proceed in future financing on a double-barrelled basis of common stock issues, with the intention of wiping out eventually the entire bonded indebtedness. For the purposes for which debenture stock may be issued, common stock would be substituted as on this occasion while for other purposes issues would be made subject to the authorisation of the Government. Apart from its heavy railway programme of extensions, the Canadian Pacific is launching out at the present time in several directions, and it seems certain that the Allan line will be taken over within a few months. A startling rumour also has credited the company with the intention of acquiring the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, thereby making the C.P.R. an entirely round-the-world organisation. However, authoritative denial has been given to this story.

TRADE AND THE REVENUE: THEIR RAPID INCREASES.

The returns are now complete of the Government's revenue for the first half of the current fiscal year, viz., to September 30, and they show a very remarkable expansion over the revenue of 1911. The total revenue of the six months was $81,378,650, as against just over $64,000,000 in the corresponding half of the last fiscal year or an increase of 27 per cent. Customs' collections—the principal mainstay of the revenue—aggregated $56,455,146 against $42,284,535, an increase of over $14,000,000 or not less than 33½ per cent. During last month, the revenue totalled $14,475,483 against $12,032,908 in September, 1911, an increase of 16.9 per cent., and customs collections $9,903,658, against $7,803,027, an advance of practically 27 p.c. If the present rate of increase be continued during the second half of the fiscal year, the revenue for the whole year will fall little short of $170,000,000.

For the six months the surplus of revenue over expenditure both on revenue and capital account is nearly $26,000,000. Expenditure for the period on revenue account is $43,931,540 against $35,933,456, an increase of $8,000,000 which is in part offset by a decrease in the expenditure on capital account, which is $11,671,983 against $12,318,027 in the corresponding half of 1911.

The circumstances which cause this increase of revenue are shown by the customs returns which have just been issued. During the first four months of the fiscal year ending on July 31 last, the exports of domestic produce were $107,308,936, as against $78,704,116 in the same period of 1911; while the imports, excluding coin and bullion, were $209,334,046, as against $156,967,380 in the same period last year. The total trade of the country in the first four months of the fiscal year works out as follows:

	1911.	1912.
Merchandise imported	$156,967,380	$209,334,046
Merchandise domestic exported	78,704,116	107,308,936
Total merchandise	$235,671,496	$316,642,982

Allowing for coin and bullion imported and exported and for export of foreign products, the aggregate trade in the period was $328,635,844 as against $249,031,772.

Of the imports during the four months $138,567,026 were dutiable and $70,767,020 free. Of the seventy millions of free goods, $30,032,922 were manufactures and $10,345,955 were agricultural products. The exports of domestic produce were:

	1911.	1912.
Mines	$11,942,765	$16,584,102
Fisheries	3,894,929	3,748,436
Forest	13,254,192	13,454,078
Animals, etc.	14,795,822	13,620,514
Agriculture	24,453,645	47,221,922
Manufactures	10,327,278	12,659,109
Miscellaneous	35,485	20,775
	$78,704,116	$107,308,936

Of the exports $58,144,215 went to the British Empire, the United Kingdom taking $52,350,057. Other countries took $49,164,721. Of the imports $48,546,372 came from the British Empire, $40,945,779 from the United Kingdom, and $162,220,058 from foreign countries, the United States heading the list with $141,881,664.

Following are summary tables of the revenue and statement of the public debt:—

SEPTEMBER'S REVENUE.

	1912.	1911.
Customs	$9,903,658	$7,803,027
Excise	1,778,112	1,691,295
Post Office	1,050,000	900,000
Public Works	1,004,584	1,116,893
Miscellaneous	739,129	521,693
Totals	$14,475,483	$12,032,908

SIX MONTHS' REVENUE.

	1912.	1911.
Customs	$56,455,146	$42,284,535
Excise	10,152,014	8,799,536
Post Office	4,850,000	4,150,000
Public Works	6,720,578	5,873,637
Miscellaneous	3,200,912	2,961,817
Totals	$81,378,650	$64,069,525

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DEBT.

LIABILITIES.

	1912.	1911.
Funded Debt—		
Payable in Canada	$ 4,792,164	$ 4,865,261
Payable in London	264,680,167	263,121,430
Bank Circulation Redemption Fund	5,267,983	4,654,317
Dominion Notes	113,794,845	99,308,945
Savings Banks (P. O. and Gov't.)	56,820,272	57,433,599
Trust Funds	9,706,495	9,724,724
Province Accounts	11,920,486	11,920,582
Miscellaneous & Banking Accounts	25,055,423	26,227,283
Total Gross Debt	$492,037,835	$477,256,141

ASSETS.

	1912.	1911.
Investments—		
Sinking Funds	$ 12,989,493	$ 11,714,007
Other Investments	32,151,851	28,776,851
Province Accounts	2,296,333	2,296,429
Miscellaneous & Banking Accounts	131,091,782	110,530,085
Total Assets	$178,559,459	$153,317,372
Total Net Debt to 30th Sept.	313,508,376	323,938,768
do. to 31st August	316,525,172	326,316,293
Decrease of Debt	$3,016,796	$2,377,525

Following are the figures for the Dominion Steel Company's output for September. All departments are well up, the coke output in particular being close to a record, while shipments were very heavy:—Coke, 44,540 tons; pig iron, 26,030 tons; blooms, 23,370 tons; rails, 15,960 tons; rods, 6,325 tons. Total shipments, 27,680 tons.