TRUST AND LOAN COMPANY NOTES.

The leading trust and loan companies were visited this week by The Monetary Times. Their officers and directors find conditions much better than a year ago and they anticipate great progress in the near future.

Mr. Richey, of the Royal Trust Company, said he found little difficulty in securing 5½ per cent. and better on good property. When asked about the Canada Cement issue he informed The Monetary Times that, although he had nothing to do with the receiving of applications for shares, he knew that many forms had been filled out and mailed to the Montreal office. Many inquiries were being made regarding the issue.

The safety vault department of the trust companies is becoming an important feature of their business. The strong boxes rent from two dollars upward per year and are mainly used for the safe-keeping of valuable documents, such as mortgages, debentures, notes, etc. The Monetary Times was shown through the safety deposit vaults of the Union Trust Company under the charge of ex-Inspector Cuddy of the London, England, police force. Mr. McWhinney, manager of the Union Trust Company, is now touring through British Columbia and Western Canada on business.

The manager of a prominent trust and mortgage firm was questioned regarding the attitude of British capitalists towards Canada as a field for investments. "A firm must first become known as a reliable institution; after that the Old Country will unhesitatingly loan them money where a good return is assured. Our headquarters for borrowing is in Edinburgh, Scotland," he continued, "and we find that the Scotch are anxious to purchase good Canadian securities. We borrow from different men, but the average loan is about £1,000."

The programme of the Trust Companies' Section at the American Bankers' Convention contained addresses by:—Welcome—Edwin A. Potter, president American Trust and Savings Bank, Chicago; response by President A. A. Jackson. Address—James A. Sherman, vice-president of the United States. "Trust Companies resources and Revenue—A Five Year Summary"—Edward T. Perine, president Audit Company, New York. Other subjects selected for general discussion were: "Limitations of Functions of a Trust Company;" "Duties and Responsibilities of Trustees Under Corporate Mortgages;" "Value and Responsibility of a Safe Deposit Department;" "Mortgages as Investments for Savings Funds of a Trust Company."

'TIS BETTER TO HAVE AND NOT NEED THAN TO NEED AND NOT HAVE.

A recent number of a United States insurance paper chronicles an interesting debate in a Southern university on the question, "Resolved, that Christopher Columbus was safer from accident than the average modern man." The debate was easily won by the supporters of the affirmative. It was readily shown by reports of various Boards of Health, health inspectors, and other officials that the death rate by accidental causes is rapidly increasing.

By the strain and bustle of modern business life, particularly in a busy city, the dangers of accident are multiplied over and over. One runs as many risks in crossing some business streets at certain hours of the day as Christopher Columbus did in crossing the Atlantic Ocean. But we are so accustomed to the risk that it is not noticed until some unfortunate steps off a car in front of an automobile, and we read about it the next day in the papers.

What we do not read about, perhaps, is the fact that the man who is injured is cut off from his employment, and that weeks of disablement mean great financial embarrassment to himself and his family. After the accident many a man has wished that he had taken the advice frequently tendered him, "Better be sure than sorry," and that he had listened to the arguments of a solicitor for the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Company, Limited, whose offices are in the Traders Bank Building, Toronto.