

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS IN CITIES.

(Continued.)

cost because of the benefit that accrues to the remainder of the property. Obviously they obtain no advantage if the park is acquired after they sold the adjacent land for building, and in these cases the city is compelled to pay building prices for what they require and give a present of the increment of value to the adjacent property owners.

When we have proper town planning we shall get adequate parks and playgrounds, because we shall acquire them at a sufficiently low cost to enable us to reserve large areas without adding to the burden of taxation.—“House Planning.”

BANK OF MONTREAL GIVES SHAREHOLDERS A BONUS OF TWO PER CENT FOR THIS YEAR ONLY.

In Addition to Usual Quarterly Dividend.

Following the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Montreal, it was announced that the usual quarterly dividend of 3 per cent had been declared, together with a bonus of 2 per cent for this year only.

The bank desires it to be understood that there has been no increase in its interest rates to borrowers in Canada and that the additional distribution to shareholders is the result of a successful year's business and the enhanced value of money outside of Canada where the bank's reserves are to an extent carried.

This bonus to the shareholders is a further evidence of the bank's progress during the year and an indication that Canada is steadily advancing through the re-construction period to sound normal conditions.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING INCREASES EFFICIENCY OF WORKERS.

There is not an instance where industrial housing has been worked out with particular reference to the comforts of those most interested—the workers—that their self-respect and general efficiency have not greatly improved. Today the inducement of high wages without attractive home surroundings will not foster contentment in the workingman with his position. No matter how dirty his work may be, he wants to keep himself and his home surroundings clean. He has learned to appreciate and value attractive, comfortable, modern, sanitary quarters. He, as well as his employers, realizes that these are conducive not only to his personal efficiency, but to his health and general welfare.—From “Concrete for Industrial Housing.”

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