

TORONTO HYDRO BONDS

Block of \$1,000,000 To Be Sold—Record of Previous Issues

The city treasurer of Toronto is being asked to make arrangements for the sale of \$1,000,000 bonds of the Toronto Hydro-Electric Commission, which the city council voted last year for extensions to the system. The Commission asked last year for \$2,000,000 for extensions, but the city council decided half that amount would be sufficient.

Previous Sales of Bonds.

The latest sales of the Toronto Hydro bonds were made in 1914, and are tabulated by the Commission as follows:—

4% bonds authorized.	Actual cash realized from sale.	% of face value.
\$2,750,000	\$2,240,124.55	81.46
2,200,000	1,816,774.89	82.58
\$4,950,000	\$4,056,899.44	81.96

Criticism was strong at the time of these sales regarding the prices received. The Commission has nothing to do with the sale of their own bonds, these securities being sold by the city. In the report of the Commissioners, published in April, 1914, they say:—

Sold Too Late.

"It is in the judgment of the Commissioners, very unfortunate that the debentures authorized under by-laws Nos. 5036 and 5918, aggregating \$4,950,000, were not sold earlier, when the market for municipal debentures was much more favorable. The first-mentioned by-law was passed in January, 1908, and the second in January, 1912, but the debentures were not sold until the middle of 1913, when the conditions of civic finance and the state of the money market combined to render a sale compulsory. The prices realized were probably satisfactory in view of the then state of the market and the history of the previous financing attempted. But the quoted prices ex-dividend on the London Stock Exchange between July, 1910 and July, 1912 of 4 per cent. city of Toronto debentures, due 1944-1948, ranged from 101 to 103 at the first-mentioned date to 96 to 98 at the last-mentioned date. Had these two items been sold within the period named, they would probably have realized minimum prices of from 92 to 96, giving a safe average of, say, 94. The resultant saving would have been about 12 per cent., or \$594,000."

WINNIPEG PAINT AND GLASS COMPANY

The balance sheet of the Winnipeg Paint and Glass Company shows a profit and loss account balance of \$139,858 carried forward. The company has current liabilities of \$556,614, as follows:—Bank loans, Winnipeg, \$476,769; accounts payable, \$32,966; bills payable, \$46,304; and taxes payable, \$573. The reserve liabilities amounting to \$273,552 are as follows:—Depreciation, plant, etc., \$36,985; contingencies, bad and doubtful debts, etc., \$148,578; discounts, \$7,988; and possible depreciation, stocks and bonds, \$80,000. There are contingent liabilities of \$717,350, made up of the following items:—On bills discounted, \$635,621; on investments, \$26,661; dividend on preferred shares not declared, \$35,000; on agreements of sale discounted, \$20,667.

The company's property and assets are made up of cash, \$2,518; inventories, \$379,689; investments, \$745,722; plant and equipment, \$332,371; and deferred charges to revenue, \$15,122. The company's investments are distributed as follows:—Debentures and shares (at book values), \$639,391; mortgages on real estate, \$68,301; sundry real estate, \$54,085; less encumbrances assumed, \$16,056; totalling \$745,722.

The company has accounts receivable amounting to \$492,391, which appears to be a very heavy sum. The company's capital stands as follows:—Authorized, \$1,000,000; issued, 5,000 common shares, \$100 each fully paid, \$500,000; issued, 5,000 preferred shares, \$100 each fully paid, \$500,000.

The affairs of the Howard Smith Paper Mills, Limited, are to be managed by a board of seven directors, with a quorum of four.

WHAT THE BEAVER SAYS

A photograph of a beaver which has felled a tree, after weeks of persistent gnawing, is published by the Canada Lumberman and Woodworker. This captain of industry is described as "a successful descendant of the pioneer lumberman of North America." On being interviewed recently as to his view on the lumbering situation, he said:—

"Our family still control very extensive tracts of virgin timber, and, as we do not require financial assistance from the banks, we are retaining our skins, and our season's operations will be about normal."

"To what do you attribute your success, Mr. Beaver?"

"To the fact that we never did more business than we could finance ourselves. Being free both to work and manage our own business, instead of being worried to death by the banks about financial matters, and by expert advice and suggestions from bank boys as to how operations should be conducted, makes the difference."

"We expect the demand in our line of business will increase as soon as the war is over."

SASKATCHEWAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

The first annual report of the Saskatchewan Life Insurance Company covers the period from the date of incorporation March 12th, 1912, to December 31st, 1914, a period which, as Mr. W. T. Mollard, the company's president, says, "has been rather difficult in many respects." The company, however, sold its entire authorized issue of 10,000 shares of capital stock. Its license was granted in March, 1914, but active operations did not begin until later. By the end of the year the company had received 98 applications for insurances amounting to \$193,224, and issued 95 policies for \$177,891, the balance being declined or deferred. The insurance in force on December 31st, 1914, was \$168,891, with an average premium of \$32 per thousand.

The gross receipts from premiums, interest and capital stock sold, amounted to \$192,154.

The assets of the company amounted to \$142,834. These figures do not include \$46,164 of shareholders' notes referred to in the balance sheet, as such are not admitted by the Insurance Department, Ottawa, as an asset. The company believe, however, that these notes will be paid within a reasonable time, and as collected will be transferred from the "contingent assets" to the admitted assets of the company. The net assets exceed the total liabilities to policyholders by \$140,611.

The policy reserves were computed on the O.M. (5) tables of mortality with interest at 3½ per cent. in accordance with the provisions of the Dominion insurance act, 1910. The security for policyholders is given in the report as \$1,088,998 but this sum, it should be noted, includes uncalled although subscribed capital.

Mr. T. F. Conrad was appointed general manager of the company in October. Mr. Conrad is a capable and experienced underwriter, and his services should go a long way in piloting a young company safely through its early days, which are dangerous ones. It is pleasing to note also that Mr. Frank Sanderson, F.F.A., F.A.S., the well-known Toronto actuary, has been retained by the company as consulting actuary. If the company is guided largely by Mr. Sanderson's advice, they will not go far astray. Mr. H. O. Powell, general manager of the Weyburn Security Bank, is one of the vice-presidents, with Mr. G. H. Barr. The other directors are Mr. Charles Willoughby, Regina; Mr. William H. Duncan, Regina; Mr. William M. Martin, M.P., Regina; Mr. J. W. Sifton, Moose Jaw; and Mr. J. A. M. Patrick, Yorkton.

Bissett and Loucks, Limited, with Manitoba charter, will apply to parliament for an act to change their name to Bissett and Webb, Limited.

The Miramichi Lumber Company will apply for authority to construct piers for boomage purposes on the north side of the Miramichi River, N.B., a plan and description of the proposed site having been filed with the Minister of Public Works, Ottawa.