

# Stock Exchanges and Investments

## BANK SHARES

### Prominent This Week on the Toronto Stock Exchange —Better Tone Evident.

Toronto, July 14th.

The feature of this week's trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange was the unusually large number of bank shares in the market. For more than a month a growing investment tendency has been noted in this class. Dominion and Commerce changed hands in greatest volume, while Standard, Traders, Imperial, Ottawa, Hamilton and Montreal were all dealt in. Probably trust and insurance companies' stocks are least traded on the Toronto Exchange. Taking the average for the year, the sales of bank shares are usually ahead of those of navigation and rails, besides the assurance and trust companies. Last year 21,083 bank shares were sold on the Toronto Stock Exchange and 21,065 the year before. On the Montreal Exchange 18,408 bank shares were sold last year compared with 14,556 in 1908. Every other class of stock on the Montreal Exchange received more attention than the banks.

A stronger tone both in New York and London gave some encouragement to the Canadian Exchanges which have enjoyed better business this week. Steel Corporation changed hands at 56 and a fraction. Twin City and Consumers Gas were both prominent. Quebec Light and Power was also dealt in at around 39.

#### Murray-Kay Issue Over-Subscribed.

The Silliker Car Company, Limited, has issued notice of the first call on the \$125,000 of preferred stock. It is for 25 per cent., and will be due on July 18th, at the Bank of British North America. The holders of preference shares have the right to advance the balance or any part of the money due upon such shares beyond the twenty-five dollars (\$25) per share actually called for; and the company will pay such holders interest at 6 per cent. upon the moneys so paid in advance, or so much thereof as from time to time exceeds the amount of the calls then made upon such shares in respect to which such advance had been made.

Messrs. Dymont, Cassels & Company, the Toronto house which handled the Murray-Kay issue, informs The Monetary Times that the entire amount of the \$1,500,000 preferred stock available for the public offering, has been over-subscribed. In deciding on allotment a decision was reached to allow all applications for twenty shares or under in full, to make a reduction of 20 per cent. on all applications from twenty to fifty shares, and a reduction of 40 per cent. on all applications for fifty shares and upwards.

#### Uneventful But Interesting.

Monetary Times Office,  
Montreal, July 14th.

A more uneventful week in stock markets would be difficult to imagine. Yet, while uneventful, the market has not been altogether uninteresting. Many who ordinarily have little interest in the situation have been close observers during the past week. They know that prices are low, but they do not know whether the next turn will be down or up. They are certain that sooner or later good stocks purchased at present prices will show a profit and they would like to get the advantage of that profit. Nevertheless, the absence of support to the market indicates to them that a downward movement may be inaugurated once more, before long, and they would sooner wait for lower prices than take the stocks at present prices and carry them down.

In view of the fact that Soo Railway was one of the weakest stocks in the Canadian list during the late slump, it will be of much interest to know how the earnings of the road compare, this year, with those of a year ago:—

#### Soo earnings for May, 1910, with comparisons:—

	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Revenue .....	\$1,196,040	\$ 987,063	\$ 208,986
Expenses .....	794,406	702,234	92,172
Net .....	401,643	284,828	116,815

#### Soo earnings for 11 months with comparisons:—

	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Revenue .....	\$14,068,812	\$11,536,672	\$2,532,140
Expenses .....	8,175,472	7,301,110	874,362
Net .....	5,893,340	4,235,562	1,657,778

#### Chicago division, May revenue:—

	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Revenue .....	\$ 798,060	\$ 611,977	\$ 186,083
Expenses .....	566,774	476,571	90,203
Net .....	231,285	135,406	95,879

#### For 11 months:—

	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Revenue .....	\$8,132,662	\$ 6,902,391	\$1,230,271
Expenses .....	5,680,835	5,012,404	668,431
Net .....	2,451,826	1,889,987	561,839

#### Big Increase in Net.

These figures show an actual net increase in earnings for the past 11 months of \$1,657,778. Making a proportionate addition for the month of June, and allowing for a slight increase in expenses, a total net increase of \$1,800,000 for the year is found.

It should not be forgotten that during the past year the preferred stock was increased by a new issue of \$2,016,000, and the common stock by \$4,032,000. In addition to this, the common stock dividend has recently been increased to 7 per cent., from 6 per cent. So that, against the increased net earnings we have the following charges:—

7% on \$2,016,000 new preferred .....	\$141,120
6% on \$4,032,000 new common .....	\$241,920
1% extra on entire common .....	\$208,320
Extra dividend charges .....	\$591,360

This result will be altered somewhat, no doubt, by conditions impossible for the outsider to determine, especially in connection with the company's recently acquired property in the West, but the showing would seem to be an excellent one, inasmuch as over a million dollars increase is still left after the increased dividend charges have been deducted from increased earnings. A year ago Soo stock sold above 145, and can now be purchased at 125. It was also as low as 123 in the Montreal market.

Other stocks have not been affected by the slump to such an extent, probably, but they have all been affected more or less.

#### Money Tight at Montreal.

Tight money is one of the troubles of the Montreal stock market. Unquestionably, brokers are finding considerable difficulty in obtaining all the money they require from the banks, and the general feeling is that the result of this condition of affairs will be that the rates on call loans will shortly be advanced. It is said that some of the banks will advance their rates before this time next week. The present rate to brokers is 5½ per cent., and this may be advanced to 6 per cent. Time loans have been expanding greatly for some time past, and it is stated that it is the demand for industrial purposes which is occasioning the situation in call loans. This is doubtless the case to some extent, although banks are always more cautious during periods of stock market uncertainty and the calling of loans is for the purpose of placing themselves in a position of greater security.

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