

## NO DOUBT ABOUT TIGHT MONEY

## Crisis Averted in London by Bank of England—Critics of Canadian Financing

It transpires that only by the intervention of the Bank of England in handling \$45,000,000 that a financial crisis of grave consequence has just been averted.

Eight well-known financial houses were involved, some of whom deal very largely in Canadian, Mexican and Brazil stocks. Their position became acute when their banks intimated that they must withdraw the usual support, firstly, because of the continued general stringency, and, secondly, because of the necessity to make the best possible showing in the banks accounts for the half year now closing.

## Curtailment of Bank Credits

This compelled the curtailment of ordinary bank credits, and these eight houses represented that an enforced realization of stocks at the present depressed prices would ruin them and many others. Thereupon the Bank of England came forward in the support of the other banks to the extent of £9,000,000.

The immediate anxiety is thus relieved, but the authorities, who are not generally regarded as pessimistic, say they see no sign of cheap money this year, nor any likelihood that the supply of money will be anywhere near equal to the demand. Some idea of the situation in the immediate future is obtainable from the fact that instalments due upon new issues before the end of June amount to \$100,000,000, while short-term loans which have to be met between now and the autumn amount to \$500,000,000. These include heavy Canadian civic and other commitments.

## Winnipeg Loan Hangs Fire

Winnipeg civic authorities now in London find it impossible to make the intended civic issue at the present moment, and it is assumed that the city will postpone as far as possible projects involving heavy expenditures. No one doubts the excellence of the credit of Winnipeg and other leading cities of Canada, but, seeing the general conditions, fresh issues are practically impossible.

In the words of a well-known banker, "Canada is as sound as a bell, but she must mark time for a bit until the marked heavy fit of indigestion passes. It will all come right, but it needs patience and prudence."

## Lake Superior Iron and Chemical Company

The London Financial Times grows sarcastic over the reorganization scheme of the Lake Superior Iron and Chemical Company, of which \$3,000,000 first mortgage sixes were placed in London in October, 1910.

The bondholders are now asked to surrender their mortgage rights and to accept an equal amount of cumulative preference sixes.

The journal says: "We admit creditors are often a nuisance; Micawber was not the only person who found them so. Getting rid of awkward creditors by confiscating their security is a plan delightfully simple, but in the Old World, at any rate, it is still regarded as somewhat unorthodox. Bondholders will resist the scheme tooth and nail."

The public subscribed for \$500,000, or over 66 per cent., of the new Dominion Cannery sixes, issued in London. The price is now ½ per cent. premium.

## CITY'S BONDS IN PAYMENT OF LAND.

(Special correspondence.)

Calgary, July 1st.

The auditor's report on Calgary's civic book-keeping and finances was presented to the city council. Such strictures as the auditors thought proper to give utterance to are for the most part easily explained, so the city officials express themselves as pleased with the outcome. A committee of the council will deal with the report and pass upon the recommendations, some of which have already become a part of the accounting system at the city hall.

A by-law is being prepared for the purchase of 50 acres on the Bow River just west of Calgary for \$155,000. This is the result of an understanding between the parks committee and the present owners of the property.

The vendors are agreeing to accept four and a half per cent. 50-year bonds in payment for the land, and are undertaking not to place the bonds on the market for at least five years without the consent of the city. This was deemed advisable in view of the fact that the city has a large accumulation of bonds which it is trying to dispose of on the money market.

Out-door work has been held back owing to wet weather; heavy rains were reported north and south. Retail trade suffered to some extent, but the fact that this week precludes any probable chance of dry weather injuring the grain crop, has made it comparatively easy to countenance delay.

## AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN QUEBEC

## Increases in Farm Holdings—Orchards and Nurseries—Financial Returns

Agricultural Quebec shows marked developments and increases. The rural population, as given in the recent census returns, increased from 992,667, in 1901, to 1,032,618 in 1911. The area of land occupied in 1911 was 15,576,809 acres, as against 14,444,175 acres in 1901. Taking the land area of the province at the date of the last census, there was only 7.12 per cent. occupied as farm land.

The number of farm holdings in 1911 was 159,554, as against 150,999 in 1901. The average size per holding in 1911 was 97.63, as against 95.90 acres in 1901.

The area of improved lands increased by about 9½ per cent. in the decade, being 8,147,633 in 1911, as against 7,439,941 acres in 1901. At the last census 52.30 per cent. of the land occupied was improved, as against 51.51 per cent. in 1901.

Land in field crops was 5,399,223 acres in 1911, being an average of 33.8 acres per holding, as against 4,704,396 acres in 1901, or an average of 31.2 acres per holding; the land in orchard and nursery shows a slight decrease in area between 1901 and 1911; the land in vegetables increased from 28,809 to 63,216 acres in the decade; land in vineyards increased from 119 acres in 1901 to 709 acres in 1911. The record of land in small fruits was not taken in 1901, but in 1911 it is given as 1,961 acres.

## Horticulture and Live Stock

The area of land under spring wheat for 1911 shows an increase over 1910, but is only one-half of that reported in 1900. There are increases in the land under oats, hay, buckwheat, and forage crops. There is an increase for 1910 of 3,433 acres in tobacco over that of 1900. The statistics of horticulture indicate that the number of fruit trees and the production of fruit is less in 1910 than it was in 1900. The production of small fruit shows a good increase.

Horses increased from 320,673 to 369,237, swine from 404,163 to 793,348. There are also large increases in all kinds of poultry. The number of milch cows decreased from 767,825 in 1901 to 753,134 in 1911; for the same period the number of other horned cattle increased from 598,004 to 697,860. Notwithstanding the increased price of mutton and lamb, the number of sheep shows a decrease from 1901 to 1911. There are increases in the numbers of all pure-bred stock, the greatest improvement being made in cattle and the smallest in sheep. The production of wool has fallen off by 31.42 per cent in the ten years.

The average value of horses in 1911 was \$127.98; of milch cows, \$37.51; of other horned cattle, \$12.48; of sheep, \$4.26; of swine, \$7.61; in 1901, the average value of horses was \$75.35; of milch cows, \$27.03; of other horned cattle, \$11.08; of sheep, \$3.63; of swine, \$7.78. The average value of all live stock per farm holding was \$600 in 1911, as against \$387 in 1901, and of field crops, vegetables and fruits was \$448 in 1910, as against \$315 in 1900.

## Monetary Results Were Larger

The value of live stock sold in 1910 is given as \$20,406,385, as against \$6,650,436 in 1900. The value of animals slaughtered on the farm increased by \$621,650; the value of wool, eggs, honey and wax increased by \$2,342,746; eggs alone made up for \$2,085,375 of this increase. The value of maple sugar and syrup increased from \$1,356,481 in 1901 to \$1,680,393 in 1911.

The number of weeks of hired labor on farms in 1910 was 686,114, and the value \$5,077,987, being an average wage of \$7.40 per week, as against 894,534 weeks in 1900, with a value of \$451,512,674, and an average of \$5.04. This is an increase over 4 per cent. in farm wages per week in ten years.

## CAPITAL INTERESTED IN REGINA.

The visit of Messrs. A. deVeer and D. H. Andreas to Regina, is likely to result in the investment of much money in Regina and district. These gentlemen represent a large mortgage company in Holland, which may locate its Saskatchewan headquarters at Regina, and Manitoba headquarters at Winnipeg.

Messrs. McCallum and Hill, Regina, have made arrangements with a Norwegian company to loan money on Regina property at the rate of seven per cent.

Regina bond houses have recently purchased several bond offerings of municipalities and towns.

## WANT AN AGENCY

In *The Monetary Times* this week, a prominent Winnipeg financial company is advertising for a fire insurance agency.