

ALBERTA'S FINANCING IS CRITICIZED

Victoria is Selling Big Block of Bonds—New Westminster and Interest Rate

"Canada has been overborrowing," said Sir Max Aitken, M.P., upon his arrival in Montreal from England. And his subsequent remarks are reported thus:—

"Do you refer to Quebec or Ontario with regard to over-borrowing?" he was asked.

"No, I am not referring to old Canada, neither can anything be said against the financial methods of the lower provinces. The west, however, has been going too fast in a great many ways."

"Have you Alberta in mind?" he was asked.

"Yes," he replied, "that is where the shoe pinches. Alberta's financing has been anything but wise. The western municipalities generally have been going it at a rapid pace, but, of course, the wonderful development and rapidly increasing population will help them out in the end."

The *Monetary Times* agrees with Sir Max Aitken that some western municipalities have been moving quickly, but it seems scarcely fair to make Alberta shoulder most of the blame. There is room for municipal economy, not only in that province but in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and in Eastern Canada, too. As Sir Max Aitken truly indicates, Canada is a little out of breath with the strenuous race of development, but the body national is sound. The money market situation is giving a much-needed breathing spell.

Victoria's Bond Issue.

The issue in London of Victoria bonds of \$2,350,000 was only part of the city's debentures for sale. The British Columbia capital has still about \$2,000,000 worth of debentures, including those for school and local improvement purposes, to be sold. City Comptroller Raymur says that the \$2,350,000 just sold was all that the London market was asked to absorb. The remaining \$2,000,000 and over are being disposed of in New York and Toronto through the city's fiscal agents, the Dominion Securities Corporation, and from time to time small amounts are sold, and the proceeds remitted to Victoria. The prices so far are about the same as that for the recent issue in London, namely, around 92.

Saskatoon's School Bonds.

Saskatoon school board are considering the disposal of the remaining \$125,000 worth of bonds of an issue of \$175,000. These will have to be sold within a month, or the work on the new Buena Vista school will have to be postponed. Following the announcement of Messrs. Wood, Gundy and Company, Toronto, that it would be impossible to dispose of the Saskatoon school bond issue at 93½, as at first planned, the board decided to dispose of \$25,000 at 90 if possible. Word was later received that a sale of \$50,000 worth of the bonds could be arranged, and Secretary Bate procured the permission of the board members to forward instructions for their disposal at that price.

The city solicitor has advised the New Westminster city council that the city cannot legally raise the interest on last year's unsold local improvement debenture bonds from 4½ to 5 per cent. This opinion does not apply to the other city bonds, and the by-law to raise the interest rate so far as they are affected will be submitted.

Three bids were received for the \$5,000 6 per cent. 20-year road debentures of Touchwood Rural Municipality No. 248, Sask. As previously noted, the offer of Messrs. Brent, Noxon and Company, Toronto, was accepted.

The Parkes Construction Company, of North Tonawanda, N.Y., will build a branch plant in Hamilton.

CANADA WILL FIND DIFFICULTY

In Floating Loans in London in View of Present Market Conditions

The Canadian Associated Press learns that attempts made to float a new Alberta loan in London have, so far, been fruitless. There appears to be a deadlock regarding new flotations which applies all round, particularly to Canadian propositions.

There is no feeling of actual alarm among well-informed city circles, but at the same time there are restless and uneasy symptoms prevailing.

The Dominion Glass Company is about to make an offer in London of \$1,500,000 seven per cent. cumulative preference shares of \$100 each.

New Listings on Exchange.

Applications have been made to list on the London Stock Exchange the following issues: Terminal Cities, \$3,300,000; Tramways, \$2,890,000, 5s.; City of Moose Jaw, £257,700, 5s., and City of Toronto, £114,300, 4s.

The following issues have been listed on the London Stock Exchange: City of Quebec, £400,600 four and a halves, and the City of Maissonneuve, £187,600 fives.

It is stated in London that an important confidential meeting of international bankers was recently held, at which it was decided that dissensions that had been current during the previous week must cease at once.

It is reported that terms were arranged whereby future maturities will be met by powerful firms, but that no issues that are not absolutely imperative are to be made.

There may be some further liquidation later, but the opinion prevails in authoritative circles that the acute danger point is passed.

Changes in Prices.

During the past week the following changes occurred in Canadian securities in London:

Province of Alberta sterling, 1938, 4 per cent., 93-95.
 Alberta, 10-year-old debentures, 1922, 93-95.
 Dominion of Canada, 1909-34, 3½ per cent., 93-95.
 Dominion of Canada, registered, 1930-50, 92-94.
 Dominion of Canada, registered, 1938, 3 per cent., 83-85.
 Newfoundland inscribed, 98-100.
 Province of Nova Scotia, 1949, 3 per cent., 74-76.
 Province of Nova Scotia, 1954, 3½ per cent., 83-85.
 Province of Ontario, registered, 1946, 3½ per cent., 86-88.
 Edmonton, 1915-48, 5 per cent., 92-94.
 Montreal, 1942, 3½ per cent., 83-85.

DEBENTURES AWARDED

Melfort, Sask.—\$45,000.

London, Ont.—\$764,500 debentures to Wood, Gundy and Company, Toronto.

Touchwood R.M., Sask.—\$5,000 6 per cent., to Brent, Noxon and Company, Toronto.

Saskatoon, Sask.—\$50,000 school debentures, to Messrs. Wood, Gundy and Company, Toronto.

Calgary, Alta.—\$250,000 5 per cent. school debentures, to Messrs. W. A. Mackenzie and Company, Toronto.

Montreal, Que.—\$200,000 5 per cent. 20 years Hochelaga school debentures, to North British Securities Company, Montreal.

Branches of the Canadian Bank of Commerce have been opened at Kincaid, Sask., and Sharp, Sask., in charge of Mr. E. O. Clement and Mr. H. B. Maunsell, respectively.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Venezuelan Ore Company has been called to authorize the increasing of the bond issue of the company by the issue of \$500,000 new bonds. The meeting is also asked to rescind a motion passed two years ago creating \$500,000 preference stock.

STOCKS AND BONDS TABLE—NOTES

(u) Unlisted.

† Canadian Consolidated Rubber Bond Denominations, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Steel Company of Canada, \$100, \$500, \$1,000. Sherwin Williams, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Penmans, Ltd., \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Canadian Cottons, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000.

‡ Quarterly.

All companies named in the tables will favor The *Monetary Times* by sending copies of all circulars issued to their shareholders, and by notifying us of any errors in the tables.

** Trethewey pays no regular dividend. They have paid:—1906, 4%; 1907, 4%; 1908, 15%; 1909, 25% 1910, 10%; 1911, 20%; 1912, 10%.

Montreal prices (close Thursday) furnished by Burnett & Co., 12 St. Sacramento Street, Montreal

Figures in brackets indicate in footnotes date on which books close for dividends, etc.

(1) June 16-31 (2) June 6-16 (3) June 16-July 2 (4) June 20-30