

that the superstructure has been growing with abnormal rapidity for three or four years, while the foundation was being extended relatively more slowly. Now a year is experienced in which the foundation actually decreased in size and strength.

It is quite clear that if the banks had not taken up an attitude discouraging credit extension in the past six or eight months, we should have seen a superstructure bulging over farther than at present. The process of continually adding to the upper stories while taking away the foundation obviously cannot be carried on indefinitely. Soon the top begins to sway whenever there is a strong wind, and ultimately the whole building comes down with a crash. That is what usually happens in the United States, because the bankers there who can see the danger have no power to effect a timely contraction of credit. Fortunately, the Canadian bankers are in better position to see the danger, and they have the requisite power to effect reductions. This power they have been using freely. That is one reason why they have been so bitterly attacked. Their efforts have been bent towards preventing a too rapid enlargement of the credit structure and towards maintaining the strength of the foundation works; and, notwithstanding the predictions of a Canadian disaster, confidently made by foreign prophets, there is no reason to suppose that the bankers will fail to maintain financial stability, as they have in the past. Those business men who have the best interests of the country at heart can help in the work of keeping the credit structure strong through keeping their own liabilities within reasonable compass until the ratio of reserve to liabilities rises to a more comfortable figure.

PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS

The most pleasing duty the management of a corporation has to perform is the payment of dividends. Though upon the methods by which the directors determine the dividends to be paid largely rest the reputation of the corporation, its financial standing, and, indeed, its success or failure.

Therefore, it can only be assumed Canadian directorates with so prominent, so determining, a factor before them have acted wisely, and that progress, expansion, and growth of the companies of the Dominion are indicated by the increases in dividends made, liberal bonuses paid, and the re-entry among the ranks of dividend payers of companies which for a time have been missing, and the companies making their first appearance as dividend payers. A list of companies which have this year increased their dividends follows:—

Company.	Dividend increased	
	From.	To.
Bank of Hamilton	11	12
Kaministiquia Power Company	4	5
Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company	1	1½
Detroit United Railway	5	6
Canada Landed and National Invest- ment Company	8	9
Canada Permanent Mortgage Cor- poration	9	10
Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company	10 + 1	11 + 1
Dominion Park Company	5	6
Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company	4	5
Colonial Investment and Loan Com- pany	5	6
Toronto Mortgage Company	7	8
Real Estate Loan Company	6	7
Grand Trunk Railway Company (third pref. shares)	1½	2½
City Dairy Company	2	4

Dividends, debenture and bond interest to the extent of about \$30,000,000 will be paid out in the Dominion during this month.

In the United States the April disbursements will reach a total of about \$170,000,000.

Canadian disbursements are growing at a rate corresponding to the commercial and financial importance of the Dominion.

THE PASSING OF PIERPONT MORGAN

The death of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan has deprived those powerful monetary connections in America, in England, in Germany, in France and throughout the world of their dominant commander.

When questioned as to the essentials of success the late financier once wrote: "Foremost amongst these I should place honesty of purpose, energy, confident judgment, knowledge of men and values, and the ability to construct and harmonize, but above and beyond these is the man himself." The force of these last three words has been evident in the many expressions of praise in the world's press since the death of Mr. Morgan, for the commandship in the world of constructive and administrative finance held by him was reached by his own inherent qualities, by "the man himself."

"To inspire confidence was the keynote of Mr. Morgan's career," states the New York Tribune. "His word was his bond, always redeemed at full value. He left great riches, but he also left a good name, more priceless than riches. He was a leader of his day, whom both his fellow-citizens and the world at large have long recognized as a representative American."

Mr. Morgan's interests in Canada were practically nil, so that no ill effects will be felt in the Dominion as a result of his death.

MARKETING MUNICIPAL BONDS

At the time of the disposal of Toronto's and Vancouver's bonds to well-known United States bond brokers *The Monetary Times* remarked that several other like purchases were pending. Since then enquiries emanating from United States have been frequently received asking for information regarding Canadian bonds, status of municipalities, methods of debenture issuance, etc., all of which seems to show there is a market available for bonds of Canadian municipalities. Two issues recently disposed of in the United States were those of Prince Rupert, B.C., and Welland. Prince Rupert's issue amounted to \$90,491, and Messrs. Terry, Briggs & Slayton, Toledo, Ohio, were the purchasers.

Welland, Ont., issue consisted of the following debentures: \$75,000 5 per cent. 30 years, \$45,000 5 per cent. 30 years, \$17,489 5 per cent. 10 years, \$12,109 5 per cent. 10 years. These were acquired by Messrs. Spitzer, Rorick & Company, Toledo, Ohio.

SMALL CHANGE

During the Hawthorne mining trial, in which Ontario properties figure, counsel for the defence referred to District Attorney Wise as a "pinch-hitter," because he had taken the summing up from his assistants. "Since you have adopted the phraseology of the baseball field," Mr. Wise rejoined, "I may say I have been sitting on the side lines watching the game, and I have got on to the crooked curves of Albert Freeman. We are hitting all kinds of crooks, and we are hitting them all the time. We do not need any pinch-hitters." Which is another case of addressing a visitor in his own language.