

ern Canada, like other parts, must learn that it takes more than tall talk and great assurance to direct or manage large concerns; and that no amount of patronage, wire-pulling, daring or hall-marks in any line can fit men for positions in the business and work-a-day world which in other communities are won and maintained only as the result of years of careful training, patient endeavour, prolonged experience, and faithful service.

No doubt there are cases here and there where men who—so far as brains and initiative are concerned—might have been hod-men all their days, now ride in motor cars as the result of fortunate (or directed) speculation in lands or lots which have become valuable through no effort of theirs. But without adopting any unreasonable socialistic attitude, we may, in most cases, fairly question how far the competition is open, or the means fair, when men with little training or short service obtain positions of prominence or security and become "well fixed" in manhood's earlier years.

For the sake of the reputation of Canada and British Columbia, no less than for the sake of the depositors, directors and shareholders, it is to be hoped that the condition of the Dominion Trust Company and its assets may ultimately be found to be much better than the interim liquidator's report would indicate. The Board of Directors includes men whose personal integrity and business capacity "goes without saying" in this community; and while that fact engenders sympathy towards them, it also increases the responsibility attached to their connection with the company, which in some parts of the Empire might have placed them in a very awkward position.

On the other hand, it is even suggested in some quarters that, with time given, the affairs of the company might be so adjusted, and the assets realized, as to enable payment to be made of a hundred cents to the dollar. For the credit and comfort of all concerned we should all be happy to find that true—if the realization took place in our time.

It has also been alleged that both the Dominion and the British Columbia Provincial Governments were remiss. Whatever be the division of blame, is it not possible that there are men in the Governments or among the directorate who could jointly salve the company for their own and the country's sake? No one can have anything but praise for the men who "seek the bubble, reputation, even at the cannon's mouth" in such a war as is now being waged by our Empire and her allies. But there is opportunity for the heroic in other fields of service, too. Who among the moneyed men, directly or indirectly concerned, will volunteer for a "Dominion Trust" redemption corps?

#### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

As we go to press this question has been raised by the notice of suspension of payment on the part of the Bank of Vancouver. This is one of the smaller banks which has never been very strong, and which was understood to be in difficulties before the Dominion Trust revelation. At the worst it is believed that the assets of the Bank of Vancouver will meet liabilities. It is unfortunate, however, that this institution should have had the name "Vancouver," as the report of its suspension is likely thereby to suggest much more that is detrimental than the size of the institution warrants.