

Mr. HEAPS: What years have you got there, Sir Henry.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: That is from April 1st to June 19th, 1931. These charts show the trend of yield as represented by the market price of those bonds. That is to say, that represents, as far as the market can represent, the opinion of the public as to the relative value of the two classes of securities. Have I made that clear, Mr. Heaps.

Mr. HEAPS: Yes, but I thought you were going to give us the information for a longer period than you have given us here on the charts.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Well, I suppose the only reason that that was done was because of the labour involved and the difficulty and time it would take to go back over a period of years and collect the data. Is that right, Mr. Grant.

Mr. GRANT: It was just a question of giving the present market comparisons, Mr. Heaps.

Mr. HEAPS: Did you do much financing in the period as shown in the chart here.

Mr. GRANT: Not in that period, no sir.

Mr. HEAPS: Then it would not give the comparison I am asking for.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: That represents the estimate that the public has expressed, or as expressed by the public, as to what the public thought of them. If there is anything else you would like, or anything else you can suggest, we will try to get it for you.

Mr. HEAPS: The purpose of my question was to find out if it was possible to borrow money cheaper than you have been doing under the present system.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: If you take the period subsequent to April 1, you will observe that on May 6 there was a considerable drop on yield of Canadian government bonds and that continued until May 27, and then it ran along fairly level. If you will take the Canadian National securities there was a continued drop till May 6, and then from that time onward a steady increase in both yield and price.

I would like to get you the information you want; but it is a little hard. However, if you will say what you want we will try to get it for you.

Mr. HEAPS: All I was asking for was to find out if it would be possible to borrow money cheaper with the government doing the borrowing than the Canadian National.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Mr. Grant follows this thing almost day by day and has done so for several years, and I think perhaps he could give you an answer to that question to the best of his ability based upon his experience. Could you do that, Mr. Grant?

Mr. GRANT: As I stated at the last meeting, Mr. Heaps, you cannot compare a government issue with an issue of the Canadian National unless they are issued at the same time and practically under the same terms and conditions. I stated at the last meeting that a direct government bond would sell at a better price than a Canadian National guarantee bond.

Hon. Mr. MANION: You stated one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Mr. GRANT: Approximately. I have prepared a chart there of four different bonds, Dominion government, 4½ per cent bonds as compared with three Canadian National 4½ bonds. Now, take the third one on your sheet there, the third chart, that is Dominion government 1956, maturing 1956, 4½ bonds, and then compare our 4½ per cent bonds which are due in February, 1956. That is about as close a comparison as you can get.

Mr. HEAPS: One is 4.42 as against the same period of 4.21.

Mr. GRANT: No, take Dominion Government 1956. That is the third chart.