

**DO WOMEN BUY STOCKS?**

JUST how far Montreal women are interested in mining stocks is not generally known, but, through the courtesy of Mr. Kelly, of Kelly & Larmonth, mining brokers, LIFE learned a few facts that will doubtless prove of interest to its many readers.

"In the first place," said Mr. Kelly, "it is a great mistake to suppose that women are not so successful as men in mining operations; indeed, they usually make a good deal more money than men. They possess, to a very marked degree, many of the qualifications which are essential to successful speculation, they rarely sell precipitately, and are good losers, when they do lose, which is seldom. In confirmation of this, I may say that my observation has proved that the judgment shown in the selection of stocks by women has been almost invariably wise. I hardly know to what to attribute their success—whether it is their intuition, or whether they have more time to study the market—but, the fact remains that they are keen, shrewd buyers, not looking for 'pointers,' but acting solely upon their own judgment.

"During the past two months, many instances of the good judgment exercised by women handling mining stocks have come before us, and, in the case of the dividend payers particularly, we have noticed that the selling orders were placed not at the end, but at the beginning of the slump, occasioned by disastrous war news, while, upon the other

hand, purchasing orders have been placed, and are still being placed for good stocks, and are being filled daily at prices, that, when one stops to think calmly of the situation, must appear simply ridiculous. Take as instances Republic paying 12 per cent. and selling at 96½; Montreal-London paying 18 per cent. on par (24c) selling at 25; Deer Trail Consolidated selling at 11c. and actually paying, as it has done for the last two years, a monthly dividend of 25 per cent. upon the investment. The same argument holds with the non-dividend payers, and one is at a loss to explain why, having convinced one's self of the merit of the proposition before investing (this should always be the case) mining stock that is absolutely good is thrown indiscriminately upon a weak market simply on account of an adverse war report. Mining stocks are not carried upon margin, and there is nothing in the war that should tend to hammer such really good stocks as Virtue, Knob Hill, Slovan Sovereign and many of the lower priced, but equally meritorious, stocks upon the list of the Montreal Mining Exchange.

"It is a well-known fact that Lady Frances Cook conducts an extensive brokerage business in London, England, and that American women deal very largely in stocks; indeed, many of the latter have a ticker in their homes, and by this means are able to watch the rise and fall of stocks in which they are interested, while others deal through their brokers, directing them what and when to buy and sell."

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