

are responsible. The remaining \$1,016,400 is in coupon bonds which have been floated on the security of unsold debentures issues, part of which will be borne by the city at large and part by the property owners. Of the total credit of \$2,509,913 in the sinking fund trustees' account, cash and investments represent \$2,004,583.

The tax rate for 1920 has been set at 36½ mills.

Oak Bay, B.C.—The financial report of the corporation for the year 1919, shows several improvements. Bank loans were reduced to \$53,122 from \$79,129. Of all taxes levied during the year 80 per cent. was collected, and of all arrears 60 per cent. was collected. A further sum of \$60,000 of the sinking funds was invested in Dominion government bonds at 5½ per cent., and Victory bonds exempt from the payment of income tax, to the par value of \$45,000, were sold and the proceeds re-invested in the purchase of \$47,000 of British Columbia bonds paying 5½ per cent. interest. The profit on this transaction, together with the increased earnings of the sinking funds invested in government bonds, resulted in the sinking funds showing a surplus at the end

of the year of \$31,658. Sinking funds now on hand or invested amount to \$374,970. Other items contained in the balance sheet are: Arrears of taxes and rates, \$89,981; interest on taxes and tax sale purchases, \$30,194; unsold debentures, \$10,000; debenture debt, \$1,266,224; sinking funds required to be on hand, \$343,312.

The statement of revenue and expenditure shows excess expenditure over revenue of \$8,355, the figures being \$177,933 and \$169,577. Some of the principal items of the account are: General taxes, \$96,173; local improvement rate, \$56,101; school rate, \$35,060; interest on taxes, \$16,031; debenture interest, \$53,414; sinking funds, \$42,171.

Montreal, Que.—The Administrative Commission decided on April 9th to purchase the following city of Montreal bonds for its sinking funds: \$8,900 4½ per cent., at a 6.35 per cent. basis, from J. M. Hanley and Co.; £500, 4 per cent., from Wood, Gundy and Co., at a 6.35 per cent. basis; £12,900, 4 per cent., due 1932, at a 6.35 per cent. basis; 25 4½ per cent. debentures, due 1951, at a 6.35 per cent. basis; £10,000, 4½ per cent. debentures, due 1951-52-53, from Henry J. Murphy.

Government and Municipal Bond Market

With Greatly Improved Conditions Embargo May Soon be Lifted—
Manitoba Offer \$500,000 Three-Year Bonds—Some Large Financial
Programs Ahead of Canadian Provinces and Municipalities

ALTHOUGH the Canadian government and municipal bond market is not yet very strong, with sterling and foreign exchange and general money conditions continually improving, it is gradually feeling its way back to normal. Several rumors have been floating around regarding the lifting of the embargo on foreign securities, but nothing really definite has been reported yet. It is the opinion, however, that with market conditions improving materially every day, the embargo will automatically lift itself.

Canadian government and municipal bonds are now being offered to investors with attractive rates of interest from 5.24 to 7 per cent. It is realized that these levels cannot always be upheld, and that, sooner or later, the returns on such bonds will be lower. Commenting on this, Messrs. Wood, Gundy and Co., in a pamphlet just issued, say:—

"The high commodity prices of to-day are due primarily to the fact that demand exceeds supply. When conditions become more nearly normal, it is not to be expected that present high prices will prevail. While the purchasing power of a dollar, in so far as commodities are concerned, is about 50 per cent. of what it was in pre-war days, the earning power is very much greater. It is to be expected that, sooner or later, commodity prices will go back to almost their previous levels, in which case it would be reasonable to look for lower interest rates, but investors purchasing now may buy bonds of substantial Canadian municipalities yielding as high as 7 per cent., thereby assuring themselves of this earning power during the life of the bonds they buy."

Coming Offerings

The following is a list of debenture offerings, of which mention is made in this or previous issues:—

Borrower.	Amount.	Rate %.	Maturity.	Tenders close.
Prescott, Ont.	\$ 8,500	6		
Vermilion, Alta.	26,000	6½ & 7	20-instal.	
Toronto Tp., Ont.	74,675	6		Apr. 20
Levis, Que.	80,000	5½	20-years	Apr. 20
Alta. School Districts	76,175	Various	Various	Apr. 20
Manitoba	500,000	5	3-years	Apr. 20
Orillia, Ont.	90,795	5 15 & 30	instal.	Apr. 21
Chatham, Ont.	90,000	5½	30-years	Apr. 22
Hawkesbury, Ont.	95,000	6	20-years	Apr. 27

Hawkesbury, Ont.—Tenders will be received until April 27th, 1920, for the purchase of \$95,000 6 per cent. 20-year road debentures. E. Paquette, treasurer.

Manitoba Province.—Tenders will be received until April 20th, 1920, *The Monetary Times* understands, for the purchase of \$500,000 5 per cent. 3-year bonds, payable in New York.

Chatham, Ont.—Tenders will be received until April 22nd, 1920, for the purchase of \$90,000 5½ per cent. 30-year Hydro-Electric instalment bonds. (See advertisement elsewhere in this issue.)

Toronto, Ont.—Tenders will be received to-day for the purchase of \$1,905,000 5½ per cent. bonds, issued under several by-laws, and maturing from 1920-50, the approximate average maturity of the whole being sixteen years.

Orillia, Ont.—Tenders will be received until April 21st, 1920, for the purchase of the following debentures: Waterworks debentures, \$70,795.71, payable 15 instalments, last July 8th, 1934, interest half-yearly, coupons at 5 per cent. Local improvement sewer, \$20,000, payable 30 instalments, interest 5 per cent., half-yearly, coupons attached, dated July 1st, 1919. First six months' coupons not issued. Both issues guaranteed by county of Simcoe. C. E. Grant, town clerk.

Bond Sales

Assiniboia, Man.—Messrs. W. A. Mackenzie and Co. have purchased two blocks of bonds as follows: \$129,262 6 per cent. 20 instalments, \$6,192 6 per cent. 10 instalments. Tenders received were:—

W. A. Mackenzie and Co.	91.295
Wood, Gundy and Co.	91.28

Stamford Township, Ont.—The Imperial Bank of Canada has been awarded an issue of \$20,000 6 per cent. 20-instalment debentures at 98.28, although the bank's tender was not the highest. The following tenders were submitted:—

C. H. Burgess and Co.	98.76
Brent, Noxon and Co.	98.685
Imperial Bank of Canada	98.28
R. C. Matthews and Co.	98.17
Turner, Spragge and Co.	98.075
A. E. Ames and Co.	97.83
United Financial Corporation, Ltd.	97.83
W. L. McKinnon and Co.	97.252
Wood, Gundy and Co.	96.67