

# FINANCIAL METROPOLIS IS KEEN IN ANALYSIS

*(The following cable messages of the Canadian Associated Press and the Montreal Star are printed by special arrangement.)*

## WHAT IS LONDON'S ATTITUDE?

### Brief Analysis of the Position Overseas As It Concerns Canada—Why Not Add a Department to the High Commissioner's Office?

(Staff Correspondence.)

London, June 30.

What is London's attitude to Canada? That was the particular question during this pilgrimage in the world's metropolis for which an answer has been sought on behalf of readers of *The Monetary Times*. First, we must know the character of financial London, a market of peculiar moods. It is keen in analysis and quick in deciding knotty points; but it is moody and sometimes erratic. Leaving aside technical interpretations, there is a market of two divisions, city financiers, bankers, underwriters, and the like, and the army of investors, institutional and individual, with eyes upon London's centre. The former are rather glum about stock exchange dullness, about international conditions, about domestic politics, and about Canada, too. The best authorities, however, recognize that fundamental conditions in the Dominion are sound. They think we have borrowed heavily enough. They want to see encouragement of freight sources for Canada's railroads, and an improvement in earnings. They desire more production and less speculation.

They are caustic in their criticisms of Canadian industrial flotations, in the aggregate, made in London during the past few years, having good reason to be. Industrial issues made by Canada in this market will likely get a frigid reception. Finally, while this section of the market has faith, it wants Canada at the present time, to keep out of London as far as possible.

#### Some Loans to Come.

This leads one to consider forthcoming issues. Toronto, Winnipeg, Moose Jaw and maybe Montreal will come to this market, some of them possibly before these lines reach Canada. The Canadian Northern must make a loan here, and so will the Grand Trunk Pacific. There are others, too, so that despite London's request for a rest, a procession of borrowers is in line. They will be well advised to wait, and other less urgent loans should be postponed for some time. That is the attitude of the powers-that-be towards Canada.

As for the investors, they have little disposition to place their money other than in the banks, whose deposits have increased enormously in recent months. They have been bitten badly in many things, Canadian securities included. So far as Canada is concerned, they propose to wait until the present readjustment of affairs takes more definite shape. They want to see a more happy railroad and industrial situation, and a good crop this fall. Micawberlike, they are waiting to see what will turn up. In the meantime, a little investing is being done, but only a very little.

#### London Mud Throwers.

One nasty phase of the situation here is the disposition of market papers (of little repute, however), to indulge in some smart writing at the expense of Canada. The Dominion has been so much in the limelight in good times, that now dull stock market days are here, there is a disposition to take Canada, as one of the most prominent borrowers, making it the scapegoat. Here is a typical headline:—"Canadian Rubbish. Financial Rot in the Dominion." Under it, was an extraordinary lot of mischievous references, including one to "ramshackle western cities." This kind of stuff, while not having an influential circulation, naturally does a certain amount of harm.

One does not expect the Canadian High Commissioner in London to rush into print daily to contradict every Tom, Dick and Harry who publishes nonsense regarding the Dominion. But does the High Commissioner get into print enough? Many leading Canadians here say "No." Every

week from the office of the High Commissioner, which has quite enough Westminster atmosphere, is issued a circular with a few facts and figures. It has become so monotonous that several Canadian business men here throw it, without perusal, into the waste paper basket, and the press do not feature it.

#### A Suggestion for Ottawa.

Why not institute a department at the High Commissioner's office to fraternise with the English press, to give them the plain facts from day to day, rather than allow highly colored truth or friction to circulate as freely as it has in the past? For instance, on the financial page of a leading London paper the other day, the statement was made by an anonymous correspondent that "Canada is importing twice as much as she is exporting." That it would not have been out of place for a contradiction to have been issued over the signature of the Canadian High Commissioner, giving the facts and figures, is the opinion of Canadians here. A press department in connection with this important office in London is suggested to the authorities at Ottawa.

The Canadian banks in London have been doing yeoman service in protecting the English investor against unscrupulous schemes floated from Canada. Prospective investors in England will do well to consult them before parting with their savings. Their advice is unbiased and absolutely reliable.

#### Locomotive Firm Coming to Canada.

Universal satisfaction is expressed at the Knighthood of Canada's premier, and at the other Canadian honors granted on the King's birthday.

Considerable speculation is being indulged in as to who will be the next Canadian High Commissioner in London. Several names are mentioned. Some say that Sir Robert Borden may have had enough of the strenuous political life at Ottawa and will come over to London himself to fill the office.

Messrs. Nivison and Company, the firm of which Sir Robert Nivison, the new baronet, is the senior partner, act as brokers to more public loans than any other stock exchange firm, e.g., the following recent loans:—

Dominion of Canada .....	£5,000,000
New South Wales .....	3,000,000
Queensland .....	2,000,000
City of Montreal .....	1,500,000
City of Winnipeg .....	1,125,000
Port of London .....	1,000,000
Gisborne (N.Z.) Harbor Board .....	200,000

And the £4,000,000 South African loan is also being arranged by Messrs. Nivison and Company. All India stock issues are arranged by the firm, Mr. H. H. Scott, one of the partners, being official broker to the India Council.

Locomotive firms in Canada will be interested in knowing that "the largest locomotive makers" in Europe have almost decided to establish an extensive branch plant in Ontario.—Fred. W. Field.

#### PREMIER GLASS COMPANY.

\*London, July 7.—Mr. E. V. Portway, Montreal, secretary of the Premier Glass Company of New London, says the subscriptions have been returned, as the recent public issue was not as well received as had been hoped, owing to market conditions. Satisfactory arrangements have, however, been made on the other side. Capital has also been raised privately here sufficient to insure the success of the company's plant being completed and operations to begin in about two months' time.

\*Montreal Star cable