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MUNICIPAL FINANCE.

NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPAL BORROWINGS.

The municipal borrowing bills passed by the Nova Scotia Legislature at this session, apart from the financial loan, amount to a total of \$309,600. The bills provide in all cases, except three, that the rate of interest shall be 6 per cent. The exceptions are Sydney, which is authorized to pay as high as 7 per cent, and Halifax and New Waterford, which are fixed at 5 per cent. The amounts authorized to be borrowed are as follows:—

Town of Amherst	\$7,000
Town of Truro	22,600
City of Sydney	47,000
Town of New Waterford	35,000
Town of Bridgewater	20,000
City of Halifax	110,000
Town of Dartmouth	68,000

Total\$309,000

TAX RATES.

Vancouver, by placing a tax on improvements to the extent of 25 per cent of their value, has been able to hold down its 1918 tax rate to practically the same rate as last year—24 mills net to the taxpayer who meets his obligations in time to take advantage of the discount.

Stratford's tax rate has been struck at 32.1 mills, not including the provincial war tax. This is an advance over last year's rate but is not as high as was expected.

Moose Jaw has struck a tax rate of 28 mills on an assessment of \$24,429,930.

The 1918 tax rate for the town of Oshawa has been struck at 32 mills, an increase of 2 mills over 1917.

Every cent of 1917 taxes has been collected in Tillsonburg, according to a statement made by S. Betts, the local tax collector, to the town council. Reeve Denton stated that it was the best showing ever made by a local tax collector.

1,357 properties were listed in a recent sale of properties for arrears of taxes in Toronto, but only about 200 actually came up for disposition, the rest having been redeemed in the interval. In twenty-four hours, some 600 claims were settled.

QUEBEC.

The Minister of Finance has authorized a bond issue of \$479,000 for the city of Quebec. The bonds will be issued at 6 per cent for a period of five years, and it is expected that they will be floated locally.

A tax rate for public school supporters of 30 mills on the dollar and for separate school supporters of 36.8 mills on the dollar has been struck by the Regina City Council. The increases are respectively 6 and 6.4 mills over the 1917 rate.—Financial Post.

VICTORIA.

A million dollar issue of the City of Victoria, B.C., six per cent ten-year bonds is being offered. The bonds bearing date March 1, 1918, and maturing March 1, 1928. They are being offered by a syndicate, composed of Housser, Wood & Co., Macneil & Young, and Morrow & Jellett, Toronto, and Greenshields & Co., Montreal. At 92.89 and interest, the price at which they are being marketed, the yield is 7 per cent.

The new issue is secured by \$1,090,566 consolidated 5½ per cent debentures maturing serially 1918-1967, as well as being a direct obligation of the City of Victoria.

ESSEX COUNTY, ONT.

Messrs. A. E. Ames, of Toronto, have been awarded Essex County issue of \$60,000, 6 per cent 20 installment bonds. Price 98.39.

SHERBROOKE.

Hanson Bros. of Montreal were the successful bidders for the issue of \$150,000 6 per cent 5-year bonds of the City of Sherbrooke, their bid being 96.51 and accrued interest.