Market and Financial Section

BANK MEETINGS.

Dominion (Toronto), January 31, 1912.
Metropolitan (Toronto), January 23, 1912.
Northern Crown (Winnipeg), February 14, 1912.
Nova Scotia (Halifax), January 24, 1912.
Provinciale (Montreal), January 24, 1912.
Standard (Toronto), February 21, 1912.

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The net profits of the Northern Ohio Traction & Light Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, were $670,466, equal to 7.45 p.c. on the outstanding capital stock, as compared with 6.30 p.c. the year previous.

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The directors of the Ottawa Electric Railway Company have declared an extra 3 p.c. bonus on their stock, in addition to the regular two per cent. bonus and ten per cent. dividend declared for some years past, making the total dividend for the year fifteen per cent.

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Cape Breton Electric earnings for the twelve months ended October 31, were $334,625 gross and $160,424 net, an increase in the latter over the preceding year of $9,771. After meeting interest charges and taxes and making provision for sinking and improvement funds, there remained on hand a balance of $86,616, an increase of $9,895, over the year before.

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The Banque Provinciale reports profits for the year ended December 31 last, as $184,398 against $149,063 in the previous year. This year's profits are equivalent to nearly 18½ p.c. upon the paid-up capital of $1,000,000. Of the profits, $75,000 is placed to reserve, making this fund $500,000. The total assets of the bank are $12,080,993 against $9,578,217 last year.

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The London Economist's end of December index number is 2,581, a loss of 16 points during the month, following an increase of 21 points in November. The chief declines were in textiles and groceries. Cereals and meat rose 12 points to 594½, in addition to an 11½ point rise in November; "other foodstuffs" (tea, sugar, etc.) declined 15 points to 407; textiles declined 16½ points to 539½; minerals advanced 8 points to 460; timber, leather, etc., declined 4 points to 580½.

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SHAREHOLDERS APPROVE DOMINION STEEL CORPORATION'S NEW FINANCING.

At a large meeting of shareholders of the Dominion Steel Corporation held on Monday, in Montreal, the issue of $6,000,000 of preferred stock was approved. In order to make the situation clear. Mr. Plummer, the president, read a portion of the circular sent out to the shareholders some time since, as follows:—

"The purchase of 50,000 shares of stock in the Dominion Coal Company in 1909 involved an additional expenditure of $5,000,000, which was provided for in a temporary way only, and the redemption of the second mortgage bonds of the Steel Company caused an expenditure of $1,500,000.

Capital requirements—The further capital required to complete the full programme of development and expansion which your directors are carrying out is as follows:

For the Coal Company	$3,250,000
For the Steel Company	1,845,000
Balance payable on stock of Dominion Coal Company	700,000
	$5,795,000
In addition, moneys borrowed temporarily on bonds for construction purposes and already expended are to be repaid	2,200,000
Making in all	$7,995,000

Of this amount it is expected that at least $1,995,000 will be provided from earnings, leaving $6,000 000 to be provided by the sale of securities. Looking at the interests of the Corporation as a whole it may be said that $5,000,000 of this is offset by the $5,000,000 of Dominion Coal stock purchased, and that the new financing therefore will not materially affect its annual charges.

Mr. Plummer said these were big figures, but he held that the situation warranted the expenditure. He also stated that the coal company was doing remarkably well and while they expected to raise 4,500,000 tons this year he hoped they would reach an output of 5,000,000 tons during the next year, which would be the maximum for some time perhaps. The completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific to Moncton would also create a strong new market for the Springhill mines. He also announced that the yearly requirements of the Intercolonial ware over 600,000 tons.

Mr. Plummer stated that the Steel Company also was doing excellently, and referring to the method of financing adopted, said that it was the same as had been followed by the United States Steel Corporation. The preferred stock would, no doubt, be listed on the London, Paris and Brussels markets and a good market would be created.

Negotiations are now pending with a London and Paris banking house for the placing of the $6,000,000 of preferred stock now authorised by the shareholders. In reply to a question, Mr. Plummer said that he would look into the question of quarterly statements by the Steel Corporation.

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At the annual meeting of Carriage Factories, Ltd., held at Montreal on Tuesday, a gross income of $2,200,000 for the year was reported. After setting aside $23,158 for loan charges and depreciation, allowing $8,900 for organization expenses, and after payments of 6 per cent. on the half-million dollar bond issue and 7 p.c. on the $1,200,000 of preferred stock there remained out of net earnings a balance of $38,465.88 to be carried forward.

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MERCHANTS' BANK NEW ISSUE OF STOCK.

The new issue of $1,000,000 stock of the Merchants' Bank of Canada will be made at a premium of 75 p.c. or at the rate of $175 per share. The allotment will be to shareholders of record January 25th, in the proportion of one share of new stock for every six shares of old. The first instalment of 10 per cent. will be payable on the date of the acceptance of the allotment or within thirty days thereafter; subsequent instalments for equal amounts will be payable about every six weeks, the dates to be April 15th, June 1st, July 15th, September 2nd, October 15th, December 2nd, 1912, and January 15th, March 1st, and April 15th, 1913.