NATIONAL DRUG AND CHEMICAL COMPANY

Net Trading Profits Increased—Company's Expansion is Shown—To Increase Capital Stock

The financial report of the National Drug and Chemical Company for the year ended June 31st last, showed net trading profits of $292,509, after all trade expenses, salaries to directors and officers, interest on bank advances and interest on real estate mortgages had been paid, and provision made for bad debts.

Net trading profits have practically doubled in four years, as the following returns for four years ending June 31st in each case shows:

1909-1910	$154,199
1910-1911	201,898
1911-1912	278,156
1912-1913	292,509

Surplus profits in the last year after payment of preferred stock dividends and writing down were equal to about 2.4 per cent. on the outstanding common stock of $1,835,700.

Various Appropriations.

With a balance brought forward from the previous year of $112,915, trading profits of $292,509 and a profit of $92,492 on property sold, the directors had a total of $497,917 at their disposal. This was appropriated as follows:

Dividend, 1st preference stock, $112,468; dividend, preference stock, $83,039; assets written down, $42,000; written off organization expenses, $11,000; to general reserve, $50,000; to contingent account, $100,000; balance, February 1st, 1913, $99,409.

The annual meeting of the company was followed by a conference of the managers of the fourteen branches throughout Canada. Only one change took place in the list of officers, Mr. W. W. Knox, of Montreal, retiring from the vice-presidency and the managership of the Lyman-Knox branch, on account of ill-health. At the request of the directorate, he remains on the board, while Mr. C. W. Tinling, the general manager, becomes also a vice-president.

New Facilities are Proposed.

The directorate is as follows: President, D. W. Bole, Montreal; vice-president, Alfred B. Evans, Montreal; vice-president and general manager, C. W. Tinling, Montreal; treasurer, W. S. Kerry, Montreal; secretary, W. S. Elliott, Montreal; directors, Messrs. L. W. Barker, Montreal; W. W. Bole, Toronto; William Henderson, Vancouver; T. M. Henderson, Vancouver; J. W. Knox, Montreal; James Mattinson, Montreal; L. J. Mylius, Halifax; W. C. Niblett, Hamilton; Theo. H. Wardleworth, Montreal; and W. H. Webb, Halifax.

The company's business has been everywhere outgrowing its facilities, and a number of new buildings are now under way or projected. In Toronto a six-story structure of reinforced concrete is being erected on Beverley Street, and a six-story warehouse is also being built on Beatty Street, Vancouver. New warehouses are also about to be erected in Winnipeg and Edmonton, two large warehouses have been purchased at Hamilton, and it will before long be necessary to provide a new building in Montreal. The directors of the National Drug and Chemical Company have decided to call a special general meeting of the shareholders on June 3rd to sanction increasing the capital stock by $2,000,000.

The company's present authorized capital is $5,996,667, of which the following is outstanding: 384,524 six per cent. cumulative first preference shares of £1 each, equivalent to $1,871,350; 12,274 seven pei cent. preference shares of $100 each, equivalent to $1,227,400; and 18,357 ordinary shares of $100 each, equivalent to $1,835,700.

AMERICAN SECURITIES, LIMITED

The American Securities, Limited, was organized in April, 1912, by Mr. Harry F. Stirk, president of the company, and the company's business has been transacted from their head office, at Moose Jaw. The subscribed capital of the company at the time of organization was $100,000. The charter of the company has been amended and the authorized capital of $100,000 increased to $250,000 at the beginning of this month. This stock was over-subscribed, no commission was paid for the selling of this stock.

The officers of the company are as follows:—President, Mr. H. F. Stirk; vice-president, Mr. L. M. Rosevear; secretary-treasurer, Mr. G. A. Stirk; directors, Messrs. R. H. Clarke, W. F. Dunn, John W. Jermyn, and J. S. Holmested.

The business of the company is building fully modern dwellings and the placing of loans on centrally-located business and residential property in Moose Jaw, and on farm property in Saskatchewan.

CROP CONDITIONS

Winter Killed Wheat—April Weather Was Favorable —Dairying and Mixed Farming in Saskatchewan

The Census and Statistics Office state the condition of crops and live stock on April 30, as reported by agricultural correspondents throughout Canada, as follows:—

It is estimated that in Ontario about 18 per cent. and in Alberta about 43.5 per cent. of the areas sown to wheat last fall have been winter-killed. These percentages represent a deduction of 261,000 acres from the total area sown to fall wheat, viz.:—1,086,800 acres; so that the area remaining to be harvested is now 825,800 acres.

The condition of fall wheat on April 30 was in Ontario 83.4 per cent. and in Alberta 76 per cent. of a standard representing the promise of a full crop, the corresponding percentages on the same date last year being 71.2 for Ontario, and 76.8 for Alberta.

Above Last Year's Returns.

For all Canada the condition on April 30 of this year was 82 per cent. of the standard representing the promise of a full crop, or 101 per cent. of the average yield of the past four years. Last year at the same date the corresponding figures were only 72.6 per cent. of the full crop standard and 87 per cent. of the average of the three previous years.

Spring seeding has made good progress throughout the greater part of Canada, and was much further advanced at the end of April than it was on the same date last year. In the Maritime provinces seeding does not begin until May, but the weather was favorable and the indications were for an early spring. In Quebec there was also the prospect of an early season and about 12 per cent. of the total seeding was completed by April 30.

In Ontario conditions were more variable, but 40 per cent. of the total seeding was reported as finished. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan over 50 per cent., and in Alberta about 75 per cent. of spring wheat had been sown during the favorable weather of April.

More Attention to Mixed Farming.

In Saskatchewan there is an apparent tendency to sow less wheat and devote more attention to dairying and mixed farming. For Quebec, Ontario and the three North-west provinces the proportion of seeding completed on April 30 was for wheat 43 per cent., for oats 20.5 per cent., for barley 13.7 per cent., and for all crops 34.7 per cent.

About 22 per cent. of the area in hay and clover meadows is reported to have been winter-killed; but the average condition of these crops at the end of April was 89.6 per cent. as compared with 74.6 per cent. last year.

The condition of live stock remains generally satisfactory, being for all Canada over 90 per cent. of a standard, representing a healthy and thrifty condition.

IN THE LONDON MARKET

The poor response which the public has made to recent offerings of the more or less gilt-edged securities which underwriters and bankers have endeavored to place is evident from the following table, which shows the percentage of a few prominent issues which has been taken up:—

	Offerings.	Taken up P.C.
Brazilian 5's	$55,000,000	6
Edmonton 5's	5,340,000	20
Grand Trunk Pacific 4's	10,000,000	20
Madras Railway 4's	12,500,000	10
Madeira Mam. 5½'s	8,000,000	13
New South Wales 4's	15,000,000	16
State of Bahia 5's	5,000,000	15
South African 4's	15,000,000	6
West Australia 4's	10,000,000	13

Of these nine loans, aggregating $135,840,000, the public actually subscribed for only $14,008,000, or slightly better than 10 per cent.

It is quite evident—and this is a phase of the matter which is receiving attention in London—that the public are loath to subscribe for securities which they believe underwriters can afford by reason of their commissions to sell subsequently at a lower figure than the issue price.

Regarding the heavy borrowing in April, The Financial Times of London says: "The persistence of borrowers is the more noteworthy as investors have apparently given a cool reception to some of the best loans. We say apparently, because we think the attitude of the investor does not imply any hostility to these loans or reflects on their status, but merely indicates that he is not unwilling to share part of the commission the underwriter secures."