross and net earnings, the expenditures for improvements out of the net income, amounting to about \$1,440,000, cut down the surplus so that at present it amounts to but a little more than 1½ per cent. of the capital stock. The purchases of new equipment were heavy and there was considerable money expended in the building of new short lines and branches. The coal strike in West Virginia is held responsible for the decrease in earnings in June. As the strike went into effect June 7, that was the only month in the last fiscal year to be affected.

The income account shows:

	1902.	1901.
Gross earnings	\$16,524,378	\$15,371,541
Operating expenses	10,398,492	9,565,880
Net earnings	\$6,125,886	\$5,805,661
Other income	136,431	149,925
Gross income	\$6,262,317	\$5,955,586
Fixed charges	4,201,908	3,953,689
Net income	\$2,060,408	\$2,001,897
Extraordinary expenditure..	1,440,814	
Balance	\$619,594	
Dividend	605,291	
Balance	\$14,303	
Surplus forward, 1901, less accounts written off.....	1,048,022	

Total surplus, June 30.. \$1,062,325

The report calls attention to the increase of 10.2 per cent. in coal and coke traffic and 4.9 per cent. in merchandise traffic. The ton mile revenue was 4.02 mills, an increase of 3.6 per cent., and the revenue per train mile \$2.05, an increase of 3.1 per cent.; the average revenue train load was 509 tons, and including company's freight, 538 tons, substantially the same average tonnage as last year; the absence of coal tonnage during the greater part of June materially reduced the average.