

crease of activity, the transactions exceeding 1,000,000 shares; and the market assumed an appearance of buoyancy and confidence.

Although money market conditions in Canada are practically unchanged—call loans being quoted as heretofore at $5\frac{1}{2}$ p.c.—it has been pointed out that the Canadian stock market borrowers have been in possession of a considerable amount of funds belonging to New York financial houses which desired to find temporary employment in the Dominion for balances which they had borrowed in New York at very low rates. It has been explained that these New York houses would likely withdraw the funds from borrowers in Montreal and Toronto just as soon as Wall Street resumed its activity and as soon as the opportunity presented itself to them of employing their money profitably at home. This week Wall Street became active and stock prices rose noticeably; and it will be interesting to see whether the circumstance affects our local conditions in the manner predicted. So far as the Canadian markets are affected by local circumstances there does not appear to be much prospect of any material easing of money rates in the near future. Everything points to great activity, the whole community is brimful of confidence and enthusiasm, speculation is much in evidence. Such important events as have happened are of a kind to stimulate further activity and thus increase the demands upon the banks. The proposition by the Ottawa Government to guarantee the bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway at the rate of \$35,000 per mile is an event likely to have this effect.

MONTREAL'S GROWTH.

The statistics regarding the progress of Montreal since 1868, which we publish on another page, and the paper by Mr. R. Wilson-Smith on the subject of the rise of Montreal, which will also be found in this issue, contain many facts of much interest to all who are concerned with Montreal at the present day. There has not previously been published, we believe, so complete a record of the rise of the city; the compilation is a unique one, and we are justified in saying will be found of considerable value by many of our readers for reference and other purposes.

The facts and figures therein contained may be allowed to speak for themselves, though they are in many respects, astonishing. Even those who in a general way are familiar with the great growth and expansion of the city during recent years will, we fancy, be surprised when they see the actual facts as set down in figures. The whole of the 43 year period since Confederation has been a time of great development in Montreal, but, perhaps, the

development has never been more marked than during recent years, say, the last decade. And one has only to look at the great activity which now prevails at the port, the large schemes and far-reaching plans of construction and re-construction which are being pursued in the business and financial districts, the extensions "uptown," and the rapidity with which other districts, not only of the city proper, but of the whole island are being built upon, to know that the progress of recent years is being continued, at, perhaps, a faster pace than has previously been known in our history.

Montreal, as we firmly believe, is destined naturally to find a place in the future among the great cities of the world. Its strategic position as the natural gateway from the sea, on each side of which are grouped the nations which have reached the highest state of development, to a country that will inevitably become the home of a great and powerful nation, secures that destiny for the city.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

The half-yearly report published on another page, of the Bank of Montreal, for the six months ending April 29 last, suggests that the Canadian banks are continuing to enjoy an expansion of profits in the present activity such as that which marked their operations during 1910. The Bank of Montreal's profit figures for the half-year, arrived at, as usual, after deducting charges of management and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, were \$828,946. This compares with \$707,765 in the corresponding six months of 1910. With a balance of \$961,789 brought forward from the previous half-year the amount now available on this account is \$1,709,735 against \$1,401,561 in 1910. The two quarterly dividends, as last year, absorb \$720,000, leaving a balance on profit and loss account to be now carried forward of \$1,070,735 against \$681,561 last year.

The following are the leading figures of the Bank's present half-yearly balance sheet and that issued a year ago:—

	1911.	1910.
Profits	\$828,946	\$797,765
Balance forward	1,070,735	681,561
Circulation	12,903,684	11,959,322
Demand deposits	27,933,857	56,856,398
Notice deposits	138,365,218	138,085,574
Coin	8,998,366	6,832,723
Notes	11,178,569	15,338,239
Foreign call and short loans	46,732,106	79,957,585
Current loans and discounts	111,863,185	102,581,333
Total assets	217,159,674	234,438,319
Quick assets	104,243,621	129,810,096

These figures, as usual, form practically an index to the trend of the Canadian banking situation. The most marked change is found in the great decline, amounting to over \$33,000,000, in the call loans in Great Britain and the United States, so that these are now something under \$47,000,000 compared with practically \$80,000,000 a year ago. In this respect, there is a vast difference between 1910-11 and 1909-10 for whereas from April to