

## FACING WORLD'S GREATEST FINANCIAL CRISIS

Sir Robert Kindersley, Governor of Hudson's Bay Co., Warns of Danger of Inflation—Seeding Now Well Under Way in West

(Special to *The Monetary Times*.)

Lethbridge, May 13th, 1920.

SEEDING is in full swing throughout southern Alberta, 40 per cent of the wheat seeding is done in the Lethbridge district, and a most optimistic feeling prevails that southern Alberta is going to produce a crop this year. The weather this week is still unsettled, but considerable progress was made last week in many districts in Alberta when the weather was ideal. There is ample moisture in the ground to give the crop a good start. One day last week the great Noble Foundation Farming Organization seeded twelve hundred acres of wheat in one day, and have now over ten thousand acres seeded, and will seed ten thousand more.

Irrigation projects around Lethbridge are making progress, and the Lethbridge northern scheme will go ahead this year. President Marnoch, of the Board of Trade, is well satisfied at the spring outlook. He pointed out that Lethbridge stands to be the centre of about one and a half million acres of irrigated land. This in the next few years will mean a great deal to Lethbridge.

The government distribution of seed grain for settlers' spring requirements throughout Alberta is now completed. It is estimated by officials that the seed supplied will represent a money value of \$750,000, which is about twice the expenditure of last year.

## Present Prosperity is False

Sir Robert Kindersley, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Co., which is now celebrating its 250th anniversary in western Canada, in addressing the Calgary Board of Trade this week, warned against a financial crisis in these words: "Unless we stop sailing along the smooth waters of this false prosperity, brought about through inflation, which gives the world an additional purchasing power which is unreal, I say, if we don't stop now, we shall be faced with the most appalling financial crisis in the next five or six years that the world has ever seen. As a trader I speak to you, because I know, and I tell you that only one way remains for us to reach the goal we seek—prosperity and happiness—and that is for each and every one to devote their energies to a campaign of real productivity and for the elimination of consumption of all luxuries."

Sir Robert Kindersley was chairman of the War Savings Committee in England during the war, and, in addition, is a director of the Bank of England, thereby being in a position to speak with authority on the financial situation of the empire.

## Live Stock in Alberta

Live stock losses in Alberta on account of the past severe winter will reach a 7 or 8 per cent loss. There has been a tendency to greatly exaggerate the figures. Mr. Marnock, of Lethbridge, pointed out rather an unusual situation in southern Alberta. He said last year there was more live stock to feed than there was feed for, whereas this year he predicts they will have more feed than live stock can use. Mr. Marnock thinks the co-operation of the banks will be required in getting more breeding stock back into the country.

At the annual general meeting of the Hamilton, Ont., Bank Clearing House, all the banks were represented, and R. R. Wallace was in the chair. The following were elected a board of management: F. S. Glassco, manager, Imperial Bank, chairman; D. B. Dewar, manager, Canadian Bank of Commerce, vice-chairman; John Stephen, manager, Bank of Toronto; R. H. Harvey, manager, Royal Bank of Canada; E. V. Illsey, manager, Standard Bank of Canada; A. C. Rowe was reappointed manager and secretary-treasurer.

## LABOR SHORTAGE WILL RESTRICT PRODUCTION

Manitoba Loan of \$2,850,000 Spent on Telephones, Parliament Buildings, Good Roads, Power, Soldiers' Relief and Live Stock Purchase and Sales

(Special to *The Monetary Times*.)

Winnipeg, May 14th, 1920.

THE Manitoba government spent the \$2,850,000 it realized from the sale of bonds in New York several weeks ago for the following purposes: Manitoba Telephone Commission, \$1,250,000; new parliament buildings, \$750,000; good roads, \$250,000; Manitoba Power Commission, \$250,000; Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act, \$250,000; live stock purchase and sales, \$100,000. Total, \$2,850,000.

## Wheat Lands Will Be Uncultivated

Only about 40 per cent. of Manitoba's wheat lands can be worked this season unless there is a marked increase in the number of people willing to go to work on farms during the next few weeks, Manitoba farmers say. Seeding must be completed shortly in order to obtain the best results, and there are not enough men to get the seed in. The Dominion Employment Bureau in this city is continually besieged by farmers seeking for help, and it is very slow in coming.

## CHANGES IN ONTARIO SUCCESSION DUTIES MODERATED

Proposed increases in Ontario succession duties, reported in *The Monetary Times* recently, have been thought too drastic by Hon. Peter Smith, provincial treasurer, and reductions have been made accordingly. Where the estate goes to one person, the percentage is lowered somewhat. Where the amount exceeds \$50,000, and not \$100,000, the first rate suggested was 2½ per cent. It will now be 1½ per cent. for amounts exceeding \$50,000, and up to \$75,000. From \$75,000 up to \$100,000 it will be 2 per cent. Then the rate goes up, every fifty thousand dollars, instead of every \$100,000, until the sum of \$300,000 is reached. After that the percentage is decreased on the large amounts, till, when the large sums are reached, the percentage is cut in half.

Where the estate does not pass to a member of the family, but goes to relatives, the fees have been changed. In this there is no change till the estate exceeds \$50,000, and then it is increased on amounts between \$50,000 and \$75,000, but between \$75,000 and \$100,000 there is a slight reduction. The reduction is then gradually increased until, where the estate exceeds \$1,000,000, the tax is only 17 per cent., instead of 23 per cent.

Where the estate goes to one person who is not a direct member of the family, the surtax starts on amounts exceeding \$10,000, instead of, as before, amounts exceeding \$25,000. After that the tax is about cut in half, so that in the case of a person getting an income exceeding \$150,000, and not \$250,000, the tax will be 3½ per cent., instead of 10 per cent.

Where the estate is left to a stranger in blood to the deceased, a few of the changes are:—

Exceeding \$5,000 and not \$10,000, first tax, 10 per cent., new tax 7½.

Exceeding \$10,000 and not \$50,000, first tax, 15 per cent., new tax 12.

Exceeding \$50,000 and not \$100,000, first tax, 20 per cent., new tax 15.

Exceeding \$100,000 and not \$200,000, first tax 25 per cent., new tax 17½.

Exceeding \$200,000 and not \$300,000, first tax, 30 per cent., new tax 20.

Exceeding \$400,000 and not \$500,000, first tax, 40 per cent., new tax 25.

Exceeding \$800,000, first tax, 60 per cent., new tax 35.