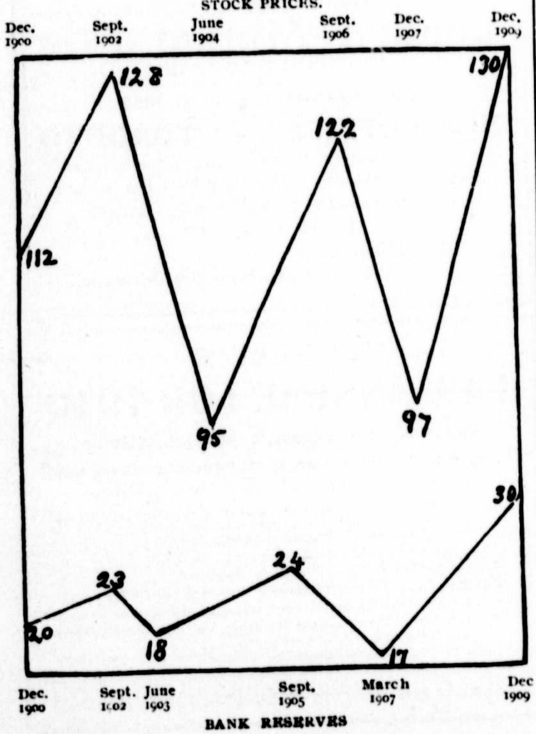
BANKS (CONT'D)—	Open.	Low.	High.	Close.
Montreal	245	245	252	252
New Brunswick	273	273	276	276
Nova Scotia	284	276	285	283
Ottawa	210	210	213	212
Quebec	122	122	125½	*123
Royal	230	212	233	224½
Toronto	224½	220	232⅛	219
Union	135	134¼	140	140
BONDS—				
Bell Telephone	104½	104½	104⅝	104⅝
Black Lake Asbestos	77	77	77	77
Can. Rubber	96	96	100	99
C. C. Cotton	95	95	100	100
Converters	90	90	90	90
Dominion Coal	94	90	98½	98
Dominion Cotton	‡99	99	105	104
Dom. Iron & Steel	78	77	97½	96
Keewatin Mill	103	103	105⅞	105⅞
L. of the Woods	105	104	112	112
Laur. Paper	†110	110	114	114
Mex. E. L. Co.	84	79	87½	80
Mex. L. & P.	87	80	90	84
Montreal L. H & P.	99	98½	101	101
Montreal Street Ry	102	99½	102½	102½
Ogilvie Milling	108	108	112½	112½
Ogilvie Milling Ser. B	106¾	106¾	112½	112½
Price Bros	105½	105½	105½	105½
Quebec Railway	100	100	101½	101½
Rio de Janeiro	89¼	89¼	96⅜	96⅜
Sao Paulo	98⅞	98⅞	99	99
Textille, Ser. A	95	91¼	98¼	96
" B	96	96	100	99½
" C	96¾	90	98	95½
" D	96½	93	104	99½
West India	90	90	90	....
Winnipeg Elec	102¾	102¾	106	105½
LISTED MINING STOCKS—				
Crown Reserve	$ 2.72	$2.60	$6.00	$4.06
Nipissing	$ 10	6½	11⅝	*11
International Coal	75	70	85½	85

*Ex-dividend. ‡*Ex-rights. †And interest. ‡Ex-coupon.

Stocks and Bank Reserves.



How the Price-Level Compares with Other Years.

The foregoing diagram indicates the average price-trend of ten miscellaneous stocks listed on the Montreal Exchange during the opening nine years of "Canada's Century." In preparing the diagram, price-averages were determined at the close of March, June, September and December each year. The upper path marks the extremes of the three decisive movements in stock prices experienced in Canada during the nine years; indicating the reactions that followed the high-marks of 1902 and 1906. The lower line traces the changes from "low" to "high" which there have been in the month-end proportions that the Canadian banks' reserves (specie, legals, net foreign bank balances and call loans abroad) bear to liabilities to the public. Thus, at the close of September, 1902, the average price of ten stocks was 128, at which time the banks' joint "reserve ratio" was 23 per cent. At the end of September, 1906, the price average was 122—the banks' reserve ratio having begun to decline from its height of 24 per cent. a year earlier. By the close of December, 1909, the third price advance had reached an average level of about 130, with considerable year-end market buoyancy in evidence. The question asked is naturally; What next? To those inclined to predict a decline from now on, if such there are, it may be pointed out that the banking reserve ratio is now around 30 per cent.— or 7 points higher than when the 1902 high-point was reached in the stock market price-average. But those who count on continued advances have also certain matters that should be kept in view.

Market Outlook for 1910.

It has more than once been said in these columns that blind following of "charts" in stock market matters is about as futile as betting under a Monte Carlo "system" or as relying on a race-track "dope sheet." But in a general way, financial history repeats itself. The stock market has a habit of taking full account of trade prosperity, months and sometimes even years, ahead of its complete realization in commercial circles. So that, even if there be several years of uninterrupted business expansion ahead of Canada, with substantial dividend increases, stock prices cannot go on rising indefinitely. For one thing, a "flood-tide of prosperity" always brings with it new industrial undertakings and new flotations of securities; and competition in supply tends to operate against prices of already existing stocks.

On the other hand, he would be a rash "bear" who predicted that Canadian stock market prices must be on the down grade from now on, even though the banks' reserve ratio should begin to show declines. Quite possibly, for months yet, the decrease in the proportion of reserves will be very gradual—if, indeed, the continued incoming of funds from abroad does not entirely prevent it for some time to come. Large returns from an abundance of agricultural exports and an influx of British investment capital are factors that can be counted upon during the next twelve-month at any rate. Still, assurance of the immediate future does not do away with the desirability of viewing the longer outlook.

Trading on Toronto Exchange.

Various merger and other corporate flotations, during the past year, reached the investing public