

THE LION'S SHARE.

Despatches from London intimate that Canada secured a very large proportion of the new capital raised there in the month of September. The total of new issues for the month is given as £9,700,500 and of this total Canadian issues accounted for £6,800,000. The Dominion Government's £3,000,000 issue of 4 per cents represented nearly half of the Canadian issues. The proceeds of this loan were required in part to meet a loan maturing 1st October and in part for governmental expenditures.

NEW YORK POSITION.

Money at call on the stock exchange at New York ruled from $2\frac{3}{4}$ p.c. to 3 p.c., with most of the business at the lower level. Sixty day loans are $4\frac{1}{4}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$; ninety days, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{3}{4}$; and six months, 5 p.c. In their Saturday statement the clearing house institutions at the American centre (banks and trust companies) reported loan expansion of \$7,800,000, cash gain of \$2,250,000, and increase of \$386,000 in surplus—the surplus then standing at \$11,044,050. The banks taken by themselves had loan expansion of \$15,967,000 and cash gain of \$4,000,000. Their surplus, therefore, increased \$89,250.

FURTHER GOLD SHIPMENTS POSSIBLE.

The loan expansion would reflect to some extent the preparations for the October dividend and coupon payments; and of course the movement of currency to the interior for crop-moving also would affect the statement. New York exchange at Montreal has been at a discount, and further shipments of gold to Montreal are among the possibilities, especially if the banks decide to issue notes against gold deposits in the central reserves in October.

The sterling market at New York has been giving some indications of gold imports from Europe. Large amounts of exchange have been drawn against shipments of United States produce to Europe. And the bills drawn against our own exports of wheat have been appearing on the New York market. Then present and prospective drawings on London against proceeds of new Canadian loans would also constitute a factor of some importance.

The annual statement of Quebec Railway shows gross earnings of \$1,524,200, an increase of \$108,375. Operating expenses were \$895,180, an increase of \$160,255, and including \$91,500 expenditure for maintenance. Total income was \$865,901, an increase of \$9,583. Surplus after fixed charges was \$73,801, a decrease of \$141,320, and final surplus on the year's operations, the same amount showing an increase of \$62,589 over the previous year when two quarterly dividends on the common stock were paid. This surplus is equal to about three-quarters of one per cent. on the \$10,000,000 common stock. The total surplus is \$147,341.

ALBERTA RAISES ITS RATE OF INTEREST.

Western Province Raises Permissible Rate on Provincial Bonds from 4 to 4 1-2 per cent.—Treasury Bills at 5 3-4 per cent.

Lieutenant-Governor Bulyea, of Alberta, assented on September 22, to a bill passed by the provincial legislature in session in Edmonton, to amend the act passed in 1910, which provided in regard to the raising of loans that the rate of interest should not be more than 4 per cent. a year. The amended act raises the rate to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The increase, it was explained by Premier Sifton and government speakers, and supported by the opposition, is necessitated by the changed conditions in the financial markets, and brings the rate of interest to be paid on Alberta securities to the same level as paid by other provinces and the large cities in the Dominion.

Mr. Michener, leader of the opposition, while agreeing with the principle of increasing the rate of interest, said that unless the province of Alberta could negotiate at par its bonds for \$5,000,000, authorized at the last session, the issue should not be disposed of at the present time, no matter how pressing the need for money. He did not think it wise to continue to renew treasury notes for the loan of \$7,400,000, which were issued in 1910 to fill the interval between the time that the act was passed and the proceeds of the sales of the Alberta and Great Waterways railway bonds being received.

He considered it would be better for the province to take up these treasury notes and carry them in the form of bonded indebtedness. When the act was passed it stated that the interest should not exceed $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and yet the treasury notes had been renewed at rates as high as $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

Premier Sifton in replying to Mr. Michener, said that in the sale of the treasury notes, there had been no violation of the statute. Treasury bills were not issued bearing any rate of interest at all, but were issued in the same way as a note and discounted. The law allowed bonds to be sold at 95 and that was not considered a violation, and treasury notes could be issued at a rate of more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., without any violation of the law. There was nothing to prevent treasury notes being sold at a discount.

TRANSFER OF BANK SHARES.

When the Bank Act was adopted by the House of Commons last session it contained a provision that banks must open in the several provinces in which shareholders resided share registry offices, where the shares of such shareholders were transferable.

The intention was to enable estates of deceased shareholders to escape being taxed, as under the present system, both by the province in which the shareholder resided and by the province in which the head office of the bank was situated.

The Senate, when the Bank Act was under consideration by that body, made this section permissive instead of mandatory. The Minister of Finance, Hon. W. T. White, is now taking up the question with the banks with a view to seeing if arrangements can be made permitting the local transfer of shares.

Bank of England rate was yesterday raised to 5 per cent.