DEBENTURES FOR SALE

CITY OF MERRITT, B.C.

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned up to 8 p.m., June 30th, 1913, for the purchase of the following debentures:—$45,000 Water Works, six per cent., repayable 30 years; $25,000 Electric Light, six per cent., repayable 30 years; $10,000 Sidewalks, six per cent., repayable 10 years. Full particulars and information furnished on application.

HARRY PRIEST,
Treasurer.

SCHOOL BONDS FOR SALE

Tenders addressed to the undersigned will be received up to nine o'clock a.m. of Thursday, June 12th, for the purchase of $500,000 of 4½ per cent. thirty-year bonds of the Protestant Board of School Commissioners of the City of Montreal.

Full particulars will be given upon application.

C. J. BINMORE,
Treasurer.

197 Peel Street, Montreal.

CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements on this page will be accepted hereafter at the following rates:—"Positions Wanted" advts. one cent per word each insertion; "Positions Vacant," "Agents or Agencies Wanted" advts. two cents per word each insertion; all other advertisements, three cents per word each insertion. A minimum charge of 50 cents per insertion will be made in each case.

COMMENTS ON MONTREAL LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER REPORT

Monetary Times Office,
Montreal, May 29th.

The Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company is paying a dividend at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum. For some time it has been predicted that the company would be placed on a 10 per cent. basis, and it is generally believed that this increase will shortly be made. The earnings of the past year amount to almost 16 per cent. on the outstanding capital of the company. The company cannot continue to place large sums each year to the credit of surplus account and to other accounts which are perhaps larger even than they should be, so that it is freely predicted that not only will the dividend be increased to 10 per cent., but there will be a new stock issue, or in some other way, advantages will be given shareholders in order to distribute to them some of the surplus earnings which the directors have so far been putting back into the property.

It has been suggested recently that something in the nature of an amalgamation may take place between the Power Company and the Shawinigan Water and Power and the Cedar Rapids Manufacturing and Power Companies. From time to time the argument has been offered that there would be no advantage in bringing about a merger between the three companies, inasmuch as they are now virtually under one control and each is largely interested in the other. While this is perfectly true, an amalgamation would give the desired opportunity of increasing the capitalization and distributing more shares amongst the present shareholders. In future, a comparatively small dividend would mean as much to the present shareholders as a large dividend on the present capitalization. After the dividend reaches 10 per cent., it is not likely that the directors will care to increase it to a larger figure owing to the sentimental effect upon the citizens of Montreal.

Another indication that the company intends to make an extra distribution to shareholders is seen in the recent announcement on the part of the Power Company to the effect that the rates for lighting would be lowered. The rates on both gas and electric lighting were reduced a peg, making the net cost of gas 90c. per 1,000 cubic feet, and the cost of electric lighting 6 2-5c. per kilowatt hour. It has been the practice of the company to declare a reduction in lighting rates shortly before declaring an increase in dividend, and there seems little doubt that the recent announcement is a forerunner of a declaration of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. if, in fact, other advantages are not at the same time granted.

VICTORIA'S LOAN IN LONDON

The underwriters of the stock issue in London of the city of Victoria, B.C., for £482,870, 4½ per cent., issued at 95, will take up 82 per cent. The result, in comparison with other recent issues, is not unsatisfactory. The underwriters have been left with about eighty per cent. of the Chilian Northern Railway five per cent. debentures; and 72 per cent. of the Royal Mail Company issue. Nothing has yet been decided regarding the New Alberta provincial loan.

ONTARIO BANK DIVIDEND

Those shareholders of the Ontario Bank who paid the double liability in full will receive twenty cents on the dollar of their holdings. The dividend will probably be paid in July. The amount will be in the neighborhood of $200,000. The assets of the defunct bank have been disposed of at much greater advantage than was at first expected.