ECHOES FROM MUNICIPAL FINANCE

WE BUY
AND SELL

MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES

If YOU wish to dispose of this class of bonds do not fail to write us.

Brent Noxon & Co.
Canada Life Building,
TORONTO, Ont.

LOANS OF LONDON, Ont.

An analysis of the sale of debentures by the city of London for the past few years proves of much interest. During the five years ending Dec. 31, 1912, the city sold on nine occasions bonds amounting to $1,295,952, and of this amount the sum of $935,022 represents the city's borrowings for the past three years, $439,000 being borrowed in 1912. The following table shows what the money cost the city:

June, 1908	4.55 per cent.
October, 1908	4.20 per cent.
February, 1909	4.10 per cent.
October, 1909	4.10 per cent.
February, 1910	4.40 per cent.
June, 1910	4.40 per cent.
March, 1911	4.20 per cent.
March, 1912	4.40 per cent.
December, 1912	4.80 per cent.

The last sale of $231,400 cost the city a litle over four and three-quarter per cent. Wood, Gundy & Co. have handled over $650,000 in three of the last sales.

Mr. Wider, representative of the company, stated today that it is not likely that money will be easier to any great extent in 1913.

TENDERS

LONDON, ONT.

Sealed tenders will be received up to noon, May 1st, 1913, by tbe Board of Water Commissioners, City of London, Ontario, Canada, for:—

1,450 tons of 4-inch, 6-inch, 8-inch, 10-inch and 12-inch cast iron pipe. Also for 94 valves and 20 tons special castings for the above. 75.000 lbs. pig lead. 94,000 lbs. lead pipe. 3,000 lbs. Russian jointing hemp.

For specifications and form of tenders address H. J. GLAUBITZ, General Manager, Board of Water Commissioners, London, Ont.

(*See also page 153 for tenders*).

HIGHER MONEY

A recent cable to the Montreal "Star" says:

Comment on the failure of the City of Toronto's loan of four per cents, of which 85 per cent. was left with the underwriters, suggests the determination of the market here to exact 4½ per cent. from the larger, and 5 per cent. from the smaller municipalities.

The Winnipeg City loan, abvertised today, evidently recognizes the situation, and consists of £750,000 four and halves, at par.

CAUTION NEEDED IN FINANCING

Mr. Alexander Laird, General Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, in his annual report says:

"It is only our municipalities and reckless promoters who incur large obligations before they are sure of the necessary investor in the securities they propose to offer. Many of our towns and cities who have refused to consult the banks find themselves embarrassed as a result, and improvements which may be wise and much needed must be postponed for the moment. The existing securities will doubtless be absorbed in the near future, but at lower prices than heretofore in order to meet the investors' expectations of a higher return. Our municipalities, however, should seriously consider whether during periods of such rapid expansion the tax rate should not be largely increased. In the days of western expansion in the United States 25 and 30 mills on a fairly high valuation of property were not uncommon rates. Again, should we not pay for local improvements in a far shorter time than we do! The western cities of the United States make their local improvements by the issue of short term securities, the average life of which is usually not more than five years. Such securities often carry six per cent. interest and do not appeal to the same class of investor as do long-term municipal debentures. We can easily see the bad effect on the credit of our municipalities of adding the heavy cost of local improvements, spread over long terms, to the ordinary general debt. Such a system as that followed in the United States would probably not find favor with the sub-division promoter because it would be a powerful check on all speculative real estate schemes. At least a year ago it became generally known that there where many Canadian securities in existence which had not been absorbed by the investor and that real estate speculation was proceeding at too rapid a pace. Undoubtedly the knowledge of these facts has exercised some restraint upon our people. Transactions in inside city properties have probably been larger than ever but the sub-division promoter has not prospered. Direct investments of British capital in agricultural lands to be resold have been made in both the east and the west on a large scale."

LOANS MADE TO:
BONDS BOUGHT FROM:

Municipalities

A. P. LESPERANCE
MANAGER
City and District Savings Bank
MONTREAL

PERSONAL

Mr. Joseph Reid has been appointed City Commissioner of Regina, Sask., with a salary of $5,500 a year; he will have charge of the City's finance department.

Mr. D. Kitchen has been appointed assessor of Souris, Man.

Mr. P. Lancaster has been appointed City Engineer, Architect and manager of the waterworks of Belleville, Ont., at a salary of $1,800 per annum.

Mr. William Minto, who only retired from the position of Treasurer of the City of Wesmount, Que., last year, has died after a lingering illness. He was secretary-treasurer of the Town before it became a City.

Mr. A. D. Shibley, City Clerk of Westmount, Que., has resigned to enter business. He has been in the City's employ for several years, and his resignation is keenly regretted.

Mr. James G. Lindsay, City Engineer, Belleville, Ont., has resigned and will return to his old home in Ireland.

FOR SALE
MUNICIPAL PUMPING PLANT
DESERONTO, ONT.

Having changed to Electric-Power, necessitates disposing of the equipment previously used by the Corporation of the Town of Deseronto, and the following are offered for sale:

One 75 h.p. Fairbanks-Morse Suction Gas Producer.

One 65 h.p. Fairbanks-Morse Vertical Producer Gas Engine.

One 12 x 15 Triplex Pump, direct connected by friction clutch to Gas Engine, capacity 1000 gallons per minute.

The above equipment has only been operated a short time, and is in first-class condition.

Plant is offered complete as above or separately.

Any further particulars can be supplied by applying to,

HENRY R. BEDFORD,
Town Clerk,
Deseronto, Ontario.