

obvious. It will give her exporters to Africa a pull over their competitors in the Argentine. From the South African point of view, the gain must be sentimental rather than practical. The last available figures show that Australia exported to South Africa £2,072,968 worth of goods, and imported from South Africa only £7,039 worth. It is easy to see why Australians are much more pleased with a preferential arrangement with South Africa than they are with the prospect of a similar arrangement with Canada.

The terrible depression in the Kaffir market may contribute something to diverting attention to Canada where enterprises liable to stock exchange manipulation are less numerous than in South Africa. At the beginning of last year, it was thought that mining values had about touched bottom, and various companies were formed for the purpose of purchasing and holding shares for a general rise in the market. The experience of three of these organizations is striking. The Gold Mines Investment Company was registered in January, 1905, with a capital of £2,000,000, of which £1,000,000 in £4 shares was paid up. Of that sum, £941,357 went to purchase shares. Eighteen months afterwards, the market value of these shares was £519,197. The New Eastern Investment Company during the year ending June 30th, saw its holdings depreciate from £509,354 to £166,668, a drop of £342,686. The General Mining and Finance Corporation is a mine share trust with investments in companies chiefly managed by itself. It controls eleven mines with a total capital of £4,997,726. Within the last six months, that capital value has fallen by £1,775,517. The corporation's holdings in the eleven mines was £1,071,940,—21.5 per cent. The depreciation to be borne by the Corporation, therefore, is £381,736. The belief of eighteen months ago that bottom had been touched by the Kaffir market was astoundingly fallacious. The only sure thing you can say about the present prices is that, by the extent of the depreciation already noted, they are so much nearer the bottom. They may soon be a good speculation. Which is some consolation, though not much, for those who have been holding on.

A tendency in public finance which is worthy of notice, is the direct application to local expenditure of the principle upon which the needs of the central government have been met from time immemorial,—the principle of borrowing in small amounts from those on whose credit the public finances must ultimately rest. It is a tendency against which many financiers are wont to kick. But it is in the order of natural development, and he is a wise man who, instead of fighting against the inevitable, seizes the new opportunities for enterprise which are always presenting themselves to individuals possessed of the blessed gift of long sight. You do not make money out of the future by fighting against it. The change has not made itself felt in Canada as yet. It will come in due course. Some municipalities in Great Britain have begun to forsake the custom of raising loans in large amounts from bankers, and have advertised instead among their own ratepayers for small loans of £10 and upwards. The bankers in some places have rebelled mildly against this method of borrowing money directly in the open market. The London County Council was the first public body to introduce the custom of issuing bills, which has been followed by several great municipal corporations. In some cases the banks are said to have retaliated by raising their charges for overdrafts from Bank rate with a minimum of 3 per cent. to a minimum of 4 per cent. A sign of the same tendency is discoverable in the terms on which the Queensland Government is offering to sell some of its lands to emigrants. If you

buy a Queensland farm for cash, the Government will pay you 3 per cent. on the amount of the purchase, so long as you are fulfilling residential conditions—a simple device for borrowing money at 3 per cent. without the employment of middlemen. There is no essential difference between this and the Government selling consols to the citizens direct, for purposes of warfare. In a way, it is a stimulant to local patriotism. On general principles you do not go outside a constituency to find a member of parliament to represent it. There is nothing revolutionary in finding the means of financing the projects of a municipality within the municipality itself if it can be done more cheaply than through the time-honored channels. While the average local politician is becoming wiser than he used to be. In the long run there is more money for everybody the more the public administrators save.

"The enrichment of the United States by Canada" would have been a suitable title to the reprint of Dr. Morley Wickett's article in the "Political Science Quarterly" upon Canadians in the United States. Dr. Wickett deals exhaustively with the southward emigration of at least 1,800,000 native-born Canadians in the last 55 years. We are getting some of our own back again; but, the loss can never be entirely retrieved. That so many people left Canada without destroying it is a compliment to its national virility, though it may reflect upon the wisdom and courage of those who thought they were magnificently guiding the destinies of the country during many lean years. It is no use crying over spilt milk. It is better, when our modest neighbors affect to look condescendingly upon us, to know that we have given them infinitely more than they can ever pay back to us. The capital value of the Canadian emigrants into the Republic has only been partially estimated. The people of the United States will never make the estimate, because they are afraid to show what it means in moral and financial obligations. Canadians are too modest to do it. Dr. Wickett opens up a tempting prospect to the reveller in arithmetical progression when he says that the nourishment and education of every one of the 1,750,000 adult emigrants from Canada to the United States costs his native country at least \$1,000. Allowing 100,000 for persons of British birth and education, Canada presented to the United States in living capital alone \$1,650,000,000, or equivalent to half of the loss inflicted on France by the Franco-German war of 1871. The benefit to the United States, of course, has been very much greater than that represented by these formidable figures. The Canadians have been in quality a little above the average homestayers; for they have gone forth because they were more ambitious than their fellows who remained behind. That they have been very much in advance of the average American is proved by statistics of the high positions they occupy. If the brains and strength which they and their children have given to the upbuilding of the United States could have been retained in Canada, how much further along the road to national prosperity and international power would Canada have travelled. There is still a leakage, of course, for there will always be migrations from one country to another, whatever the conditions of prosperity may be. But it is a leakage and not a drainage; and it will be more than compensated for.

The Scott Lumber Co. are securing some 7,000 acres of timber land fronting on the Oromocto river, in Sunbury county, N.B.

The British Columbia Powder Co., Limited, has secured a site for a dynamite mill on the north arm of Burrard Inlet. The initial output will be four tons per day. The dynamite is to be practically smokeless, containing no free gas. One of the ingredients of the brand being, an absorbent called randanite, or silicate of aluminum. Jas. Ironside, Vancouver, is president of the company.