CIVIC APPOINTMENTS.

"It is only too well known that civic appointments are very apt to be made personal affairs, and that the man with the most pull has the best chance of arriving. We hear opposition raised to this condition of things on all hands. What we want is a strong man on the Council who will be ready to force through reforms which will tend to make all such appointments of a nature that the best man will have the best chance, and that at least when a man is practically asked to apply for a position he will have fair and considerate treatment, and that a debate of the tone and character of last Monday will become an impossibility."

This is part of a caustic and lengthy editorial which appears in this week's Canadian Engineer. The article deals particularly with the appointment of an assistant city engineer at Toronto, and generally with the methods of civic appointments.

NOTABLE VISITOR TO CANADA.

A most distinguished English financier visited Toronto last week in the person of Mr. Montague Collet Norman, D.S.O., being the guest of Mr. Æmilius Jarvis.

Mr. Norman is a director of the Bank of England. He is also a partner of the influential and well known banking house of Brown, Shipley & Company, of London, England, whose American business is conducted under the style of Brown Brothers & Company, New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Before him, Mr. Norman's father sat on the Board of the Bank of England, and was, in fact, Governor of the Board.

Mr. Norman's visit to Canada may be regarded as a happy omen. His associates are people of influence and power, who control much capital, and it is probable that following his trip here the Brown, Shipley House will take an interest in Canadian bond issues of governmental, provincial, municipal and corporation character.

Until a short time ago the House of Brown, Shipley & Company did not interest themselves to any extent in Canadian issues. Recently they brought out in the London market the issue of City of Vancouver debentures amounting to $1,975,000, purchased by Messrs. Æmilius Jarvis & Company, and through whom they are working.

Such financial connections as these are of great value to Canada; effort should be made, not only to retain the confidence which has been placed in our country, its future and its investments, by people in the Old Country, but to increase that confidence. Messrs. Æmilius Jarvis & Company are to be congratulated in having introduced such a powerful connection to Canada.

NOTES OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

Grain conveyers for West St. John, N.B., have been advocated long enough. The lack of them has threatened to tie up the business this winter season at Sand Point. The C.P.R. have made arrangements to relieve this condition and will send a modern floating elevator to St. John in tow of their tug Cruizer. They have not yet arranged for insurance on the plant during the voyage from Montreal to St. John. The elevator will help handle the large grain business which will come through St. John this winter.

For the next two years it is stated that Mr. H. J. Betchell, of Victoria, B.C., will hunt for new sealing grounds, and for this purpose his schooner the Beatrice L. Corkum has been dispatched from Halifax. The schooner will cruise around the world in search of the grounds.

The Shad Fishery Commission appointed by the Dominion Government last April to investigate the shad fisheries of the Bay of Fundy held a sitting recently in the St. John, N.B., Board of Trade building. Professor Prince, of Ottawa, said that that was the first commission appointed by any government in Canada to inquire into the shad industry. The lobster, oyster, salmon, and other fisheries had been investigated by commissions, but the shad had been neglected, although of such immense importance to the fishermen and the community. Its total depletion would be a serious loss to the country. Thirty sittings had been held along the shores of the Bay of Fundy, and the fishermen, fish dealers and others had afforded valuable information. The shad supply had been falling off for many years. Remedies had been suggested. The building and operation of shad hatcheries were among the most important, and the commission would be specially interested in ascertaining what sites in this part of the Province of New Brunswick were most suitable for such institutions and most likely to benefit the shad fishery and shad fishermen.

The Bank of Montreal's statement for the half year ending September 30 shows net profits of $612,646, against $544,038 last year. This year the bank will carry forward $153,684, after paying dividends, appropriating $100,000 for depreciation of stocks and bonds, and contributing $75,000 to taxes, branch premises and officers' pension fund. The total assets are placed at $34,694,171, against $33,739,244 last year.

New and rich veins of silver ore have been discovered in a Cobalt drift run by the Hudson Bay Company over the Trethewey mine. There are two veins, each four inches wide, separated by four feet of vein matter and on the 100 ft. level. In announcing this discovery, the company claim that the veins give every indication of running the full length of the Trethewey property. And this ore was discovered a quarter of a mile from the present workings, it opens a field that had not been previously prospected. (Other Cobalt notes are printed on page 639.)

After November 1st, The Monetary Times will be three dollars a year. Renew your subscription now, at the old rate—two dollars a year.