CANNING COMPANIES POOL FOR SELLING.

Forty of the "independent" canning companies in Ontario have entered into an agreement to market their entire output through a new sales corporation which has secured a provincial charter under the name of Canned Goods, Limited, capitalized at $100,000. The company will have a board of 12 directors, representative of the partner factories, and its general sales agents for Canada will be W. H. Millman and Sons, 27 Front Street East Toronto.

INTEREST ON DOMINION LOANS.

The following statement as to rates of interest paid upon Dominion loans since 1890 was tabled in the House at Ottawa:

Year.	Amount.	Interest at %
1892	£3,750,000	3
1894	2,250,000	3
1897	2,000,000	2½
1907	1,500,000	4
February, 1908	3,000,000	3½
June, 1908	5,000,000	3¾
October, 1908	5,000,000	3½
January, 1909	6,000,000	3¾
July, 1909	6,500,000	3½
January, 1910	5,000,000	3½
February, 1912	5,000,000	3½
October, 1913	3,000,000	4
May, 1913	4,000,000	4
March, 1914	5,000,000	4

POLITICS AND FINANCE.

"Party politics is always seen at its worst when it enters the sphere of finance," says Mr. R. D. Bell, in the monthly circular of Messrs. Greenshields and Company, Montreal. "Corporate finance suffers equally in appearance when it enters the sphere of politics. At Ottawa, just now, the spheres are mutually involved to a considerable extent, and if the figure they cut is a sorry one, it is not because our politics is bad or our finance weak—it is because the two spheres have always a corroding influence on the other. The phenomenon is visible in all great countries.

"After a government has undertaken a great public work and the administration has changed, there must be a public scandal. First because government operation of great projects is, from its very nature, necessarily wasteful and, second, because the exigencies of party politics demand an exposure of such wastefulness in as sensational a manner as possible. That is the best and the worst of the National Transcontinental disclosures.

"When a young industry is dependent upon governmental protection or assistance on the one hand, and the loans of investors on the other, it is forced to adopt a dual rôle. To the investors it must present its most cheerful countenance, its greatest strength. To the government it must assume its most sorrowful mien, must expose its most secret skeletons. That is the story of the Canadian Northern and the Dominion Steel Corporation.

"There is no question of distress among our leading corporations. The railway executives, to complete a transcontinental railroad that calls for more money than they can economically borrow on their own credit, seek the necessary aid from a government which has always adopted a general attitude favorable to such a request. A large steel corporation, realizing its long-standing mistake in paying dividends barely earned on stock representing no actual investment, seeks the necessary protection that will enable them to earn enough to pay that dividend.

"The shrewd financier who now occupies the position of minister of finance will doubtless grant such assistance as is just and equitable, not neglecting in the one case to secure for the country the necessary quid pro quo, and making sure in the other that the protection given will not be at the expense of the consumer whose needs are as important as those of the corporation."