Financial and General.

TOTAL INTEREST AND DIVIDEND disbursements this month by railroad, industrial and traction corporations in the United States according to the records of the New York Journal of Commerce will amount to $138,502,189, against $123,919,874 in April a year ago, an increase of $14,582,315. Of this total, dividends will contribute $81,002,189 and interest payments $57,500,000, compared with $69,419,874 and $54,500,000 respectively. As in past months, various railroad and industrial corporations have resumed or increased their dividends as compared with last year, while other have been enabled to declare initial payments.

REGARDING THE GRANBY BREAK, The Transcript, of Boston, says: "There is little doubt but the break has been badly overdone. In a market of a different character a 33-point decline in two days would have been altogether out of the question on any development no more serious than an acknowledgement by the company of a somewhat poor showing of ore 'available for stoping.' Obviously this report refers only to ore reserves already developed. It says nothing of probable reserves not yet developed to the point of being included in the stopping estimate."

BRITISH CAPITALISTS are lately showing more signs of competing with Americans in entering Western industrial undertakings. This week the large plant of the Coast Lumber Mills of Vancouver is reported to have been purchased for six hundred thousand dollars for the British Canadian Lumber Company, a syndicate of Scotch and English capitalists, with a backing of two millions. The new owners control extensive timber limits in the province and will supply their own logs.

COBALT SHIPPERS last week included the Waldman mine with a shipment of 63,992 lbs. of ore to the Delora smelter in Hastings, while the Chambers-Ferland resumed shipping activity after a long halt.

La Rose, Nipissing, Crown Reserve and Kerr Lake are among the leaders. There were twelve shippers, and they sent out 1,278,033 pounds, or 639 tons, bringing the total shipments for the year from the camp to date up to 12,448,941 pounds, or 622,447 tons.

MR. JOHN P. BELL, inspector of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, has been appointed to the managership of the new branch of the bank, which is being opened at Mexico City. Mr. Bell has been inspector of the bank, at Winnipeg, covering the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, for the past four years.

THE MEXICAN NORTHERN POWER CO. plan to have their great dam on the Conchos River, completed in 1912.

By this project 40,000 horse power will be developed, and 200,000 acres of new land irrigated.

THE DIRECTORS of the Amalgamated Asbestos Corporation have declared an initial dividend of 1 3-4 per cent. on the preferred stock, payable on April 1st to shareholders of record on March 15th.

DULUTH-SUPERIOR TRACTION gross passenger earnings for the third week in March, showed an increase of $2,783 over the 1908 showing.

FEBRUARY BUILDING PERMITS in leading Canadian cities were as follows, showing in all a gain of over 6½ per cent. upon the month's showing in 1908:

	Permits for Feb., 1910.	Inc. p.c. over Feb., 1909.	Dec. p.c. from Feb., 1909.
Calgary	$169,800	117.55	......
Edmonton	29,030	......	74.17
Fernie	35,000	......	90 54
Fort William	32,725	......	89.63
Halifax	14,525	......	34.18
Hamilton	37,650	251.86	......
Lethbridge	37,070	41.70	......
London	20,322	......	71.29
Montreal	274,030	16.44	......
Ottawa	94,200	40.72	......
Regina	28,255	821.86	......
St. John	22,000	225.92	......
Saskatoon	55,500	1,955.55	......
Toronto	860,440	0	......
Vancouver	880,795	115.00	......
Victoria	151,760	23.62	......
Winnipeg	378,600	101.00	......
	$3,053,702	6.60	......

THE C.P.R., according to a Winnipeg despatch, is not only resisting the demands of its machinists, car builders, and boilermakers for an increase in wages of from two to two and a half cents per hour, but is contending for a corresponding reduction in the schedules, which would bring them on a par with the wages paid to the same classes of machinists by the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific. This would mean a cut of at least seven per cent. in the pay of the C.P.R. men.

TORONTO RAILWAY COMPANY'S gross earnings for the month of February were $305,557, an increase of $30,312, over the corresponding month of last year.

The gross earnings for the year to 20th February, 1910, are $632,265, an increase of $68,639 over 1909.

THE PREFERRED STOCK of Carriage Factories, Ltd. receives an initial half-yearly dividend of 3 1-2 per cent., payable May 16th. Both preferred and common are shortly to be listed on the Montreal Exchange.

COAL is soon to be added to the list of Northern Ontario's mineral output, if the hopes of prospectors materialize as to the quantity and quality of deposits reported from along the Metagama river.

THE CANADIAN CONSOLIDATED MINES CO., LTD.—a Maine holding company for several coal properties in the Maritime Provinces—was this week put into the hands of receivers in New York.

THE BANKING ACT now stands over until next session for revision. "To be or not to be" is now the question as to the final passage this session of the insurance bill.

MEXICAN TRAM earnings for February were $422,677 gross and $214,670 net,—gains being $13,400 and $14,154 respectively over last year's showing.

CANADA CEMENT preferred stock has been put on a dividend basis of 7 per cent. per annum. Senator Edwards, of Ottawa, has been elected president of the company.

THE NEW YORK CENTRAL is credited with working with the C. P. R. in its railway station plans for Toronto.