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We beg to announce that we have moved to Suite 1522
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couver.

The business and financial interests of the United States are much relieved at the selections of both the Republican and Democratic parties in the nominations for president of the United States, and also in connection with the platforms upon which both parties will go to the country at the election in November. The intimate connection between American and Canadian business affairs is such that it has reacted beneficially on Canadian business and similarly with regard to international finance with Great Britain. The conservative platform and the conservative candidates of both parties leave for the present no fears of any radical action being taken to disturb the rapid readjustment of business which is now taking place. In fact the stock markets have reacted from the fit of depression and general credit conditions have shown some disposition to relax from the high tension of early June. This improved sentimental feeling has had a beneficial influence on the provincial lumber industry, which is now receiving orders in much larger volume than it did during June and, if it continues, will benefit general Canadian business.

The wide spread feeling of pessimism in business which swept over the country during June has been replaced by the feeling that conditions are really not as bad as were painted. There is a deep-seated feeling among business men, and undoubtedly they are correct, that readjustment ultimately to the new basis of things must make a serious transformation in the existing methods and conditions, but the experience of a month and a half has shown that the turn-over of general business has not been seriously affected and, although price reduction has been the rule in a great many lines when the accounts were added up and the balance taken, the result was not as bad as expected.

Two new features of benefit have been added to the business outlook. The one and most important is that of the crop situation. From a very wet and cold spring which militated against crop planting and considerably reduced the acreage planted from the previous year, the outlook for the crops has every indication of repeating the bumper crops of 1915. Necessary rains have fallen and with the excellent ground conditions, considerable dry weather can set in without seriously affecting large harvests. From early estimates of 180,000,000 bushels, which was considered liberal in May, it is now expected that the

The services of this journal are offered through an inquiry column, which is open to subscribers and the public generally without charge, for detailed information or opinion as to financial or industrial affairs or institutions throughout the Province of British Columbia. Wherever possible the replies to these inquiries will be made through this column. Where inquiries are not of general interest, they will be handled by letter. We think that we can assure our readers that the opinions expressed will be reliable and conservative, and that all statements will be as accurate as possible.

wheat crop will exceed 225,000,000 bushels, and may possibly reach 250,000,000 bushels. If oats have a similarly large yield and no material recession in barley, rye and flax, it will mean something in the neighborhood of \$400,000,000 of agricultural yields in the three prairie Provinces, and counting the whole of Canada, may easily exceed \$700,000,000 in value.

The inestimable advantage at this time of large crops causes one to stop and think of just what this means to Canada as a whole, and if it is experienced as present indications would lead one to believe, then there cannot be much reason for doubt and pessimism as to the outlook this autumn and winter.

The other favorable aspect is that the credit situation while it may become very tight this fall at the height of the crop moving period, cannot produce much other than a temporary disturbance to trade and industry. An immediate effect of the improved credit conditions in the United States where the situation became so uncertain that mortgage money became scarce for building purposes and general capital expenditure was reduced. There has been a gradual release of funds as confidence in the situation was re-established and the interrupted house building movement which is widespread over the United States has revived with the result that the lumber industry of the Province is enjoying a larger volume of business from that source than it did during May and June. With the general impression that the business situation is not as bad as has been painted, and temporary slowing up has not been as serious as the average business man was led to believe, has injected a great deal of confidence and assurance into the situation where doubts and misgivings existed in abundance before.

Canadian business and financial interests are following with lively concern the prospecting for oil in Canada, being carried on this summer. The discovery of a commercial field at Roundup, Montana, has enlivened the hopes that oil may be found north of the boundary line. Some drilling and prospecting is being carried on from Regina west, particularly at Medicine Hat and the Calgary oil field is being further prospected, but the main effort and what geologists consider to be the most likely fields exist in the basin of the Mackenzie River and Great Slave Lake, and in the Peace River district, where numerous outfits are now actively drilling, including the Imperial Oil Co. The prospecting in the Delta area of the Fraser River is also being prosecuted, with no results yet attending these efforts. In the opinion of geologists the greatest prospects in Canada lie in the great northern hinterland.

Outside of oil bearing rocks in the Maritime Provinces and the oil fields still in operation in Ontario, Canada is producing no oil and her consumption is increasing by leaps and bounds. The economic significance of the finding of oil in commercial quantities can hardly be exaggerated, and every effort of science and industry should be put forward to discover any commercial field if possible.