

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION, 1905.

To
THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT AND THE MEMBERS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF VICTORIA IN
PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

THE HUMBLE PETITION

OF

The Melbourne Tramways Trust, whose Seal
is hereunto affixed.

SHEWETH:—

1. THAT your Petitioners are a body corporate representing for Tramways purposes the following Municipalities namely:—The City of Melbourne, The City of Fitzroy, The City of Collingwood, The City of Prahran, The City of Richmond, The City of South Melbourne, The City of St. Kilda, The City of Hawthorn, The Town of North Melbourne, The Town of Brunswick, The Town of Port Melbourne, and the Borough of Kew.

2. THAT the construction of Electric Railways or Tramways as proposed within the abovenamed Municipalities involves, as your Petitioners respectfully submit, an infringement on the rights and privileges conferred on them by Parliament under the Act No. 765 (*The Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company's Act 1883*) and subsequent Tramway Acts, and affirmed by Act No. 786 (*The Local Government Act Amendment Act 1883*), and the construction of such Tramways to compete with the undertaking of your Petitioners would be contrary to the spirit and intention of the said Acts.

3. That under the powers conferred as aforesaid your Petitioners have borrowed sums amounting to One Million Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds sterling (£1,650,000) on the securities of the Tramways so constructed and upon the properties and revenues of the aforesaid Municipalities.

4. That the Tramways constructed by your petitioners have under the authority of the aforesaid Acts been leased to the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company Limited for a term expiring on the first day of July

1916, and your Petitioners are now receiving annually, from the aforesaid Company, the sum of one hundred and nineteen thousand two hundred and fifty pounds sterling (£119,250) as and by way of interest and sinking fund payable in respect of the Debentures issued by your Petitioners under the authority and on the faith of the aforesaid Acts and Leases, which amount will be increased gradually to one hundred and twenty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds sterling (£123,750) per annum.

5. That if such Electric Railways or Tramways are constructed the competition with the existing Tramways might cause the aforesaid Company to be unable to carry out its obligations to your Petitioners and the security of the holders of the said Debentures might thereby be seriously affected, and the obligation now taken by the said Company would be transferred to the ratepayers, and would necessarily lead to increased Rating of the Municipalities represented by your Petitioners, and in any event would depreciate a valuable asset at present owned by the Trust.

6. Your Petitioners therefore humbly submit that no such Electric Railways or Tramways should be sanctioned by Parliament within the above-mentioned Municipalities without the consent of your Petitioners, who represent the said Municipalities and are their Trustees.

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE PRAY that, on the grounds hereinbefore set forth, your Honourable House will be pleased to withhold its consent to the construction of any Electric Railways or Tramways within the boundaries of the Municipalities represented by your Petitioners unless they are approved by your Petitioners.

AND your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Dated this 16th day of August, 1905.

THE COMMON SEAL of The Melbourne
Tramway Trust was hereto affixed in the
presence of



Chairman of the Trust.

Secretary of the said Trust.

IN PARLIAMENT.
Legislative Council.

PETITION
OF
THE MELBOURNE TRAMWAYS'
TRUST.
