

The cost of the Montreal Board of Trade building, when completed, will be about \$500,000, and it is proposed to issue bonds bearing 5 per cent. interest, terminable only by purchase by tender. It is proposed to name as trustees during their term of office the presidents of the Bank of Montreal, the City and District Savings Bank and the Board of Trade. In order to afford bondholders all possible security, the Board will be asked to pass a resolution by which each member will make himself liable to pay a sum not exceeding \$20 in any one year, to make good any deficit that might arise from the revenue of the building, proving insufficient to pay the interest on the bonds. The estimated revenue for the first year is placed at \$30,000, and when all the offices are let, the probable net annual revenue will be \$45,000.

The decree issued by the Argentine cabinet, suspending until June next the payment of deposits in the national and provincial banks, and offering depositors the option of taking internal bonds in exchange for their deposits, has met with a more favorable reception than was at first expected. The members of the stock exchange have expressed to the Minister of Finance, Senor Uribari, a collectable note of their congratulations upon the issuing of the decree. In addition, a deputation consisting of about 1,500 merchants called on President Pellegrini with the same object. To the congratulations of these merchants the President replied that they need not fear that the Government will resort to a forced currency issue, or that there will be any fresh loans. The President said he had resolved to reform the banks and to improve the currency by all means in his power.

The efforts made by a number of capitalists to enable the Provincial Bank of Buenos Ayres to resume business with a capital of \$100,000,000 have not met with success. This, combined with a split in the Union Civica, and continued opposition to General Roca, Minister of the Interior, who resigned April 15th, has aggravated the political and financial situation, and created an increased feeling of distrust in the future and dread of more serious complications, political and financial. The assets of the Provincial bank are estimated at £30,400,000, and the liabilities at £21,200,000. Governor Costa has since sent a message to the Provincial Parliament favoring the modification of the charter, and appealing to all to assist him to save the bank. This document, which attacks the National Government and makes important disclosures, has caused a sensation. Gen. Roca and the Union Civica issued counter manifestoes.

A bill has been introduced in the Ontario Legislature to amend the Act incorporating the Toronto Financial Corporation, being a revival with amendments of the bill passed in 1873. The incorporators then were: D. Galbraith, Donald McKay, J. Watson, J. Scott, W. H. Dunsbaugh, J. Enoch Thompson, John Kerr, W. Mortimer Clark and R. Hunter of Toronto, and Plummer Dewar, of Hamilton. The company had a capital stock of \$200,000, and was empowered to increase that amount from time to time to \$500,000. Difficulties were experienced in organizing and establishing the company on account of some of the provisions of the Act and the want of other provisions. Accordingly the company has petitioned for necessary amendments. The name is to be changed to "Canada Mortgage and Investment Company;" the provisional Directors are to be James K. Kerr, W. R. Brock, W. Macdonald, F. Nicolls, and E. Galley; and the capital stock is to be \$1,000,000. The capital stock may be increased from time to time to \$5,000,000, etc.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the British American Land Co. was held in London, Eng., on March 23rd. The chairman said that three or four years ago speculative purchases were made for the sake of the timber and for the purpose of settlement. Very large stocks of timber had thus accumulated, but during the last year the troubles in South America had caused a corresponding cessation in their trade. He expressed his strong belief that when the troubles in South America ceased, and trade resumed its usual course, a demand for timber would again arise, and, as in former years, there would be a demand for the company's timber lands. With