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# Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway

*From Canadian Railway and Marine World/Canadian Transportation - showing date and page number*

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01-Dec-1910 Page 1067

The company's stock is being put on the market and it is reported that it is being well taken up by residents in the townships through which the line will pass. The chairman is quoted as having said in an interview Nov. 11, that while it was proposed not to sell more than 10 shares to any single subscriber, already half of the amount required to start work on a permanent basis had been subscribed, that the length of the proposed line was 43 miles, that the cost of construction was estimated at \$750,000 and that the farmers were offering land for right of way at a very low price and to do a considerable amount of team work free.

01-Mar-1911 Page 259

The Ottawa city council is being asked to grant the company a franchise for a line along Main Street in order to connect its line from Morrisburg with the lines of the OER. Also for permission to lay tracks on Main Street and Hawthorne Avenue, Ottawa East, at the junction of which it is proposed to erect a passenger terminal station. C.M. Willard, Morewood, is President.

01-Nov-1912 Page 574

At the annual meeting in Ottawa, Oct. 8, the directors were authorized to start construction May next. The question of letting the contract was left in their hands.

01-Jan-1913 Page 39

Ottawa city council had under consideration, Dec.2, the question of the route of this projected electric railway into the city. The railway committee recommended a route along Riverside Avenue and Main Street to the proposed terminal station near the Ottawa East bridge. The report was referred to the board of control for discussion. Ewart, Scott, McLaren and Kelley, Ottawa are representing the company.

01-Mar-1913 Page 141

The shareholders have been called upon to pay four calls of 10% each upon the capital stock subscribed, payable Mar. 3, May 5, July 7 and Sept. 8.

01-Jul-1913 Page 344

A contract is reported to have been let to the Reliance Construction Co., Chicago, IL, for the building of an electric railway from Ottawa to Morrisburg.

01-Aug-1913 Page 395

Tenders are being asked for the building of 10 miles of line from Ottawa in the direction of Morrisburg. We are officially advised that this section will terminate I South Gloucester the intermediate points being:- Billings Bridge, Gatesville, Ridgemount, Ellwood, Henderson Corners and Lebrun.

The directors and officers are:- President, J.G. Kilt, Ottawa; Vice President, R.J. Biggar, Ottawa East; Secretary-Treasurer, R.A. Bishop, Ottawa; other directors:- Jas. Oliver, W.T. Stroder, R.E. Reardon, A.H. Caplan, J.W.P. Bogar.

01-Sep-1913 Page 442

We are officially advise that a contract has been let to R.J. Tierney & Co., Ottawa for the building of 10 miles of line from Ottawa to South Gloucester. L. Von Sydow, Ottawa, is Engineer in Charge.

01-Feb-1914 Page 88

At a meeting of the Morrisburg Council Jan. 21, an application by the O&M Ry. was heard for a right of way through the town. The council has already granted a right of way to the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Electric Ry. which right will expire Oct. 1, if not taken advantage of, and it was announced that nothing could be done in the way of granting any fresh rights until after that date.

Calls of 10% of the subscribed capital of the company are due and payable at the office of the company, Canada Life Building, Ottawa, Feb. 2, April 6, June 8 and Aug 22.

01-Jul-1914 Page 338

L. Von Sydow, Engineer in Charge, has invited tenders up to July 4, for supplying the right of way, complete construction and equipment of about 35 miles of line commencing at or near Ottawa and extending to Chesterville, payment to be made in bonds or stock or both of the company.

01-Sep-1914

Page 431

We are officially advised that three tenders were submitted for the building and equipment of this projected electric railway, from Ottawa to Morrisburg, 55 miles, of which one by a New York construction company is under consideration. The company offers to build the line provided the various municipalities through which it would pass are prepared to guarantee about one sixth of the bond issue, which with the company's stock, would be handed over to the construction company in payment for building and equipping the line. The M&OE will have by laws providing for this guarantee submitted to the ratepayers of the different municipalities at an early date. The company owns about 300 acres of gravel, averaging about 35 ft. in depth, close to the route of the line, and about 25 miles from Ottawa, which will be valuable for ballasting purposes. President, J.G. Kilt; Secretary, R.A. Bishop; Chief engineer, L. Von Sydow; Offices, Union Bank Building, Ottawa. The company is reported to have offered the Ontario Government 40 or 50 ft. of its right of way between Ottawa and Morrisburg, on condition that a provincial road is built alongside the tracks.

The Morrisburg town council has been asked to give a guarantee on \$25,000 of bonds, and is considering the proposition. The Gloucester township was asked to guarantee \$70,000 of bonds, but on Aug. 12 passed a resolution declining to take any action. The Williamsburg township council, which was also asked to guarantee \$70,000 of bonds asked the ratepayers to vote on a by law Aug. 17.

01-Oct-1914

Page 477

The Morrisburg and Ottawa Construction Co. has been incorporated under the Ontario Companies Act, with a capital of \$40,000, and office at Ottawa, to carry on railway contracting, and other allied businesses. The provisional directors are :- A.J. Fraser, M.J. Brennan, Miss L.E. Milks, Miss L.B. Younghusband, Ottawa and G.D. Mumford, New York. These are merely nominal directors. for the purposes of incorporation. The company is apparently being formed in connection with the New York syndicate with which negotiations have been in progress for some time for building the line from Morrisburg to Ottawa, 55 miles.

01-Nov-1914

Page 517

We are officially advised that a contract for the construction of this line has been let to the Morrisburg and Ottawa Construction Co., incorporation of which was mentioned in Canadian Railway and Marine World for October. G.D. Mumford, 66 Broadway, New York, NY, is president. No information is available as to when construction will be gone on with.

The address of J.G. Kilt, President, at the recent annual meeting of the shareholders, was made public Oct. 13. The directors express regret that greater progress has not been made, and state that the shareholders who have not paid up their shares are largely responsible. If the directors had been about to show that \$75,000 or \$100,000 had been expended on the line it would have been an easy matter to get the bonds on the market. Legal proceedings were being taken against shareholders who had not paid the calls on the shares subscribed for. Shareholders representing about \$60,000 of calls were on the list of delinquents. The contract for construction had been let to the Morrisburg and Ottawa Construction Co., the President of which is G.D. Mumford of New York. It is hoped to arrange the company's finances so as to start construction in the spring of 1915. The directors are confident that the line would be a success, and express regret that the townships through which it would pass have declined to assist the company by giving a guarantee of bonds.

01-Jun-1915

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Morrisburg and Ottawa Electric Railway's Finances.

At a meeting of shareholders in Ottawa May 1, a committee was appointed to take steps to appeal against an order of the county judge at Cornwall, calling upon the shareholders to pay up calls on their shares, and to ascertain if the company cannot be wound up. It was stated at the meeting that \$78,000 had been paid up on the stock, that about \$68,000 was due on subscriptions, that of the \$78,000 only \$10,000 had been expended upon construction work in Metcalfe and Winchester townships, and that the balance had been expended in the maintenance of offices and the payment of salaries. The company's charter will expire in the course of a year or so, its application for an extension of time for construction having been refused at the Ontario Legislature's recent session. An opinion was expressed at the meeting that the surveys made and rights acquired under the charter might be taken over by the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario, which was responsible for the legislature's refusal of an extension of time, in connection with the plans for municipally electric owned lines. D. Fraser is Chairman, and Z.C. Ketchum, Secretary of the Committee. J.G. Kilt, President of the company has been invited to give an explanation of its affairs to the committee before any definite action is taken.

In the 11 actions against shareholders at Cornwall, the county judge has given judgement for the amounts claimed. Seven writs were issued at Ottawa against other shareholders, and writs against at least 25 other shareholders are to be issued for the non-payment of instalments due.

01-Aug-1915

Page 318

An unconfirmed press report states that work will be resumed at an early date upon the construction of this projected railway, three miles south of Billings Bridge, near Ottawa and that it will proceed southerly to Morrisburg.

01-May-1916

Page 200

J.A. Hilt informed the Ontario Legislature's Railway Committee, May 31, that it is proposed to spend \$30,000 on surveys and other work connected with the railway during this year, and he asked for assurance that the bonding power would be increased to \$40,000 a mile. The committee did not feel that it was justified in acceding to this request, and the matter stood over for consideration by the Legislature.

01-Jun-1916

Page 239

A special general meeting of shareholders was called to be held at the company's office, Ottawa, on May 30 to forfeit all stock on which any arrears for calls or interest were due.

01-Nov-1916

Page 460

The following advertisement was published in Ottawa papers recently: "The Secretary-Treasurer of the above company will be at his office, 210-211 Union Bank Building, Ottawa from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. every day until Oct. 4, 1916, to receive payments or to make settlements with shareholders in arrears, and that (excepting such shareholders as against whom this company has judgement, or suits pending, or who have given promissory notes, or who have voluntarily made other satisfactory settlement) all shares other than as specified above upon which any call of part off call or other part remains unpaid, on our books as of date Oct. 14, 1916, may be forfeited to the company, that such forfeited shares will be disposed of by the directors in such manner and at such times as may be deemed advisable and in accordance with the Statute of Ontario governing such sales of forfeited shares; and take further notice -That the Secretary-Treasurer of this company is the only authorized person to give receipts for money paid to the credit of this company and shareholders and others will govern themselves accordingly." This company failed in securing from the Ontario Legislature last session an extension of time for construction. The company did some grading, but could not get further funds. In May, 1915, it began to take proceedings against its shareholders to recover unpaid instalments of calls and secured judgement against a considerable number of them.

01-Jul-1917

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J.G. Kilt, President of the projected Morrisburg and Ottawa Ry. died suddenly in Ottawa recently, aged 54.