

mere unthinking rabble, into an inference that credit was coming to a complete blockade. If New York city could not borrow, then who could? The result of to-day's offer at the higher interest rate, with its 980 separate bids and with bidders' prices running as high as 103, will correct such apprehensions."

That the bond issue was subscribed for about five times over, proved a general surprise. To be sure, the price was not high, the average being computed as somewhere between 101 and 102.

As was to be expected, after the bond issue was disposed of, money was easier on Wednesday. Foreign exchange declined to midway between the par of exchange and the ordinary gold-import point. Crop reports the world over indicated that foreign demand would increase prices so as to counterbalance financially the American shortage. Money on call ruled at 5 p.c., the day's last loan being at 3 p.c. Time loans were easier with 60 days at 5½ p.c.

On the stock exchange prices at first advanced, but later declined on an aggressive selling movement, indicating that the influence of the bond issue's success had been anticipated to the full. There was, too, an actively depressing factor in the further fall of copper both in London and New York.

At the World's Financial Centre.

Without showing much activity, the London stock exchange was cheerful in tone during the week ending Saturday last. A feature of internal interest was the circulation by a number of brokers of a petition asking that members of the exchange be allowed in future to advertise for customers. Consols showed a fractional decline in the week, and Americans were quiet. Money evinced a tendency to become easier—a movement frowned upon by the conservative Statist, on account of prospects for extremely tight money in Germany, next month. The Economist is more optimistic and sees no prospect of a repetition of last year's general stringency. Not only is the Japanese redemption increasing ready cash supplies, but there is the probability of an early release of gold reserved in London for the Indian Government. Last week, however, the German Imperial Bank's unfavourable weekly statement was in marked contrast to the encouraging return of the Bank of England, as given in detail on page 1202 of this issue.

As to London's banking attitude towards America, there is now considerably more liberal lending to New York, though the advances are entirely in connection with the expected crop shipments.

Monday's stock market in London was fairly firm but inactive—the Jewish holidays limiting transactions. Canadian Pacific closed ¾ higher at 170¼. Grand Trunk declined ¼ to 25. Of the £500,000 gold available in the market Germany took £200,000, the Bank of England the remainder.

Tuesday also brought a quietly firm market with fair investment demand. Americans improved in anticipation of a favourable New York city bond issue, but weakened later owing to the copper outlook. Consols closed 3-16 higher at 81 15-16 for money and 82 1-16 for account. Canadian Pacific declined ¼ to 170¼, Grand Trunk advanced ¼

to 25¼. Money was in quiet demand on the market and rates were easy. Discounts were slightly firmer.

Wednesday's stock market continued to show improvement under the lead of consols which advanced ¼ to 82 1-16 for money, and 82 5-16 for account. Canadian Pacific closed ¾ higher at 170½, Grand Trunk advanced ¼ to 25¾. Copper stocks were weak. Supplies of money were plentiful. The call rate was 2¼ p.c. Discounts were steady. Short bills were at 3 15-16 p.c. and three months' bills at 4 to 4½ p.c.

The Bank of England changes for this week are as follows:

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|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Total reserve, increased | £ 846,000 |
| Circulation, decreased | 356,000 |
| Bullion, increased | 490,000 |
| Other securities, decreased | 569,000 |
| Other deposits, decreased | 1,008,000 |
| Public deposits, increased | 1,338,000 |
| Notes reserve, increased | 809,000 |
| Government securities | Unchanged |

The proportion of the Bank's reserve to liability is 51.28 p.c., as compared with 50.03 p.c. last week. The rate of discount of the Bank of England remains unchanged at 4½ p.c.

British Columbia's Alien Troubles.

The London Times has no doubt correctly diagnosed the situation in British Columbia when it attributes the anti-Asiatic riots to the pernicious influence of American labour agitators. We can understand, and to a certain extent sympathize with the feeling in favour of making Canada "a white man's country." But it has been well said that: "no man has a right to all his rights." At any rate the man who goes through life perpetually insisting upon his rights and ignoring those of other people is simply a public nuisance. The Japanese have treaty rights in Canada, and those rights the Dominion Government is bound to maintain at all costs. Our own impression is that it is not only the duty, but the interest of Canada under present conditions, to respect these treaty obligations. There is no class of aliens that Canada has to dread so much as the professional labour agitator, who makes his living by fishing in troubled waters, and who as a rule, in the plenitude of his ignorance, hates Canada, because it is British. One of these agitators will do more harm to Canada than ten thousand Japs. The law provides for their imprisonment and the law should be rigorously enforced.

By what the Hon. George Foster would call "a clerical error," the city has lost \$25,000 of special taxation, which the Council intended to levy upon the life insurance companies of Montreal, and which it actually collected during the last four years without legal authority. The money will have to be returned, and a new by-law prepared. Our impression is that the proof reader who omitted the word "life" before "insurance companies" displayed a beneficently inspired negligence, which was more to the public interest than the deliberate intention of imposing a special tax upon a class of institutions which above all others should be encouraged, not taxed.

Taxing Life Insurance.