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for Trust Funds.

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Toronto St. Toronto

Established 1855.

# THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

 Capital Authorized
 \$25,000,000

 Capital Paid Up
 \$11,560,000

 Reserve Funds
 \$13,000,000

 Total Assets
 \$180,000,000

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# ONEY AN



## The Bank Act Through Committee

WITH very few and very slight amendments, the Bank Act has passed the Banking and Commerce Committee. Fully half of the amendments proposed were withdrawn by their authors, and of those which were put to the vote, nine-tenths were defeated.

were put to the vote, nine-tenths were defeated.

An important change was made, on the motion of Hon. Mr. White, in the question of audit, the main principle of audit by an accountant appointed by the shareholders being retained, but the selection being limited to a list of forty men selected by the whole body of general managers in Canada, and approved by the Minister. The further reservation was made that one-third of the shareholders, if dissatisfied with the auditor appointed by the majority, may appeal to the Minister for another. may appeal to the Minister for another.

may appeal to the Minister for another.

The question of the interest rate caused a long and very bitter debate. Eventually the Minister's amendment was adopted. It reads: "The bank may stipulate for, take or receive or exact such rate of interest or discount per annum as may be agreed upon, and may receive or take in advance any such rate, but no higher interest than seven per cent. shall be recoverable by the bank." This is the most noteworthy of all the changes.

Mr. F. B. McCurdy's amendment, making it an offence for any officer or director of a bank to accept gifts from those seeking banking accommodation, was adopted. So was Mr. Carvell's, which prohibits the practice—a common one in the Maritime Provinces—of branch managers acting as insurance agents, and exerting pressure on clients to insure through them.

The story of the bill in the committee stage furnished food for thought. There have been many and diverse opinions upon many and diverse matters.

There have been many and diverse opinions upon many and diverse matters. But the amendments made are, on the whole, favourable to the community

## A Surprise in Brazilian Traction

MILD sensation was created by a despatch from London to the effect that an issue of \$10,000,000 six per cent. non-cumulative preferred stock was to be made. This report is confirmed. The stock has been underwritten by a London syndicate, and will be issued at par. The preferred stock is convertible into common at 120. Such a move came as a surprise. It was thought to be the intention of the directors that any additional financing would be effected by an issue of common stock. Unfavourtional financing would be effected by an issue of common stock. Unfavourable market conditions, however, prevented the possibility of a common stock issue around par, and, as the money was urgently needed, an issue of preferred was chosen as the way out. The issue in London is being well received, there being a good demand for the underwriting of the issue there. But locally, the news was not received with any great enthusiasm, the market taking the view that the pushing in of \$10,000,000 new preferred stock meant that dividend increases on the common stock would be just that much farther away. Further, the general belief was that Brazilian was about through away Further, the general belief was that Brazilian was about through financing, and had ample money for all its requirements, and that if those in control were about to create an issue of the magnitude of the one announced, there was no telling where this ultra-financing was going to end. In consequence of such opinion, the common stock went down from 953/4

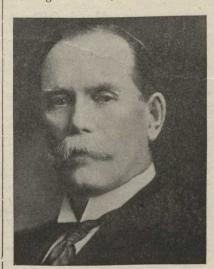
to 9134, though it rallied next day.

One thing is certain: the Company has done a very creditable piece of financing in floating the new issue, at a time when the market was tight, and the probabilities of getting such a large amount were conspicuously few.

# On and Off the Exchange

## Remarkable Development of Montreal Power

O NCE more, this go-ahead company reports a big increase. Ever since it started, through its able president, Mr. H. S. Holt, lighting and heating Montreal, and doing it more cheaply as well as more effectively than all the little jerkwater utility corporations that were trying it, it has con-



MR. H. S. HOLT President Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company.

sistently lowered the rates to the consumer, and increased the dividends to the shareholder. Despite the fact that the capital of the company has remained unchanged the gross earnings have increased 220 per cent. since 1902, a remarkable record even for a Canadian public utility corporation. Furthermore, the assets of the company have been growing at a great rate, and the reserve funds, including profit and loss surplus, contingent, insurance, etc., will total at present about six and a half million dollars.

million dollars.

The gross revenue for the year ending April 30th, is approximately \$5,-600,000, as compared with \$4,969,254 in 1912. Taking an average ratio of working expenses to gross, this would give net profits equal to about 16 per cent.

MR. H. S. HOLT

on the stock outstanding, contrasted with 13.87 in the previous year.

It is a notable fact that the decrease in fixed charges is an actual and not

proportionate one. It has continued year by year since 1904.
The tabulated earnings on the common stock are some indication of the

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Total Assets, \$2,800,000 00
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