

Personal Notes

MR. JAMES MCGREGOR, manager for Canada of the Commercial Union Assurance Company, returned this week from a trip to Manitoba and British Columbia. During his absence he visited Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria. In each of these cities he found business prosperous and growth rapid, especially in Winnipeg. The trip was occasioned by the business of the company in British Columbia being recently placed under Mr. McGregor's jurisdiction.

MR. L. V. NORMAN, superintendent of agencies for Canada of the London & Lancashire Life Insurance Company, has returned from a business trip through the Lower Provinces, where the company has a strong organization, and reports general prosperity throughout that part of the country. Mr. Norman after visiting the different agencies of the company in the Province of Quebec will leave for Manitoba and the Northwest.

EX-JUDGE DOHERTY was this week elected to the directorate of the City and District Savings Bank, which is now composed as follows: Hon. J. A. Ouimet, president; Mr. Michael Burke, vice-president; Hon. Robert Mackay, Hon. R. Dandurand, Messrs. H. Markland Molson, Richard Bolton, G. W. Moncel, Robert Archer, M. Nowlan Delisle, and Hon. C. J. Doherty.

IT IS A MATTER FOR REGRET that Mr. Alexander Laird, general manager of the Bank of Commerce, has been advised by his physicians to take a three months' rest in Europe. Mr. Laird will accordingly sail for London in two weeks.

MR. CHARLES H. NEELY, manager for Canada of the Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation, was in Montreal for a few days this week.

Correspondence

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

FIRE INSURANCE AGENTS' COMMISSION.

Editor, THE CHRONICLE:

Sir,—

A position of affairs exists among agents representing tariff companies that in my humble opinion ought to be corrected at the next meeting of C. F. U. A. to be held 17th. Toronto agents receive a higher commission than agents in other places, with the result that a risk, say in Peterboro, or Lindsay, or Ottawa, can be placed by a Toronto agent, and the company pays him larger commission than if the insurance was received through the local agent. This is an injustice to agents not of Toronto.

I ask through the medium of your valuable paper, that all the agents throughout Ontario, in accord with the above, write their respective companies asking that either their commission be increased to equal that of the Toronto agents, or the Commission of Toronto Agents, on business not located in Toronto, be reduced to that paid to agents not of Toronto.

Yours truly, "SIMCOE."

Stock Exchange Notes

There was a general improvement in prices this week, and although the highest level has not been maintained, the closing figures to-night show an advance over the level prevailing a week ago. Apart from Montreal Power, Detroit Railway, and Dominion Iron Common, the trading was not active, but these three securities show a good volume of business. Montreal Power was the most active security and closed firm. There is considerable interest being evinced in this stock at the present time and higher figures are looked for. Money conditions, however, may possibly retard the expected improvement, as supplies for stock market requirements are still limited, with little new money coming out. An interesting development this week was the decision of the Montreal Stock Exchange to advance the commission rate from 1-8 to 1-4 of 1 per cent., thus resuming the old basis which was discarded some two years ago. The trial of the 1-8 commission has not given the results anticipated, and it is generally felt that under existing conditions in Montreal, the higher rate of commission is justified.

Canadian Pacific closed with 175 bid, a net gain for the week of 1 point. The trading was small, and apart from one sale of 100 shares at 177 3-4, the balance of the week's business consisted of transactions in small broken lots. The earnings for the first week of April show an increase of \$164,000. Soo Common was not traded in this week and closed with 108 3-4 X. D. bid, an advance of 3 1-4 points on quotation for the week. Montreal Street Railway on sales of 240 shares closed with 218 bid, an advance of 2 1-4 points over last week's closing quotation. Toronto Railway was traded in to the extent of 411 shares, and closed at an advance of 1 point for the week with 196 bid. Twin City closed with 95 bid, a gain of 2 points for the week, and 305 shares changed hands. Detroit Railway was the second stock in point of activity in this week's market and 2,383 shares were involved in the week's business. The stock advanced to 77 1-2, but reacted and closed with 75 3-4 bid, a net gain of 3 3-8 points for the week. Toledo Railway was stronger and closed with 26 bid, an advance of 1 1-4 points for the week on sales of 405 shares. Illinois Preferred also shows an advance and closed with 89 bid, a gain of 1 point for the week on transactions involving 264 shares. Halifax Tram closed with 100 bid as compared with 99 a week ago, and 104 shares changed hands. There were no transactions in the Havana stocks this week. The Common closed with 34 bid and the Preferred with 71 bid.

R. & O. showed a decided improvement in price and on sales for the week of 407 shares, advanced to 77, and closed firm with 77 bid, a net gain of 5 1-2 points over last week's closing quotation. The Mackay stocks were more active and closed stronger. The Common was traded in to the extent of 519 shares, and the closing bid of 70 shows an advance of 3 1-2 points over the quotation prevailing a week ago. The Preferred closed with 69 bid, an advance of 2 full points for the week and 468 shares figured in the trading. Montreal Power was the most active security in this week's market, and 3,627 shares were traded in. The stock advanced to 93 1-2 and closed with 92 3-4 bid, a net gain of 2 1-4 points for the week.

Dominion Iron Common advanced to 21 and closed with 20 1-2 bid, a gain of 1 1-4 points for the week, and 1,883 shares were traded in. The Preferred stock closed at an advance of 1 point for the week, with 53 1-2 bid, but the only sales were broken lots to the extent of 35 shares in all. The Bonds were traded in for \$17,000 and closed with 76 1-4 bid, a gain of 1 1-4 points for the week. Dominion Coal Common closed unchanged from a week ago with 60 bid, and 277 shares changed hands. There were no sales in the Preferred stock, but in the Bonds \$3,000 were traded in, the last sales being made at 99. Nova Scotia Steel Common shows a gain of 1 5-8 shares and closed with 72 bid on sales for the week of 455 shares. The Preferred stock sales involved 16 shares, but there were no transactions in the Bonds. Dominion Textile Preferred closed with 92 1-2 X. D. bid, as compared with 90 X. D. a week ago, and 70 shares changed hands. The closing quotations for the Bonds were as follows:—Series A. & B. 87 bid, Series C. 85 bid, Series D. no quotation. Montreal Cotton closed offered at 122 with 119 bid, and Canadian

Colored Cotton offered at 54 with 49 bid.

Lake of the Woods Common was traded in to the extent of 438 shares, and closed with 74 X. D. bid, equivalent to