

MUNICIPAL BOND MARKET

The Monetary Times' Weekly Register of Municipal Activities and Financing

Trail, B.C.—The city will sell the \$1,000 park bonds to local investors.

West Vancouver, B.C.—A ferry by-law to issue \$10,000 bonds has been passed by the council.

London, Ont.—A plea for the issuance of \$165,000 bonds for a technical school has been presented to the council.

Walkerville, Ont.—In addition to the \$20,988 bonds sold in January, the town may issue in the near future another block of \$7,000.

Montreal, Que.—The provincial private bills committee has authorized the city of Montreal to borrow \$2,000,000, payable in 20 years.

Moncton, N.B.—The city is applying for provincial legislation authorizing the issue of \$45,000 5 per cent. 40-years school bonds with sinking fund, for completion and equipment of school buildings.

Hillsburg, Man.—The provincial private bills committee has agreed to allow the municipality of Hillsburg to issue debentures for \$15,000, although a by-law for that purpose had been twice submitted to the electors and defeated.

Saskatchewan.—The following is a list of debenture applications granted by the local government board:—

School Districts.—Hazenmore, \$6,000. T. A. McKeith, Hazenmore; LaSalette, \$1,600. R. H. Richardson, Stoughton.

Fernie, B.C.—Of the bonds issued by the city \$3,034 was taken up by local investors in sums ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. The balance of \$1,600 was purchased by Messrs. W. L. McKinnon and Company, of Toronto. All were sold at 92 and accrued interest.

Edmonton, Alta.—The civic tax levy for the year is estimated as \$2,333,395, exclusive of bank interest, which is figured at \$300,000. The other items are: Amount required for general purposes, \$702,696; general debenture interest and principal, \$866,000; public schools, \$655,000; separate schools, say, \$75,000; library, \$34,698; bank interest, \$300,000.

Port Moody, B.C.—A shipbuilding company asks the municipality to guarantee its bonds in the sum of \$200,000 on the understanding that the company first buys a site and expends \$50,000 on equipment, etc., before any guarantee would be asked. The company also ask for water at 5 cents per 100 cubic feet and exemption from taxation on improvements for a period of 20 years.

Victoria, B.C.—At a meeting of the council it was shown that when bonds now in the hands of the city had been disposed of the aggregate bonded indebtedness of the city would be \$18,640,051, made up of \$10,877,782 for general purposes and \$7,769,249 on local improvement account and probably \$2,000,000 of the amount was the result of discount on bonds, interest charges on money borrowed for works.

Vernon, B.C.—Certificates of approval have been issued by the municipal department of the province of British Columbia as follows: Bonds numbered 16 to 23, \$7,444, issued under by-law No. 350, local improvement sewers, 20-years, 6 per cent., payable half-yearly; bonds numbered 1 and 2, \$1,900, issued under by-law No. 346, local improvement street opening, ten years, 6 per cent., payable half-yearly.

Truro, N.S.—The financial standing of Truro was never in a more flourishing condition; 99 per cent. of the rates and taxes was collected in 1915, and the assets over liabilities amount to \$172,000, and Mr. H. M. Dougall, town clerk, says the outlook for the current year is equally good. Merchants state that trade conditions are good, and look forward to a prosperous year. About \$20,000 town bonds will be issued this year to take care of \$12,000 maturing, on which no sinking fund was established, and about \$8,000 to pay over-expenditure on a new school building.

Outramont, Que.—The secretary-treasurer's report showed the receipts of cash including \$550,000 from bankers on promissory notes, \$1,245,912; payments, \$1,267,872, inclusive of redemption of promissory notes amounting to \$700,000; the balance from the previous year was \$20,365, leaving an adverse balance of \$594. The revenue account showed receipts from local improvements \$246,736, a considerable increase over the previous four years. It was reported that the collection of taxes was satisfactory. The assessment of property was \$17,062,581; and the tax collectable \$136,474, while \$6,441,652 was exempted from assessment.

South Vancouver, B.C.—In a summary of the municipality's annual report, auditor McNeill draws attention to the fact that the municipality's liability on the temporary loan, amounting to \$306,364 (against which was hypothecated the unpaid taxes) has been increased by \$16,364 during the year. During the year treasury certificates for \$790,000 were issued on the security of \$589,902 unsold debentures for Main Street Nos. 1, 2 and 3 and Thirty-fourth Avenue local improvement; certificates were also issued for \$400,000 sewerage debentures, for the total of which the municipality received the sum of \$742,339 in cash. With these funds capital loans outstanding at the bank amounting to \$410,000 were liquidated; the Dominion Creosoting Company's account for \$31,743 was paid and \$300,595 was placed in the bank at the credit of the sewerage account. Referring to the tax sale held during the year, the auditor declares the tax arrears were reduced by \$174,057. Of the properties sold to the municipality \$10,852 has been redeemed since the sale.

The council of the district is applying for provincial authority to use unexpended money temporarily for the purpose of paying interest on bonds and stocks.

Barrie, Ont.—For the issues of bonds aggregating \$37,880 the following bids were received by Mr. A. W. Smith:—

Mackenzie and Company	\$36,524.00
Wood, Gundy and Company	36,814.00
W. L. McKinnon and Company	36,744.95
R. C. Matthews and Company	37,140.00
A. Jarvis and Company	96.727
Canada Bond Corporation	36,678.00
Martens and Company	37,175.00
Dominion Securities Corporation	36,655.72
Royal Securities Corporation	37,036.41
C. H. Burgess and Company	36,963.41
G. A. Stimson and Company	36,915.36
Murray, Mather and Company	37,007.68
A. E. Ames and Company	96.31, 95.70, 99.40
Graham, McDonald and Company	37,555.00

The bonds were awarded to Messrs. A. H. Martens and Company, Toronto.

St. Thomas, Ont.—For the issue of \$40,700 the following bids were made:—

G. A. Stimson and Company	\$41,111
A. E. Ames and Company	41,729
Murray, Mather and Company	41,107
Dominion Securities Corporation	41,379
R. C. Matthews and Company	40,755
Wood, Gundy and Company	41,583
Imperial Bank	41,514
Macneill and Young	41,363
C. H. Burgess and Company	41,241
Kerr, Bell and Fleming	40,903
Brent, Noxon and Company	41,340
Royal Securities Corporation	41,827
A. H. Martens and Company	41,518
Canada Bond Corporation	41,180
A. Jarvis and Company	41,117

The bonds were awarded to the Royal Securities Corporation, Montreal.

Wallace R.M., Man.—Some comment has been heard regarding the award of the municipality's issue of \$40,000 4½ per cent. bonds for good roads. The four highest of eighteen bids received were as follow: Murray, Mather and Company, 86.40; Wood, Gundy and Company, 86; O'Hara and Company, 85.90; and A. E. Ames and Company, 85.78; all well-known and reputable firms. The bonds were awarded to A. E. Ames and Company, the fourth highest bidder. In part explanation of this fact it is understood that Murray, Mather and Company's tender stipulated interest and principal payable at New York instead of at Virden, Manitoba, as the municipality required. This fact put that bid out of consideration.

The Wood, Gundy bid was a sealed one, and was, therefore, not opened until the council was in session. When opened it was found that the offer was for \$40,000 bonds in forty yearly repayments, and not, as was the case with every other bidder, for \$39,626.27, which was the amount actually offered, one year having passed since the issue was authorized. This bid having been a sealed one, the municipality contend that it was impossible to wire the bond house and receive a reply before the end of the council meeting, "consequently, the next best offer was accepted."

Two points arise here. Firstly, on behalf of the Wood, Gundy bid, it is contended that this firm did not receive the