MONEY AND MAGNATES

Stocks May Be Helped By Protection.

THE reason why different brokerage houses claimed that there will be a boom in Canadian stocks if reciprocity were defeated was that they believed that the Conservative party was committed to a policy of, at least, adequate protection of Canadian industries. Of course, none of them is quite prepared to define just what "adequate" means. But they insist that now that the Conservatives are in power the different lines which are receiving some protection are likely to find that it will be continued for a longer period than if the Honorable Mr. Fielding remained at the head of the department that has the ruling of such matters.

The concerns which brokers feel will be benefitted to the greatest extent by this protective policy, as also by the defeat of reciprocity, are: the Dominion Iron and Steel Corporation, the Dominion Textile Company, the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, Canada Cement Company, the Ogilvie Flour Mills Company, the Lake of the Woods Milling, and Maple Leaf Milling. But just as these larger companies are affected to a certain extent, so will all other manufacturing concerns be benefitted, even though it be to a smaller extent. The question, however, is how much longer will the farming element in Western Canada stand for the Government continuing to bonus the Eastern manufacturer?

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U.S. Steel and Dominion Steel.

AN interesting stock market coincidence occurred the other day when U. S. Steel Common, which pays 5 per cent., and Dominion Steel Common, which pays 4 per cent., both sold on their respective exchanges at $60 a share. The problem which the market trader has to solve is whether U. S. Steel, paying 5, is selling too low, or whether Dominion Steel, paying 4, is selling too high. If U. S. Steel is too low, then it is good to go long of it; while if Dominion Steel is too high, it is a good short sale. And yet the attention which the latter stock receives periodically from the insiders makes it a dangerous stock to go short of. On the other hand, it may be that United States Steel Common is only selling around its present basis because of the wonderful success which the bear interests have had in the New York market recently, and that under anything like normal conditions it would sell very much higher. Both securities, however, are usually very popular with the general public, and in the past have always sold considerably higher than their actual value would seem to warrant.

The average broker in Montreal will tell you that his experience has been that the average trader would sooner buy Dominion Iron, with all its fluctuations and mysteries, than some preferred stock which would give him just as good return as Iron and at the same time leave his capital practically intact.

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Was a Great Enthusiast of Laurentide.

MR. CHARLES F. SMITH, who passed away the other day in Montreal, was one of the greatest enthusiasts regarding the future of Laurentide Pulp and Paper Company. For a number of years Mr. Smith had been a member of the Executive Committee of the Company, along with his personal friend, Mr. Hosmer, and always gave a great deal of his time and attention to the affairs of the company.

Mr. Smith's early fortune, however, was made out of the boot and shoe business, through his ownership of the James McCready business. It was in the lifetime of the late Mr. James McCready that Mr. Smith entered the employ of his firm as junior clerk, and gradually worked his way up until he became the owner of the entire company. Last year, however, he sold out his entire interests to Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon, when the latter formed the consolidation of the James McCready and Ames-Holden businesses. Mr. Smith was also a director of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, and for many years, as a result of his close friendship with Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, also served as a director of the Dominion Express Company, one of the subsidiary concerns of the C. P. R. Mr. Smith was possessed of a very lovable character and seemed to have the knack of making close friends of all his business associates.

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Mr. McNicoll Joins Bank Board.

MR. DAVID McNICOLL, Vice-President and General Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been elected a director of the Molson's Bank. The departure is rather an interesting one, as up to the present time Mr. McNicoll has been so actively identified with the general management of the big railway that, although many offers have been made to him to join different industrial and financial corporations, he was forced to refuse them. Mr. McNicoll's appointment will result in all the higher officials of the C. P. R. being possible directors of outside institutions.

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Increases Capital to $15,000,000.

THE Bell Telephone Company of Canada is paying its shareholders an attractive bonus by increasing its capital from $12,500,000 to $15,000,000, and offering the additional $2,500,000 to stock to the shareholders at par as compared with about 150—the price at which the old stock has been selling for some time. The proportion in which the shareholders get the new stock is one share of new for every five of old.

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Change in Fiscal Year of Cereal Company.

WITH the organization of the International Milling Company of Canada to be a holding company of the International Milling Company of Minnesota, and the Canadian Cereal and Milling Company, arrangements have been made to have the fiscal years of the two companies close on the same date. This has necessitated a change in the closing date of the fiscal year of the Cereal Company from July 31st to August 31st. Consequent on this change the annual meeting of the Canadian Cereal and Milling will in future be held on the third Wednesday of October, instead of the third Wednesday of September.

COUPON.