

pany go together in pairs and thus produce to the investor at present prices something like 3 p.c. on his money. How much more than this original investors get depends on how much more or how much less than the par value \$100 they paid for the same bit of scrip now worth \$115. The increment in price value that has been the combined result of good management and favorable position is a standing proof of the security's excellence and an assurance to those who buy in on lapses. The surface bearish movement in the whole stock market of late is being generally traced to political and monetary causes yet they are apt to occasion doubts in investors' minds about the soundness of the securities which suffered declines. Suspicion once engendered has in the case of concerns not resting on secure grounds brought about their exposure and downfall, but such suspicion in the case of Montreal St. Ry Co. would only in causing a searching examination prove its thorough stability in point of capital, management, earnings and dividends. Earnings are making great showings in general for each day an increase on the same day the previous year and though they have to clear off large fixed charges they supply a large surplus for dividend purposes. The gross earnings during the year ending September 30 are quoted at \$1,646,900, an increase of \$190,000 over the previous year. In possible advances of its already high price it would not probably be generally advisable to liquidate to realize profits, but in case of declines it is a very good purchase.

Except on Thursday, when all stocks were extremely weak, there was little change in the price of this security. Opening last Friday at 309½, it sold down on Tuesday to 306, but in the afternoon of the same day recovered all its lost ground and on the following day sold at 311. Yesterday it showed a weaker tendency and reacted to 311½, closing at 311 bid and 312½ asked.

MONTREAL GAS.

How some gas companies in the United States can pay dividends while waging gas wars and cutting prices below remunerative mark is a mystery unless the companies make money by speculating in their own stock. The Montreal Gas Company has always been averse to the possibility even of a gas war by using every means to shut out rivals from the city even going the length of buying them off. The price of gas in consequence has always kept higher than in other cities and does not even now, when outclassed by electricity, show any signs of cheapening. In spite of electricity, the natural growth of the city and suburbs, will create an increased consumption, and the regular dividend of 10 p.c. is by no means endangered. The stock, under liquidation, which is sometimes quite large, but never excessively so, being well supported, keeps its ground well. There is no cause for big slumps, so long as the dividend holds. The security has had a good record and retains that good record still. Its future be at all as anticipated there will be no sudden declines, but a continuous rise slowly possibly prolonged through many years. This week's transactions were a feature of the market.

One hundred and ninety-four was bid last Friday. It declined steadily to 190, at which price 225 shares changed hands on Thursday morning. It however recovered with the rest of the market and closed yesterday at 192 to 193.

MONTREAL TELEGRAPH.

Low-priced stock in general is low-priced because it yields low dividends and gives no signs of immediately yielding higher ones. The ground floor, as it is called, of both stocks, is well occupied. High priced stock with some notable exceptions having been taken up when its prices were low, have risen in the scale of valuation as prosperous

business brought greater returns. The ground floor tenants of course hold fast to their lease and reap full advantage of the higher dividend. They may of course sell out on pressure, but the former low price is a thing of the past. Advantageous investment in securities like that of Montreal Telegraph which sells far above par can only be got by watching the market or by getting a broker to watch it for one. Circumstances sometimes arise that provoke a rush of liquidation that puts quotations down. These are the occasions which allow of more than usually profitable entrance to holders. This stock may be said to be fairly secure and worthy of a trial on recessions. Some relapses have taken place of late, and in present uneasiness may be repeated. Not that this stock is more liable than others to the chilling influences of war rumors and of the severe tension of the money market, in fact it is probably less so, being very well supported, but that its 10 p.c. dividend may through a slump become equivalent to 5½ p.c. return. In which case it would not be out of place to take up some shares while the prices are attractive.

ROYAL ELECTRIC.

Holders of this security are evidently and with reason very confident of their position. This feeling is due in a good measure to the changes inaugurated recently by the new directorate in the policy of the company and there is no doubt a change in the monetary situation will see a marked advance in the price of this security. As pointed out last week, having secured the control of the Chambly stock, the management by the splendid foresight displayed in this particular, have added considerably to the earning power of Royal Electric, and the close of the present fiscal year will see phenomenal profits. That liquidation was so small during the recent decline in the general market is an indication of the strong manner in which the stock is held, and as shown towards the close of the week any favorable news affecting the market causes a marked advance in the price of this security. Under existing circumstances we look upon Royal Electric as one of the choice purchases on the list, and investors failing to get in at present will have to pay much higher figures later on. On Monday the stock sold down to 151 and it closed that day to all appearances very weak at 151 asked and 153 bid. The following day in face of a very weak market generally it sold up to 160, and has since advanced to 165½. It closed yesterday 163 bid and 164 asked.

TORONTO RAILWAY.

Good business in Toronto Rails has marked the week. Large liquidation has taken place and yet has not, owing to a strong buying demand, lowered the bidding so much as might have been expected. Last Friday the closing bid was 113½, ¼ below the previous day's while Monday and Tuesday registered 112, while Wednesday and Thursday's were 113 and 111½. The considerable selling movement may be safely taken as indication of awakened interest in local securities and a renewed spirit of speculation for which present conditions are very favorable. Also the good and vigorous buying which has been keeping pace with the selling held up prices and argues strongly in favor of public interest. The latter has the further meaning that Toronto Rails is a security in the best of repute. It is certainly a valuable property, and is evidently thought so by the public. Earnings last week showed up very well, rising to a very good average per day and combine with the absence of disturbing news to give assurance that the company is still moving forward prosperously. Bank of England rate up to 5 and discount to over 5 with their usual depressing effects on stock prices have

told on this stock, but so far depreciation has not been considerable. Strong securities like this are this season sharing so much in the general prosperity that they seem less susceptible to weakening from high money rates and other such influences. The position Toronto Railway stock is found in now at the close of a week's heavy selling warrants renewed recommendation to all interested to buy as they have been doing on every decline. Long hold, if thought advisable, is profitable, and a hold need not be very long to secure in the market reacting and returning to normal price a very good profit taking to the seller.

On Friday last the first sale was at 113, it declined to 112½, subsequently rising to 113½. In common with the rest of the market it weakened considerably on Thursday morning, 200 shares having changed hands at 110½. In the afternoon of that day it rose to 112½. On Wednesday it sold up to 113, declining yesterday to 111½, at which price it was offered at the close with 111½ bid.

BELL TELEPHONE.

In the turn of affairs producing changes of all kinds this security has been largely affected this week not indeed in its value, but in the dislodgment of a large block of its bond stock. On the Exchange floor at the Wednesday afternoon session a block of \$15,000 Bell Telephone Bonds was sold at 115, which gives \$1,250 as cash value. Generally transactions in this security are comparatively small, and thus they give greater prominence to a transaction which in itself is sufficiently large to be somewhat unusual. Offered in one block the stock was absorbed in the same way. Conjectures point to internal interests as the buyers, the strong support always given to the stock vouching fairly enough for the truth of this conjecture. The company's 8 p.c. dividend is equivalent to 4½ on investment at the price 190 and secures what is offered from time to time be taken up at this pretty high figure. Evidently holders are satisfied, and this should have an assuring influence on any who wish to take up any of the generally small offerings.

RICHELIEU & ONTARIO.

Each succeeding season presents a better report than its predecessor. What better can any company do? The stock is not by any means too high-priced, as its return on investment is 5½ per cent. Prices this week though sharing in market weakness, have held up very well. Liquidation has been limited. Ready buying has taken all offered showing that high investment return is a good sheet anchor. Possibilities that may or may not mature have a good deal to do with some high priced stocks which yield a much smaller investment return than that just mentioned as coming from this stock. Actual returns, but then they are very good, are all this security offers to investors, returns, however, which by their increase, do not make improbable a higher dividend.

Without sales this stock was nominal on Friday last at 110 to 113. On Monday a sale of 50 shares took place at 109. On large sales on Tuesday morning it declined to 106½, at which price 25 shares changed hands. On Wednesday it reached to 111, selling up to 111½ on Thursday, closing at 110½ to 110¾.

TWIN CITY.

From the number of enquiries from subscribers, there seem to be great anxiety regarding this stock which seem warranted in that it should decline in the face of fairly good business. The very high price for money in the States and the general decline in Wall Street, has been the chief reason for the weakness developed. We would recommend averaging higher priced purchases on all declines. On Tuesday last the stock