

THE EDITOR OF THE WORLD

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WORLD:

Sir, You do well to draw public attention to the enormous amount of people of Toronto are paying for inferior gas, in contrast to the 50 cents per thousand the British public are paying for gas of a better quality.

It is evident, however, from the previous ventilation of this matter in the press, that the gas company will never give us either cheaper or better gas till some compulsion, or the law compels the company to lessen their monopolizing position from the pocket of customers.

But to regulate one company's gains alone would not be fair to other monopolies, or the public. What is wanted for public interest and the good of the community, which should be the object of all governments, is a sweeping measure making all gains, whether from gas, or from any other source, subject to a simple investment of capital, illegal, and transferable to the public, either by way of redemption in the case of the article produced, or in the reduction of the public taxation. Ten per cent for mere investment is ample reward. Higher and fabulous gains encourage speculation and gambling, and are dangerous to public morality.

THE FINANCIAL LAWYER AND THE BANK

(To the Editor of The World)

Sir, If the old stage that whom the gods would destroy they first make mad, is not exemplified with the banks, many people will be very much mistaken. Not satisfied with enjoying a "valuable privilege," or at any rate what they deem such, the managers and officials of some of the banks openly violate laws enacted for their own good in the most barefaced manner.

The climax of boldness and audacity has been reached by one of these men showing up accounts profits, and tactfully claiming a reward for operations that would not be tolerated in Russia or in Turkey. Of course nothing else can be expected when journals like the Globe and Mail defend the illegal and dangerous practices in question, condemned by the entire press of the country save the Globe and the Mail.

Things have come to a pretty pass, especially when these journals not only do this but give the chief operator a good pull. Every bank manager in the country will now be fully justified in manipulating stocks and using bank funds for gambling in them.

Everything may go on swimming for a time, but a day of reckoning is sure to come sooner or later, and when it comes there will be a crash that will make the financial world ring. Everybody will be sure to come to the rescue, and the half the banks in the country. Inflation's general overtrading was never more universal and outrageous; credit is expanded to its utmost limit, and these financial parasites, private bankers, have been flooding the market with money, and a time when a real estate boom has reached unprecedented proportions and is carried on even by some of the banks. If what we hear be true about the banks, a certain bank is carrying on through the resources of the farmer and poor man, the private bankers, the bank in question will no doubt need all its ill-gotten gains when the day of reckoning comes, and that day may not be far off for business in a bad state generally, and the financial outlook is anything but bright.

When the storm that is brewing here, and it may burst any day, there will undoubtedly be such a crash as this country has never seen. The collapse of the Pennsylvania oil boom will be double-discounted. Then no doubt our financial system will get what it should have got long since—a thorough overhauling and the banks will be deprived of what they never should have had—their "valuable privilege."

THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

(To the Editor of The World)

Sir, Last week I wrote you a letter about the Royal Military College. I pointed out that the lieutenant-colonel commanding A and B batteries only received \$1200 a year, while the lieutenant-colonel commanding C battery received \$2400.

I thought it strange that the imperial lieutenant-colonel should receive double the pay of the Canadian lieutenant-colonel. It appears, however, that the least in rank of the professors are captains in the imperial service and not lieutenants and I cheerfully make the correction. But still there is the anomaly of a captain in the imperial army, on duty in Canada, receiving double the pay of the Canadian lieutenant-colonel. I do not complain of the salary paid the imperial officers. The vice-principal then to every cent of it. Some of them I know to be gentlemen with brilliant records and the positions they hold in the Canadian service are well earned. Canada could not well spare such men for a moment to come. It was with no desire to disparage them that I pointed out the anomaly. I said nothing that could be construed in such a manner. All I said was that the Canadians were not paid as well as the imperial officers. It is right that the lieutenant-colonel of A & B batteries should be appreciated by an acknowledgment of \$1200 a year, while the services of the lieutenant-colonel of C battery are properly appreciated at \$2400 a year. I am satisfied that the professor is well paid for the case is anomalous, while I believe that the public will frankly admit that the imperial officers are well worth the price.

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The professors of the military college, each distinguished by his military career, are to be paid in the same way as they would be in similar positions in England, being of the highest rank in the imperial service for the services of the college. The professor of mathematics will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of history will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of English will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of French will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of German will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Italian will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Spanish will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Latin will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Greek will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Hebrew will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Arabic will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Persian will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Chinese will be paid \$1500 a year. The professor of Japanese will be paid \$1500 a year. 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