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JOINT STOCK COMPANIES' ACT.

If the bill, which is being introduced in the Senate by Hon. R. W. Scott, pass, a considerable hindrance to investment of money in Canada will be removed. At present, applicants for Dominion charters are subjected to a wait of some three months before they can obtain what they desire, and there are other irksome formalities to be complied with. For instance, 50 per cent, of the capital applied for must first be subscribed, and 10 per cent. must be deposited with the Receiver-General at the time of application, as a guarantee of good faith. Besides these, a majority of the directors of companies doing business in this country must be Canadians. These features of the Joint Stock Companies' Act are done away with in the new bill, which is based more upon British precedent, and it is acknowledged that Great Britain has profited by the ease with which new companies, which bring and keep money in the country, may be chartered there. By the terms of the proposed new legislation, companies at present doing business in Great Britain or in any foreign country may secure the right to make investments in this country and to manage the same merely by applying to the Secretary of State at Ottawa, and the same provision applies to companies operating under provincial charters. There can be little doubt that in the past Canada has suffered in the eyes of British and foreign investors from the enforced delay in obtaining letters patent for new enterprises, and we recognize that Mr. Scott's bill is calculated to correct this, with great advantage to the future development of the country.

THE Canada Cycle and Motor Company are about to concentrate their bicycle manufacturing facilities in Torento Junction, and with this end will probably, it is said, remove their factories from Hamilton and Brantford.

THE promoters of the projected electric railway between Cornwall and Torento have been looking over the route, and express the intention to begin soon the work of construction. They hope to have some portions of the road in operation by next fall. The various municipalities through which it will pass will shortly be interviewed with the object of obtaining right of way, etc.

THE following patents have been recently granted to Canadians by the United States Government: Victor Berford, Tara, Ont., wood-cutting and ballast-dressing apparatus for tracks; Alfred Guay, Maxville, Ont., extensible bed spring; William Maloney, Winnipeg, grain harvester; Peter J. M. Waslyng, Savanne, Ont., combined lifting and track-aligning jack; Joseph Louis Kieffer, Montreal, take-up mechanism for shoe-sewing machine; Joseph Louis Kieffer, Montreal, tension mechanism for shoe-sewing machine.

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