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THE WAR LOAN'S SUCCESS.

The great success achieved by the Dominion Government's domestic war loan is exceedingly welcome from more than one point of view. There is, first of all, the patriotic aspect. It is very satisfactory (we say this in no merely partizan spirit), that the Dominion Government should have the policy which it has consistently followed since the outbreak of war, of unflinching support of the cause in which the British Empire and its Allies are fighting, thus enthusiastically supported in terms of hard cash by the people of the Dominion. But beyond the confines of the Dominion, the loan's success will have a perhaps not very tangible but certainly an important effect. It cannot but hearten those who in England are bearing the chief burden and heat of the day to know that the overseas Dominions are gradually undertaking successfully, through the traditional British policy of "broadening down from precedent to precedent," considerable tasks, the mere suggestion of which two or three years ago would have been scouted as moonshine. Moreover, the accumulation of these "precedents," in other of the overseas Dominions as in Canada, cannot but eventually result in the further drawing together of the British peoples scattered over the face of the earth and notable progress towards a solution of the various Imperial problems that with the close of the war will again demand recognition.

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Apart, however, from purely patriotic considerations and admitting the great attractiveness of the loan from the investment point of view, the results achieved constitute a distinct cause for satisfaction throughout the Dominion. Over \$100 millions was in all subscribed, or, aside from the banks' subscriptions, which may be regarded as in a class by themselves, fully 75 to 80 million dollars and this from over 25,000 subscribers. Allowing for the very large amounts subscribed by the insurance companies, other financial institutions, several public authorities and

their sinking funds and a number of wealthy individuals and estates, it is clear from the figures given that Mr. White's appeal to the small investor was a successful one, and that the energetic educational work performed by various agencies had exceedingly good results in drawing out the carefully hoarded funds of small capitalists. In this connection, also, an exceedingly large amount of valuable missionary work has undoubtedly been done, the results of which will only become visible in the future. Many people, who were perhaps not in a position to subscribe now, have learned a good deal and will be willing enough, means permitting, to subscribe later on, while it may be confidently expected also that many who have subscribed in small amounts to the present loan and find the instalment payments well within their means, will be eager enough to increase their holdings of Dominion Government bonds, and possibly other high-class bonds, when suitable opportunities present themselves.

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With this loan successfully floated, the way is clear for further experiments in finance. We discuss more fully on another page the question of credits to Great Britain for purchases of munitions and other supplies here, which matter is now being taken in hand by the Minister of Finance in collaboration with the Canadian Bankers' Association. It has been influentially represented that the Minister of Finance would be well advised to follow the example of the Australian Government and extend the limit of the war loan so that all subscribers may receive their allotments in full. But in regard to this there are important factors to be taken into consideration by the Minister of Finance and his advisers. While our military expenditures are increasing in proportion as our armies increase, presumably \$50 millions will cover our expenditures for some months, and there may also be available a certain balance of revenue for this purpose. Certainly, it is the wish of every Canadian that, if possible, our military expenditures until the end of the war should be financed here, and, if desirable, that loans made to us by the Imperial Government within the last year should be repaid in whole or in part. In any case, Mr. White, as Minister of Finance, possesses the confidence of the Dominion in such a peculiar degree that any decision which he arrives at on a full consideration of the facts, will be loyally accepted.

If we take the population of Canada and the population of the United Kingdom at eight millions and forty-eight millions respectively, and suppose that the Canadian population were raising loans at the same rate as the British, then Canada would be raising about £230,000,000 (\$1,150,000,000) a year. Or, to put it another way, you would have to raise a loan similar to that which you are now raising about every sixteen days.—Hon. R. H. Brand.