

MANITOBA FARMERS IMPATIENT OVER DELAY

Wet Weather Now Retards Spring Work—Province's Fire Loss Greatly Increased—One Big Union Out of Favor, but Other Labor Problems Arise

(Special to *The Monetary Times*.)

Winnipeg, April 22nd, 1920.

INDICATIONS point to great increases in the amounts loaned under the rural credits plan of provincial government this year. The number of societies is now forty-nine, and additions are being made every month.

Wet weather during the past two days has interfered seriously with work on the land. Fair progress has been made all over the west, but farmers are becoming impatient over further delays. Predictions of heavy decrease in grain acreage are premature, because plenty of time is still available for satisfactory results in sowing.

Labor Difficulties are Acute

The Winnipeg Electric Railway Co. has definitely rejected the request of motormen, conductors and gas-house employees for big increases in wages. The amount involved is about \$1,500,000, and the company will not even consider the proposals advanced. The matter may come before the Joint Council of Industry for Manitoba, now being organized.

Wage increases of 20 to 25 per cent. have been announced by Provincial Fair Wage Board to govern all contracts for government work this season.

The visit of Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, was a feature in labor circles this week. Plans for rehabilitating labor unionism in the eyes of the law are being devised, and plain intimation is given that the One Big Union element will be denied any measure of support or recognition. Meanwhile, the One Big Union refuses to recognize the Joint Council of Industry, with which the Trades and Labor Council is prepared to co-operate actively.

Manitoba Fire Loss Increased

Manitoba government reports show 122 fires in March, with estimated damage of \$175,996. For three months the total is 360 fires, with loss of \$449,000, compared with 312 fires and loss of \$258,900 for the same period last year.

BANK LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES

Bank credits to municipalities are steadily increasing, the total at the end of February showing an increase of nearly \$16,000,000, as compared with the previous year, and an advance of over \$6,000,000 over the previous month. It is usual at this time of the year for these loans to increase, and more so this year in view of the fact that municipalities which, during the war, cut down their expenditures to the minimum, and refrained from making improvements, are now compelled to make large outlays. As the Canadian bond market is not in a position to take care of its usual part in this new financing, banks are called upon to undertake more than their usual share. The following table, compiled by *The Monetary Times*, shows bank loans to municipalities since 1917:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
January . . .	\$24,487,272	\$40,015,466	\$32,640,198	\$46,147,388
February . . .	26,121,324	43,535,628	36,830,183	52,690,790
March	29,877,911	50,652,061	41,993,305	.....
April	35,931,996	55,685,350	47,911,199	.....
May	39,700,191	57,728,226	50,356,227	.....
June	42,757,673	58,000,424	52,349,353	.....
July	43,989,207	56,589,173	54,455,738	.....
August	43,940,176	56,662,931	57,536,867	.....
September . .	42,721,563	47,977,472	57,033,309	.....
October	41,204,781	46,275,106	56,116,897	.....
November . . .	36,459,598	40,865,358	52,703,363	.....
December . . .	36,353,039	30,684,052	42,635,290	.....

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Deficit of \$139,228 on Ordinary Account for Year 1919—
Capital Expenditure Totalled \$68,477

RECEIPTS and expenditures of Prince Edward Island for the year ended December 31st, 1919, were submitted to the provincial legislature last week. The figures are as follows:—

	RECEIPTS.		
	Ordinary receipts.	War and health tax.	Total receipts.
Dominion subsidy	\$372,181	.....	\$372,181
Public lands	802	.....	802
Provincial secretary's fees ..	1,623	.....	1,623
Prethontary's fees	1,048	.....	1,048
Registrar of deeds, Charlotte-town	5,147	.....	5,147
Registrar of deeds, S'Side . .	2,408	.....	2,408
County court fees	293	.....	293
Fines and penalties	35	.....	35
Falconwood hospital fees . . .	7,130	.....	7,130
Private bills	400	.....	400
Peddlers' licenses	560	.....	560
Casual revenue	499	.....	499
Fire insurance co.'s	5,100	\$ 1,700	6,800
Life insurance co.'s	2,193	731	2,925
Accident and guarantee co.'s	320	106	426
Loan and trust co.'s	337	112	450
Banks	6,273	2,091	8,364
Telegraph co.	375	125	500
Express co.'s	300	100	400
Electric light co.	100	33	133
Miscellaneous co.'s	1,212	404	1,616
Income tax	5,280	1,745	7,025
Land tax	37,808	13,985	51,794
Fox tax	4,954	1,485	6,439
Succession duties	3,038	962	4,001
Motor vehicles, etc.	13,369	2,904	16,274
Refund	42	.....	42
Prohibition commission	13,448	.....	13,448
Total ordinary receipts ..	\$486,284	\$26,488	\$512,772
Less motor vehicle tax (net transferred to public works department)	11,343	2,904	14,247
Ordinary receipts	\$474,941	\$23,584	\$498,525
Interest, etc., on sinking fund investments . . . . .	.....	.....	8,333
			\$506,858

Expenditures

The expenditures were as follows: Administration of justice, \$29,473; boards of health, \$4,304; coroners' inquests, \$158; department of agriculture, \$28,804; department of education, \$187,699; department of public works, \$163,353; department of provincial secretary-treasurer, \$6,204; elections, \$5,623; executive council, \$3,714; Falconwood hospital and infirmary, \$119,684; interest, \$50,801; legislation, \$11,233; library, \$1,402; miscellaneous grants, \$14,646; motor vehicles, \$2,026; paupers, \$3,884; postage, \$1,392; Prince of Wales' visit, \$2,770; provincial auditor's department, \$1,907; provincial building, \$5,804; public lands, \$420; registry office, \$6,106 telegrams, \$64; telephone extensions, \$518.

This makes a total ordinary expenditure of \$652,000. In addition, there was an appropriation of \$10,470 for sinking fund. Capital expenditure was \$62,698, and war expenditure, \$5,778.

COBALT ORE SHIPMENTS

The following were the shipments of ore, in pounds, from Cobalt Station for the week ended April 16th:—

O'Brien Mine, 64,595; La Rose Mine, 60,000; Mining Corporation of Canada, 260,860. Total, 385,455. The total since January 1st is 4,495,438 pounds, or 2,247.72 tons.