

# FINANCE AND INSURANCE

**D**ETERMINED and praiseworthy efforts are being made in several cities to drive the bucket shops out of existence. In Halifax true bills have been found against the proprietors, and the New Orleans Cotton Exchange is about to take drastic measures for the suppression of the evil in that city. Colonel Heister, the secretary of the Exchange, says:

The difficulty is always to prove absence of bona fide intention of delivery when it comes to prosecution of bucket shops, but with New York and New Orleans in control of the quotations, we can command the situation. The other cotton exchanges of the country do not handle future quotations, so New York and New Orleans control the figures. It has been established in the matter of grain and provision quotations that they are the property of the exchanges, not of the telegraph companies, and with both the New Orleans and the New York cotton exchanges withholding future quotations from all except those of whom we are sure, it is certain that a severe blow will be struck at bucket shops and a long step taken towards their extermination.

This is a move in the right direction. In Canada we think the evil strongly calls for Government interference.

Time money in Toronto has recently reached the lowest price for a long while, six months' loans having been negotiated at the end of April at 4½ per cent. Referring to this, *Emilius Jarvis & Co.*, stock brokers, say that hitherto financial commitments extending to next Fall have not been thought of by banking institutions, and no six months' money has been going at anything like a reasonable rate for many months. How much greater must be the feeling of confidence when banks will tie their funds up at such a rate for a period, carrying them right on past the harvest season to that time which was a year ago a veritable Waterloo to many unfortunate speculators, owing to the extreme tightness of the money market. The situation on its face has a better look than for the past few weeks, and it is well known that the bank statements do not do anything like justice to the money situation at present.

The manager of a prominent financial institution doing business in Toronto was recently importuned for an advertisement by the representative of a certain Canadian newspaper. The solicitor was courteously informed that the company were not desirous of increasing their advertising at the moment. It has since been intimated to the company that by their refusal to advertise they have incurred the severe displeasure of the journal in question, and following this intimation came a marked copy of a paper to the manager indicating the style of adverse criticism which his company might expect in the future. Methods of this description are simply disgraceful, and in calling attention to the matter it is gratifying to know that instances of this nature in Canadian journalism are not common, and when they do occur are generally estimated by the public at the value they deserve.

The now famous Morgan syndicate, which underwrote the United States Steel Corporation, having completed its duties, has been dissolved. Mr. Morgan and his fellow-members of the syndicate no doubt regret that their duties have been finished, for they have been most remunerative. During the eight months of the syndicate's existence no less than \$46,000,000 was divided among them.

The weekly letter of *Emilius Jarvis & Co.*, Toronto, has the following: "Steel has taken a few spurts, chiefly, we understand, on the basis that some plan will be submitted by Mr. Ross at the meetings of the Dominion Coal and Steel Companies, shortly to be held, which will have a beneficial effect upon the securities of the Steel Company. We feel satisfied that no plan will be seriously considered which will not commend itself to the minority shareholders of both companies. Too much public attention has been directed to these concerns to allow controlling interests to dictate a policy unreasonable or unjust for the minority. Mr. Ross has just returned from England.

The operation of the law of action and reaction cannot always be measured in figures at the Stock Exchange, says a contemporary. It is, in fact, often modified by the actual conditions of monetary affairs or speculative exigencies. Nevertheless, in travelling over a long period of time, the market generally reacts from any extreme or rapid advance and rallies after prices have been carried considerably below the previously prevailing level. A great shrinkage in quotations carries with it important liquidation that tends to benefit the speculative position and put speculators who have sold out at a higher level in financial condition to better undertake operations for a rise or a rally at least. Low prices also work to bring into closer conjunction the return in dividends on the investment and the yield of money loaned on securities or invested in mercantile business.

## A CANADA PERMANENT ACQUISITION.

**T**HE most important local financial deal of recent years has just been closed. By it the business of the Metropolitan Loan and Savings Company of Ottawa is taken over by the Canada Permanent and Western Canada Mortgage Corporation Company of Toronto, better known as the Canada Permanent Company. The financial consideration is in the neighborhood of \$300,000. According to the terms of the deal the local office of the Metropolitan Company will be kept open for business until July 1. After that date the affairs of the Metropolitan Company will be managed from the head office of the Canada Permanent Company in Toronto. The Metropolitan Loan and Savings Company was established 32 years ago. Its field of operation is Ottawa and the immediate vicinity.

## THE LATE WM. McCABE.

The death of Wm. McCabe, managing director of the North American Life Insurance Company, took place at his residence, Toronto, on April 23. The late Mr. McCabe was born in Picton in 1841, and graduated from Trinity in 1863. Prior to his connection with the North American Life he was for some years general manager of the Confederation Life Association.

## A NEW INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Mount Royal Assurance Company, incorporated with a capital of a million dollars, recently commenced business in Montreal. The directorate is a most responsible one, and the institution will undoubtedly receive a large amount of local support.