

boy with his first pair of long trousers. If Mr. Cooke really wants to demonstrate that he could capture New York, I suggest that he forget about the prisoners and the rest of level headed Canadians and go down to New York in a Pullman, tap the Mayor on the shoulder and say: "I am Mr. Cooke from Canada, I have come to capture your city."

Yours truly,

A. W. MARTIN.

THE \$3,000,000 JOKE.

The Board of Trade,
Kindersley, Sask.,
February 7, 1917.

Editor, Canadian Courier.

Dear Sir,—In reading your issue of last week I was particularly struck by two statements which I noticed—first, your remarks as to live questions affecting large territories, such as the B. C. ship matter, not being brought to your attention, and again, in your editorial section, several references to the duty of the farmer in 1917 in the way of production.

I can bring to your attention a question which I think is quite as important as any in Canada, and as large too, and furthermore, it affects directly the matter of "production and economy," which we hear so much about now-a-days; the matter I have in mind is the car shortage in the Goose Lake district in Saskatchewan

and Alberta, along the lines of the C. N. R. between Rosetown and Calgary.

I do not know what the actual production of grain was in this district for the year 1915, but as shipments from the town of Kindersley exceeded one million bushels, I am sure I am within the mark when I place the total production at 15,000,000 bushels. Although the 1916 crop was damaged to a certain extent by frost and rust, it was nevertheless a very heavy crop, and will certainly total 10,000,000 bushels.

In 1915 we thought we were experiencing a car shortage, when from 50 to 75 per cent. of the grain was still in farmers' bins, or in storage in country elevators, at December 31, 1915. Conditions were far from ideal, but nevertheless the bulk of the crop was shipped before the mid-summer rains put an end to further hauling. Of course there are a number of large farmers who hold quantities varying from 5,000 to 50,000 bushels of the 1915 crop still on their farms unsold. The 1915 crop was of uniformly high grade, and consequently kept well, even with the approach of warm spring weather, but nevertheless thousands of bushels rotted on the ground, simply because of the lack of car facilities and elevator capacity for it.

Let us compare the foregoing with the condition in regard to the 1916 crop: On December 31st, 1916, from 75 to 90 per cent. and in some districts, even 95 per cent. more of the grain re-

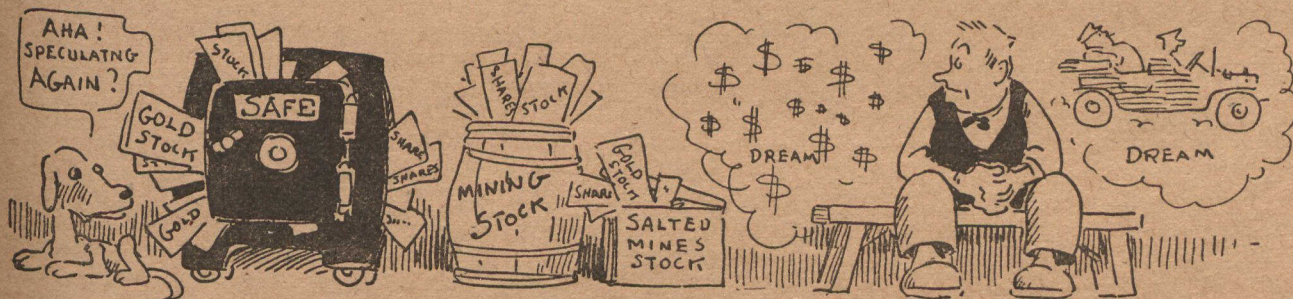
mained in farmers' bins unsold, and shipments since the first of the year have been absolutely negligible. Warm weather is approaching, and as a great deal of the grain is low grade, it must be gotten into terminal elevators for hospital treatment, or it will rot. There remains less than two months in which to accomplish what probably cannot, and most assuredly will not be done,—to get this low grade grain shipped and properly treated. Thousands, even millions of bushels of grain are insufficiently protected from the weather and yet another feature affects the situation; the heavy summer and fall rains have made hundreds of miles of country roads axle deep in mud and they continued in this condition until the frost came. With the coming of spring, these roads will be absolutely impassable for a month or six weeks, in fact until about the time our June rains are due to commence.

The net result of the situation will be that in the entire Goose Lake territory, probably two and one-half million bushels of grain that could otherwise be saved to be of use to the Empire, will rot. The result in dollars and cents will be a loss of not less than \$3,000,000.

The solution of the problem would be the allotting of at least 3,000 cars to this territory until the grain is gotten out of it.

We are told by our friends in Eastern Saskatchewan and in Winnipeg, that the condition of affairs in the

(Continued on page 25.)



MONEY TO WINDWARD

By INVESTICUS

the same rate as you paid your rent. In time, you had your house paid for and the only charges against it were taxes, wear and tear and depreciation. The argument in favour of buying instead of renting was indeed very strong.

But this situation—for the man or woman with his or her FIRST five hundred dollars saved up—has changed. While property is in some cities being sold at a marked reduction in price, it follows, that where there is a fall in price there is usually also a fall in the rent rate. The inexperienced investor may find therefore that it is quite as cheap to pay rent as to buy—that is, having regard always to the same house in either transaction. You may think that, say, forty dollars per month on a five thousand dollar house is a pretty good rate of interest. It works out at nine and three-fifths per cent. per annum. But out of that must come interest and principle on mortgages, taxes and insurance and depreciation. It IS cheaper to buy than to rent in actual cold figures, and yet, with your initial five hundred dollars well-invested in some good stock or bond the chances are that your net return on your money is just as high or perhaps higher than if that money were tied up in a house, and in the meantime, though you are paying rent, you are NOT that saddest

of all things in the business world, a man who is always at the edge of nothing—property poor.

Put your first five hundred dollars into a mortgage, or better still, into a mortgage corporation debenture, or buy a government war loan bond. This is a form of security that will net you decent return, will pay as regularly as the clock—more regularly than some clocks—and may easily be liquidated in case of need. When you buy a house—that is, make your first payment—with the only money you possess in the world, you are like a sailor skirting a lee shore. If a gale blows up you will find it driving you toward that lee shore and it may strain you to keep off, or wreck you. But if you keep your money in a stock or bond—something that does not commit you to future payments or penalty of loss—it is like having the shore to windward of your vessel. If the wind increases to dangerous strength, or if you are under strain at home—sickness or sudden necessity of some sort—the money to WINDWARD is your protection.

Poor people—like Investicus—do well to keep their first five hundred free for emergency. It can be made to earn and what it earns can be set against the house rent. If you rent wisely and modestly, and if you invest the five hundred wisely, you should come out just as well financially—and much better in the matter of mental quietude.

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