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Special Articles

War Profits and Industrial Enterprise.
By W. W. Swanson, Ph.D.

Business in British Columbia.

Banking and Business Affairs in the U. S.
By Elmer H. Youngman.

Conditions in the West.
By E. Cora Hind.

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Shall we be bound by a Scrap of Paper?

CANADA opened her doors to the world. She sent her agents out into the high-ways and the by-ways of Europe and invited people to come into this Dominion. Bright was the picture drawn by our agents to induce the people to come. The freedom that is usually secure under the British flag was promised to the new comers. They were invited to take up land and become Canadian citizens. Obedience to our laws, a reasonable term of residence and the taking of the oath of allegiance as British subjects were the only conditions stipulated as qualifications for full citizenship. Let the new comer comply with these conditions and he would receive his certificate of naturalization, which would give him all the rights of a British subject and a citizen of the Canadian Dominion.

He accepted the invitation. He came to Canada, complied with every requirement, and for years has been a full-fledged, law-abiding Canadian citizen. There is no charge against him. Suddenly he is to be informed, in a Kaiser-like manner, that his certificate of naturalization — that which he was solemnly assured by our Government was to be the charter of his liberties in Canada—is a mere "scrap of paper" which is entitled to no respect and gives him no protection in the rights that were promised to him when he came!

It is not a question of loyalty. We have laws to deal with disloyalty. If any man, be he a native-born Canadian or Canadian from abroad, in any way violates our laws, let him be haled before our courts and, on proof of his offence, let him be dealt with as the law provides. But this man of whom we speak has committed no disloyal act. He has fulfilled every duty of citizenship to which he has been called. Yet his highest right of citizenship, his franchise, is to be taken from him if he came into Canada any time during the last fourteen years!

Why is this Canadian citizen to be so deprived of the rights guaranteed to him? There is no mystery about it. The Government plainly say that he is among the citizens who they believe will vote against them! But who cares for the honor of Canada that was pledged to this man? Who regards a solemn certificate of naturalization, received fourteen years ago, and lived up to all this time, as anything more than a scrap of paper? Let us shut our eyes to this exhibition of Kaiserism in Canada, and shout ourselves hoarse about the Kaiser's Government treating the Belgian treaty as a scrap of paper.

Science and Industry

At a time like this, when enormous burdens have to be accepted on account of the war, it is certainly desirable that the public and their representatives in Parliament should carefully scrutinize all proposed expenditures, with a view to dispensing with any that are not of important and urgent character. Perhaps not enough attention has been paid to this side of our public affairs. Apart from the war services our appropriations are very large. A closer examination might enable us to postpone some of the proposed undertakings. The discussion that took place in the House of Commons a few days ago on certain miscellaneous appropriations was, in the main, well timed. It is satisfactory to note, however, that after some enquiry and explanations, the appropriation for the work of the Bureau of Scientific Research was cordially approved. The war emphasized our defects in that line, the progress that some other countries had made, and the need of greater effort to discover and develop the economic possibilities of the various sections of our country. That something of what may be attempted by the Bureau may prove of no practical value, as one member suggested, is probably true. It is not to be expected that all research will prove successful and profitable. But in effort of this kind, it will be a case of "Nothing venture, nothing win." In the early stages of almost all important enterprises, there must be considerable experimenting, much of which may prove quite unsuccessful. Yet it is certain that even the failures so registered are agents through which knowledge is obtained and progress is made. So it may be with the experimental work that is being carried on by Dr. MacCallum and his volunteer staff of scientists. It will be strange indeed if out of their researches does not spring a larger knowledge of the useful purposes to which the very numerous natural products of Canada may be applied.

A Crisis in Paris

ONLY a little while ago a political crisis in France was a frequent event. French Governments were notoriously unstable. Sometimes events of importance led to the fall of a Ministry. More frequently a small matter produced a heated debate, in which want of confidence was exhibited, and the Cabinet resigned. Matters which under our British Parliamentary system would cause but a momentary flurry were magnified in the French Chamber of Deputies into large issues on which the Chamber broke away from the Government. The war has had a remarkably steadying effect in French politics. The patriotism of the French nation, manifested in so

many ways, has led the French legislative bodies to exhibit much more than usual restraint in the treatment of public questions. All parties have been very cordially united in the supreme purpose of carrying on the war and driving off the German invader. Political crises have, consequently, been of more rare occurrence. The men who assumed the heavy task of administering the nation's affairs in the midst of the war have usually been strongly supported in the Chamber. Such Cabinet changes as have occurred have not involved any change of war policy. The Ribot Cabinet, headed by a veteran statesman who has for many years commanded universal respect, have been vigorous in their work, and have had the cordial support of the public. Their resignation at this time is to be regretted. The precise cause of the crisis is not very clearly indicated in the despatches, but it appears to have arisen from dissatisfaction in the large Socialist group. If the various elements are unable to unite under the leadership of a statesman of the high character, great ability and large experience of M. Ribot, it will not be easy to find another who can be more acceptable. It is to be hoped that matters may yet be so arranged as to allow a reorganization of the Government, with M. Ribot still at the head.

The Troubles of the Kings

TO-DAY, more truly than ever before, it may be said that "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown." It is only the very wise King, surrounded by wise counsellors, who can hope to hold his position unchallenged to-day, and all Kings are not wise. Kings may still be, in form, rulers, but they can no longer govern. The day of the common people has come. Where the Kings are wise enough to see this, put themselves in harmony with the people and make themselves the people's representatives and agents, they can still keep their thrones. Where they are autocratic enough or stupid enough to cling to the ancient idea of kingly powers their thrones must totter and soon fall.

Happy is it for our British Empire that the sovereigns of our generations have had the wisdom to observe the progress of the world and be content to fill the part of the head of a constitutional government, in which the rule of the people is recognized. Autocracy cannot easily understand that system. In the recently published telegram of the German Kaiser to the American President, sent in the early days of the war, the Kaiser spoke of assurances said to have been given by King George, through Prince Henry of Prussia, that England would not interfere in the conflict that threatened. The truth of the report has been authoritatively denied. But apart from the question of veracity, it seems strange to Britons that anybody should assume that the British King was the person who would speak for the nation in such a vital matter. The Kaiser would, in such a case, be the authorized spokesman of Germany. Why should not King George be looked to as the authorized spokesman of Great Britain? To the Kaiser and to all who accept the Prussian idea of government it was natural that the views of the British King be sought. To all who understand the principles of British democratic government the fact is plain that King George would not for a moment have undertaken to speak for the nation, and that if an expression of the nation's views were deemed necessary King George would have referred an inquirer to a very quiet man

named Edward Grey at the Foreign Office, in Downing Street. This thing, so clear and simple to the Englishman, is a mystery to the Kaiser and his followers. The Kaiser is not one of the wise Kings.

Germany has made progress in many things, but in the art of government she has learned little. The Kaiser clings to ancient ideas which can no longer prevail. Kings have been known to plunge their countries into war to distract attention from the troublesome questions arising at home. Probably the Kaiser thought that a war for which he had prepared, against nations that were quite unprepared, would help him to maintain the old system of autoeracy. But early and marked success of such a war was necessary for the Kaiser's purpose. The anticipated success has not come. The triumph that was to glorify Kaiserism and give it a further lease has not come. Instead, the German people have had to make enormous sacrifices of the lives of their soldiers, have had their commerce driven from the seven seas, have lost their colonies, have been subjected to heavy taxation and a hundred self-denials in respect of food and comfort, have piled up a colossal debt which will be a crushing burden for many years, and have evoked a world-wide hostility which will operate against all things German for a century to come. Slowly it may be, but none the less surely, in spite of all efforts to shut out the facts, these things will come home to the German people, and the rule of William Hohenzollern, like that of Nicholas Romanhoff, will come to an end. He is not one of the wise Kings who can rule in the spirit which pervades the twentieth century.

Another King who seems to have much trouble is Alfonso of Spain. He is a young man of amiable character who is believed to be inclined toward reforms which the spirit of the age suggests, but hardly possessing the personality to accomplish them. He has seen much of England, he married an English princess, and he may therefore be supposed to have some appreciation of British ideals of government. But the ruling classes in Spain, of whatever parties they may be, have little sympathy with modern ideas. There is little of the spirit of national unity. Sectionalism is strong. The centralism which Madrid encourages is resented in the different Provinces. Among the mass of the people there is suspicion and distrust of all political leaders. Two-thirds of the people are illiterate. They do not understand the winning of reforms through conditional agitation. Revolution is the only way known to them. The unrest that is so widespread frequently breaks out in disorder which is, with more or less difficulty, suppressed. Such has been the situation in Spain for some years. Quite recently the despatches have reported several outbreaks and the proclaiming of martial law in some sections. Spain has been able to survive these troubles in the past and may yet be able to do so a little longer. But the conditions prevailing there and the influence of events transpiring in other nations suggest that the day is not far off when the upheaval will be beyond the control of the monarchy and Spain's King will have to retire.

In Greece, too, the throne is a slippery place. King Constantine, with all the aid and comfort that the Kaiser could give him, was unable to keep his place; he is an exile in Switzerland. His son has been accepted for the time by the Greeks who still prefer the monarchial form of government. But the propriety of adhering to that system is openly challenged in the Greek Parliament, M. George

Cafantaris, chairman of the Greek delegation which recently visited the United States, said he was much impressed by what he had seen of the Republican system, and even while he proposed the address to the King in reply to the speech from the throne, he closed with a strong expression favorable to the establishing of a Greek republic. Premier Venizelos hastened to explain that the Government did not sympathize with M. Cafantaris' speech. But in doing this the Premier said some significant things concerning the future. He had, he said, often told King Constantine that "the nations of the world were gradually approaching the idea of abolishing the institution of kingship, and that it depended on the existing Kings themselves to hasten or postpone this inevitable consequence." King Constantine's policy, the Premier continued, had been such as to win favor for the republican movement. The Government, he said, in conclusion, were still anxious to maintain the monarchy, but the monarchial system was now having its final trial.

Oleomargarine

PARLIAMENT has had quite a long session and members are beginning to talk of the day of prorogation. It is strange that there has not been any serious discussion of the old law prohibiting the manufacture, importation or sale of oleomargarine. Many questions of much less importance have engaged attention and been referred to committees or commissions, but nobody has seriously proposed to abolish a prohibition for which, whatever may be said for its wisdom at the time of its adoption, there is no sensible defence or excuse under the war conditions of to-day. Some farmers' organizations have the notion that the prohibition helps to keep up the price of butter, and on the principle of "What we have we'll hold," have asked that the prohibition be continued. Perhaps such action on their part is not surprising. But it is safe to say that the most intelligent farmers are well aware that the prohibition under present conditions is absurd and would have more respect for a Parliament that abolished it than for one which maintains it. Butter is and has long been at a price in Canada which to a very large extent places it beyond the reach of the poorer classes. It is not probable that the admission of margarine would have any effect on the price of butter, though if it should cause some reduction, Heaven knows that would be no evil.

Margarine is a useful substitute for butter for some domestic purposes. The admission of it would be helpful to the housekeeper who is engaged in the struggle against the high cost of living. The claim that it is unwholesome can no longer be used successfully. In England, where there is the best protection of the public interest respecting the purity of food, margarine is sold everywhere at about 22 cents per pound—half the price of butter. In Canada the housekeeper is not allowed to have margarine at any price. If there are people who still doubt the wisdom of using margarine let the question of its treatment after the war be reserved. When butter can be obtained at ordinary prices nobody in Canada will want margarine, and the question will then be of little or no importance. But at this time, when the pressure of high prices is so severe, surely the people should not be denied the privilege of buying an article that is so widely used elsewhere.

Banking and Business Affairs in the U. S.

By ELMER H. YOUNGMAN, Editor Bankers' Magazine, New York.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8th, 1917.

During the week just closed, the financial situation has been affected to a marked extent by military events in Europe. Stocks have suffered a serious decline, and there has existed more uncertainty than perhaps at any time since the first onslaught on Paris. If one should attempt to analyze this feeling it would be found of a wholly superficial nature. Nobody of the slightest responsibility for his views would for a moment admit that there is the remotest possibility that Germany will win the war. Nevertheless there is a decided sentiment of discouragement over the imminent break-down of Russia. It means a prolongation of the costly struggle, more millions of money, many more lives, and a multiplication of the horrors which have filled the world for over three years.

But so far as this country is concerned, the threatened collapse of Russia is by no means an unmixed evil, for it will spur our people to greater exertions than they have yet made or deemed necessary. If these greater efforts are put forth, and should Russia finally come back into the fight with the power originally displayed, a speedy finish to the vandal hordes might be expected. But should Russia disappear from the contest altogether, the place left vacant in the Allied ranks will be filled by a never-ending stream of American troops moving across the sea and taking their station beside the legions of France and the British Empire.

If there are any persons who doubt the wholehearted participation of this country in the war, their doubts would be removed could they see and know the tremendous preparations that are being made. The purpose to stay in the fight until our ends are gained, so aptly phrased by the President, represents the universal determination of the people.

And so business had no real grounds for the recent nervous chill it experienced, and no surprise need be felt should there be a swift rebound from the comparative depression which has prevailed throughout the past week. Unfortunately, though, the disquieting elements in the European military situation have been accompanied by local influences tending to unsettle confidence. The control which the Government finds it essential to exercise over business has completely upset some of the expectations of large profits in certain lines, with a consequent decline in the values of the securities of such corporations.

Thus far, however, we have gone through all these experiences with nothing approaching panic, and the most competent judges do not look for anything of the sort.

FOREIGN TRADE IN JULY.

Imports of merchandise for July, 1917, were valued at \$226,000,000, a decrease of \$81,000,000 compared with June, the high record month, but a gain of \$43,000,000 over July, 1916. The imports for seven months ending July, 1917, were \$1,779,000,000, against \$1,469,000,000 in 1916. Free imports in July 1917, were \$158,000,000, and dutiable imports \$68,000,000. For the seven months ending July, 1917, the free imports were \$1,259,000,000, and the dutiable were \$520,000,000. Merchandise entered free of duty in July amounted to 70 per cent. of the total, and in the seven months to 71 per cent. For 12 months ending July, 1917, the imports amounted to \$2,703,000,000, against \$1,915,000,000, in 1914.

Exports of merchandise in July, 1917, reached the lowest record since February, 1916. For the month of July the exports of merchandise amounted to \$374,000,000, against \$575,000,000 in June, 1917, and \$445,000,000 in July, 1916. For seven months ending July, 1917, exports amounted to \$3,664,000,000 against \$1,201,000,000 in 1914. The total exports for the 12 months ending July 1917 were valued at \$6,221,000,000, the high record for any 12 month period, against \$2,358,000,000 in 1914, the twelve months preceding the breaking out of the war.

Imports of gold in July, 1917, were \$27,000,000, and \$505,000,000 in the seven months ending July, 1917. Exports of gold in July were \$69,000,000 and \$272,000,000 in the seven months ending July, 1917. Imports of gold were \$942,000,000, and exports \$352,000,000 in the 12 months ending July, 1917, an excess of \$590,000,000 in imports.

Until the figures in detail are available, it will not be possible to account with accuracy for the decline in exports. The embargo policy hardly offers an explanation, for that has not been in effect long enough, although prior to the beginning of its operation there was a tendency to restrict exports to neutral countries where there was danger of re-exportation to enemy countries. Submarine activities may

be responsible for a part of the loss in exports. The demand for war supplies at home has undoubtedly somewhat lessened our ability to meet similar demands from the Allies. Whatever may prove the true reason for the decline in the export trade, no one expected that the abnormal record so long maintained could continue indefinitely.

It will be seen that in July we exported more gold than was imported, though for the year there is still a heavy import balance.

THE BREAK IN STOCKS.

Many explanations have been put forward for the serious break in the stock market which the week has witnessed. Some attribute it to the bad news from Russia; others to rumors that the Government intended to stop marginal trading; while revenue legislation, price-fixing, war financing and peace talk all were selected as causing the flurry. Whichever of these explanations may be the true one, the fact remains that standard shares experienced a sharp and sudden fall, a new low record being reached in some cases, and the break as a whole recalling the slump of 1907.

Although some subsequent recovery has taken place, the end of the week still finds the market badly demoralized.

In one respect the present situation occasions far less concern than in 1907. Reference is made to the fact that our banking system no longer rests at its centre on the stock market to anything like the extent it did in 1907. The shrinkage in stock values, while still a serious matter to individual banks, is less far-reaching in its effects than was formerly the case.

The creation of a discount market, the use of trade and bank acceptances, and other reforms initiated by the Federal Reserve Act, have all tended to reduce the influence on the money market and the general banking situation heretofore caused by a marked fall in stocks. If these changes have gone far enough in their effects in the limited time the new law has been in operation, we should be able to get through the present situation without a bank panic, which often, in days gone by, has followed close upon the heels of similar periods.

To counteract the unfavorable rumors which have been mentioned above, attention may profitably be directed to the September crop report, which is of a decidedly favorable character. The report, as compiled by statements from the Government's agents, estimates this season's corn crop at 3,248,000,000 bushels, compared with an estimate of 3,199,000,000 bushels on August 1, 3,124,000,000 estimated on July 1, and 2,583,000,000 bushels, the actual harvest last year.

The country's wheat crop was estimated at 668,000,000 bushels, compared with an estimate of 653,000,000 bushels on August 1, 678,000,000 bushels on July 1, and 640,000,000 bushels, the actual harvest last year.

Many of the influences which have recently tended to depress stocks were of a purely imaginary nature, but here are facts of the most solid character warranting the belief in continued prosperity.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR GOOD ROADS.

Apportionment of \$14,550,000 to the States from Government funds to aid in the construction and maintenance of rural post roads in accordance with the Federal Aid Roads law, was recently announced by Secretary Houston, of the Department of Agriculture, for the year ending June 30, 1919. The law calls for apportionment of \$20,000,000 for 1920, and \$25,000,000 for 1921.

The present is the third apportionment under the law, \$4,850,000 having been apportioned for 1917, and \$9,700,000 for 1918.

Not long ago these sums would have seemed large, but they are trivial when compared with the new war bond and certificate bill which has just passed the House of Representatives, providing for the stupendous sum of \$11,538,945,460. It is difficult to avoid thinking what vast economic benefits would have been conferred on mankind could a sum like this (which of course constitutes but a small fraction of the war's total outlay) have been applied to road construction and other means of bettering the conditions of living. It is realized fully that the results of the war may be of incalculable permanent benefit to mankind—greater, indeed, than could have been derived from any other source. That gain which we are all hoping for is the destruction of war itself.

The possibility of raising such vast sums for war may teach us that it is likewise practicable, when the war ends, to raise very much more than we heretofore thought possible for constructive purposes. There have been bodies of men in every community

who have indignantly protested against even modest expenditures for better roads, bridges, schools and public improvements of every character. But we now see that could humanity once and for all relieve itself of the terrible cost of war, we could well afford to spend almost illimitable sums to make the earth a better habitation for mankind. The expenditures for war are destructive, and in large part they are permanently swallowed up, while expenditures for constructive purposes tend towards repayment of the original outlay.

The more these facts are studied and understood, the more determined will those be who are now fighting in the cause of freedom and democracy to see that the war snake is killed and not merely scotched.

Teachers of thrift have inveighed against the automobile as a provocative of extravagance. They now set down as one of its economic benefits a better system of public highways—something of incalculable value to farmers and tradesmen.

EMBARGO ON GOLD EXPORTS.

The action of President Wilson in placing an embargo on the exportation of gold coin and bullion or currency of any kind, except by permission of the Federal Reserve Board, confirms the view expressed last week that such action might become necessary. It is quite as essential to preserve our gold stock as it is to prevent undue exportation of food and other necessary commodities, for should gold go out to an extent that would threaten a break-down in American credit, very serious results might ensue affecting not only this country, but all the Allied Powers. By placing a check on gold exports this contingency is avoided, and the possibility of our gold indirectly getting into Germany is also greatly reduced.

The free international movement of gold constitutes in normal times one of the prime requisites of financial supremacy, and under ordinary circumstances the arbitrary stoppage of gold exports would be regarded by bankers as against the public interest. But conditions are not normal at present, and undoubtedly the Government's action in this respect is wise and for the good of all concerned.

There are no recent precedents for this action. In the second Administration of President Cleveland, when gold was running out of the country at an alarming rate, no impediment was placed against the exportation of the metal. The country was at peace then, and was able to stand a drain of gold which now would cause serious difficulties.

Some countries are finding it necessary to adopt measures for preventing the export of their silver currency. The remarkable advance in the value of bar silver has made the Mexican dollar and the Philippine peso undervalued in the coinage, and has caused these coins to be exported as bullion. For the present the American silver dollar, which for some years has been largely overvalued in the coinage, is safe from being exported as bullion.

It should be understood, of course, that the President has not placed an embargo upon the exportation of gold, but has merely brought such exportation within the discretion of the Federal Reserve Board. It may be expected that the matter will have the careful attention of this body, and only such limitations placed on the gold movement as seem necessary.

Prior to this action the New York banks had declined participating in gold shipments; but since anyone could procure gold at the Sub-Treasury, there was nothing to prevent shipment of the metal abroad. Since the Federal Reserve Board represents the Government in banking affairs the whole matter is now taken out of the hands of individual banks, and taken under Government jurisdiction.

ATTENTION CENTERING ON WAR INDUSTRIES.

The ordinary activities of business are gradually giving precedence to war industries in point of public interest, and this tendency promises to grow from this time forward. A recent compilation shows that during the month of August there were organized companies with an aggregate capital of \$36,400,000 for the purpose of manufacturing munitions and airplanes. The same compilation indicates that for the thirty-two months ended with August the capitalization of companies of this kind aggregated \$203,225,000. These figures do not include the large number of other industries directly or indirectly engaged in making materials for war, nor the Governmental operations along similar lines. How immense the latter are may be seen from a single instance. The Shipping Board, which already has at its command some \$800,000,000, has asked for an additional sum of \$915,000,000 for constructing and commandeering ships and for procuring necessary supplies.

A national industrial equipment, wonderful in its resourcefulness, has gradually turned from the peaceful activities of trade to the business of making a nation ready for war, with results which must soon

(Continued on Page 6.)

Business in British Columbia

Serious shortage in the Salmon pack -- Busy times in shipyards and Lumber mills

(Special to the Journal of Commerce.)

Partly as a result of the increasing demand for war supplies, and partly because of the natural growth and development of British Columbia, manufacturing plants in the province have increased by about 33 per cent. during the past two years. There are now about 600, compared with 450 on the first anniversary of the war, according to figures supplied by Mr. Hart, secretary of the Manufacturers' Association.

During the first year or so of the war the value of war orders received in British Columbia would not exceed two million dollars. Since then, however, there has been a substantial increase, although no definite figures are yet available.

Not only has there been an increase in the number of manufacturing plants, Mr. Hart points out, but many of those already in existence have greatly increased their output.

A DOZEN SHIPYARDS.

The largest increase in any one industry, as far as value is concerned, is in shipbuilding. There are about a dozen new shipyards, although they are coming into being so rapidly that a counting up does not remain accurate for long.

Latest estimates place the present value of the shipbuilding industry in British Columbia at about \$27,000,000, practically all of which has grown up during the past year.

Next to shipbuilding, probably the largest increase has been in lumber and shingle mills. These have increased to a considerable extent all over British Columbia.

MANY NEW SHINGLE MILLS.

The increase in the number of shingle mills is estimated by the Shingle Association of British Columbia to be about 40 per cent. There are now some 60 mills equipped with about 400 machines. At the present time 85 per cent. are in operation; the remainder being closed owing to a strike.

There has, however, been a steady growth in the output of shingles, despite some serious difficulties. A large part of the market is in the United States, and for a considerable period last winter shipments across the line were seriously hindered by the car shortage.

Last year's output of shingles was about two billion, and an increase of quite a few million is looked for during 1917.

LUMBERING IS ACTIVE.

The development of the wooden shipbuilding industry has given a considerable impetus to the lumber industry, and new mills are springing up all the time.

As an instance of the increase in the number of lumber mills, there may be taken a stretch of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway between Prince George and Crofton, a station not far east of McBride. Up to about a year ago there were no industries or signs of any activity other than homesteading; now there are a dozen lumber mills.

There have been considerable lumbering activities in connection with the development of the pulp and paper industries.

FOR FOREIGN TRADE.

Among the largest of the new mills is that of the Robert Dollar Steamship Co. They are operating a mill at Roche Point, near Vancouver, and have acquired a hundred million feet of lumber to feed it.

This is particularly to supply the export trade to Hongkong, Shanghai, Manila, and Japan. There is a strong demand for Douglas fir in the Orient.

The increase that has been taking place in this industry shows every indication of being maintained. General construction is much more in evidence than at any time since the beginning of the war, and from all the regular markets and some new ones the demand for British Columbia lumber and its products is growing.

A 700 PER CENT. INCREASE.

There has been a 700 per cent. increase in the number of plants putting up evaporated fruits and vegetables, says Mr. Hart. Also there have been about two dozen fruit canneries started within the last couple of years. They preserve fruit and make jams and marmalades.

The supply of imported jams and marmalades has been almost completely cut off owing to the war, and British Columbia products are filling the demand fairly well.

Toy-making has made considerable strides, and four new plants have been started—one in Victoria and three in Vancouver. Formerly there was only one.

Three new steel plants are in operation, one at Port Moody, one at Eburne, and one at Lulu Island. Up to quite recently there were none at all in the province.

Many of the existing factories have been enlarged considerably, particularly in the case of engineering works. The Vancouver Engineering Works, for instance, has added to its premises to a tremendous extent, putting in a new Bessemer furnace, in addition to other changes.

The Vulcan Iron Works is now the biggest plant of its kind on the Pacific Coast. It has moved from its old premises in New Westminster to a new site on the Industrial Island in Vancouver, where the new building is costing \$150,000. Boiler making is the specialty of this plant.

ENGINEERING SHOPS GROW.

No less than sixteen engineering shops in British Columbia have increased their equipment as a result of war orders. They are all fully modern shops now.

There are two new galvanizing plants, one in Vancouver and one on Lulu Island. Also two new soap works were started in Vancouver. Both are comparatively small.

Three new box factories were started in Vancouver during the past couple of years. One of them is a cigar box plant.

BUILDING AEROPLANES.

The North Shore Iron Works is another firm to increase its capacity, the plant having been doubled. There were two electrical manufacturing plants started in Vancouver.

Also in Vancouver are two aeroplane factories. The Hoffer firm has already made one machine, and the Hamilton Company has manufactured three. The capital of the former is now being increased from about \$20,000 to \$100,000.

Among the recent new lumber firms is one which will specialize on the production of spruce for aeroplane manufacturing.

A new development in British Columbia industries is the establishment of a sea products company in New Westminster. They will devote their energies to the canning of clams and other shell fish, and are the first to engage in this enterprise on the west coast of Canada.

WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTION.

British Columbia's production of manufactured articles covers a wide range. The industries include the making of aeroplanes, of automobile accessories and tops, asbestos articles of many kinds, artificial stone and flooring, boots and shoes, book bindings, boot polish, brooms and brushes, brick tile and clay products.

The factories of the province make boxes, butchers' supplies, cans, cartons, paper boxes, cement, canvas tents and awnings, overalls, gloves, carriages, chemicals, clothing and vats.

MANY IMPORTANT PLANTS.

There are creosoting works, plants for the manufacture of dies and rubber stamps, drugs, engravings, explosives, elevators, furniture, glass and leaded windows, harness, saddlery and leather, inks, jewellery, knitted goods, leather belting and matches.

Neckwear is made here, as are paints, varnishes, potash and kelp, pulp and paper, printers' ink, refrigerators, roofing, scales, ships, soap, toys, novelties, trunks, tobaccos and cigars, vacuum cleaners, veneer and laminated woods, food products, beverages such as aerated waters, beers, ciders, whiskies, biscuits, butter, cereals, cheese, condensed milk, confectionery, desiccated vegetables, canned fruit, flour, spices, baking powder, coffee, tea, extracts, jams, pickles, sauces, sugar, syrup, canned meats and packed meats.

Among the most important plants are those for metal manufacturing, such as boiler shops, engineering works and machine shops, foundries, nail works, wire and fences, sheet metal works and steel rolling mills. There are oil refineries, too, and these in common with many other plants, have largely increased their capacity within the past two years.

With only about 80,000 cases of Fraser River salmon packed up to the present time, it is now evident that the "big run" is a failure, and will only amount to fifteen per cent. or so of the 1913 pack. The entire pack could have been put up in one large cannery, and it is likely that some of the plants will close down this week.

Cannerymen have abandoned all hope of a successful season, and are now discussing the best means of rehabilitating the Fraser River salmon fishing. There is talk of asking the Government to close the river for a period, but this would undoubtedly meet with a great deal of opposition.

It is pointed out that United States fishermen have the first opportunity, and that when the salmon get to the Fraser they are greatly depleted in number. As the American pack is only likely to amount to a quarter of the 1913 pack, and the Fraser River pack will be about fifteen per cent., it is thought that this would be a good time for concerted action.

"Cannerymen on both sides of the line are getting scared," was how one authority put it, "and it should be easy to agree on some measures to improve the fishing."

"At the present time all the canneries on the Fraser are open, but they are not getting anything," said Mr. F. E. Burke, general manager of the Wallace Fisheries. Everybody has lost this year, and the pack will not be more than fifteen per cent. of the last "big run" in 1913.

"The Fraser River as a rule operates for three years for the fishermen and one year for the canners. Now the run has failed, and they are up against it."

"Probably some of the canneries will close down this week. One of them, I hear, is in financial difficulties."

Mr. Burke estimated that there would be a loss of six million dollars to the province of British Columbia as a result of the failure of the "big run" this year.

"I think the Fraser River should be closed," he said, when asked for his opinion as to the best means of improving the salmon fishing. "There is a lot of difference of opinion on that question, however, but some drastic steps should certainly be taken."

Mr. Burke estimated that the Fraser River salmon pack so far was about 80,000 cases, including trapped fish on the west coast of Vancouver Island, which are all Fraser River salmon. The 1913 pack, he said, was 702,000 cases.

There would not be many more salmon caught, and the present year's run would certainly not be more than fifteen per cent. of that of four years ago.

Mr. Barker, manager of the B. C. Packers' Association, was of the opinion that most of the canneries ought never to have been opened. "The whole pack could have been put up in one cannery," he said.

There are 37 canneries on the Fraser River, and the B. C. Packers operate ten of them. It was not the intention of the association to close any of their plants before the official end of the season on Aug. 25, he said. In fact, the season had been so bad that it might be extended to allow the canneries to take advantage of any more fish that might come in.

While the B. C. Packers are keeping all their canneries open, this is being done largely to help the employees, and all the other plants will certainly not take advantage of an extended season, should there be one.

As to the advisability of closing the Fraser, Mr. Barker thought there was no doubt of the river being closed if the salmon catch did not improve. It would close naturally if the pack was no better than the present one.

Mr. W. B. Burdis, manager of the B. C. Salmon Canners' Association, was prepared to admit that the closing of the river would improve conditions. There was no doubt that it had been over fished.

At the same time, he did not think it would be easy to arrive at a solution of the problem. Closing the river, he said, might be an advantage to those canneries which had plants in other places; but to the cannery whose only plant was on the Fraser it would mean ruin.

That, of course, would be the fate of most of the canneries if the pack was to go on decreasing, but then people preferred to hope. He did not think Government action in closing the river would be welcomed.

A number of the canneries did not pack on Monday, Mr. Burdis said. Already one of the largest canneries at Bellingham has closed, and some of the Fraser River plants are likely to follow suit before long.

The huge falling off in the salmon catch is shown from the figures of the past year. The 1913 pack on the Fraser, the year of the last "big run," was 702,000 cases. In 1916, it was about 100,000 cases. Up to the present time the 1917 catch is estimated at 80,000 cases, and it is most unlikely that there will be another 20,000 cases put up. Even if there were this many the "big run" would only be about fifteen per cent. of the last one.

(Continued on Page 5.)

War Profits and Industrial Enterprise

Since the outbreak of war it is the working classes who have carried the chief burden in Canada -- It is the capitalist that has gained primarily and principally through the war

By W. W. SWANSON, Ph.D.

On the whole Canadian business men have acquiesced with good grace, if not with enthusiasm, in the financial policy pursued by the Government since the outbreak of war. While much has been said in the daily press, as well as in the financial journals, concerning the "conscription of wealth," both for and against, it must be admitted that the various financial expedients for the raising of war revenue have received strong support. There are one or two notable exceptions among the distinctly capitalistic journals, however, and the Government has been assailed for its alleged recklessness in laying a crushing burden of taxation upon the corporations of the country. On the other hand, radical labor leaders and partisan organs have clamored for even heavier imposts upon the wealth of the nation as an offset against the burden carried by the common people. It may be well worth while, in view of the present chaotic state of thinking on this subject, to examine what are likely to be the precise effects upon capital and labor through the laying of heavy taxation upon consumption and incomes.

OPPOSITION.

In this connection it is worth noting that in the United States two of the leading authorities on public finance and taxation — Professors Saligman and Bullock — have offered strong opposition to the imposing of heavy taxation upon consumption and corporate incomes during the course of the struggle. Professor Saligman maintains that the Republic must, above all, seek to keep its economic organization intact and its industrial machinery running smoothly if it is to meet the impact of war with success. Advancing this as his main argument he advises that the Government should raise, of the \$13,000,000,000 required for the current fiscal year on domestic and war account, only \$1,250,000,000 by taxation, and that the balance should be spread over a period of ten years at least through the issuing of bonds. Professor Bullock, in an article in the June issue of the North American Review, takes a somewhat similar stand. He believes that it is of supreme importance to maintain the industrial efficiency of the nation and to speed up industry to the highest possible point if the burdens of war are not to assume crushing proportions. Both these eminent authorities fear that heavy taxation upon the comforts and necessities of life will discourage the working class, and make them lukewarm in their attitude toward the present conflict. As everyone knows, exactly similar arguments have been advanced in Canada with reference to heavy taxation in the profits of corporations, and consumable commodities.

CONTRARY VIEWS.

It should be observed, however, that a number of powerful leaders in American financial circles take quite the contrary view, and notably Mr. Otto Kahn. They believe that the amazing prosperity that has come to the Republic since the days of depression in 1914, has been largely occasioned by the European war, and that this prosperity will likely continue until the struggle shall have terminated. They emphasize the undoubted fact that many corporations in the slough of despond in 1914 now exhibit handsome surpluses and pay large dividends. Unfortunately there are no reliable data available in Canada concerning the profits of corporations that have held Government contracts; and even the spectacular revelations in connection with the alleged profits of the William Davies Company yet remain to be substantiated in fact. The Minister of Finance has, up to the present, for reasons that at least satisfy himself, refused to make public a statement of the earnings of Canadian corporations for the three years since the outbreak of war. Such data are, however, available for the United States. The New York Annalist gives figures on the profits of 104 industrials for the years 1914, 1915 and 1916, which are of great interest and value to Canadians as well as to American students of this question. This list includes all the industrials that have made public official reports; and the figures therefore may be regarded as authoritative.

According to the statement furnished by the Annalist all these corporations showed gains in net profits for the years 1914-1916, the smallest gain being made by the U. S. Rubber Company, which showed an increase of 37 per cent. The total net income of the 104 corporations for 1914 was \$263,-

000,000 as against \$575,000,000 in 1915—a gain of 118 per cent. In 1916 their total net income was \$1,273,000,000 or an increase of 384 per cent over the income of 1914. How, in the light of these facts, can it be said that a tax that goes up to even 75 per cent of net profits, after excluding from taxation an amount equal to the annual average profit of three years before the war, is confiscatory in nature? It will need a good deal more than the arguments of special pleaders to convince the Canadian and American people that those industries which have profited so amazingly because of the war should not bear a heavy part in financing the military needs of the nation.

Examining somewhat more carefully the relative gain of American corporations, included in this list, we find that the Net Profit in 1916 was twice that of 1914 in the case of the American Smelting and Refining Company and the Kelly-Springfield Tire Company; three times in the case of Corn Products and Phelps, Dodge and Company; four times in the case of Central Leather, General Motors and Maxwell Motors; five times in the case of General Chemical, International Paper, United Fruit and Standard Oil of New York; seven times in the case of American Brass, Yale and Towne; eight in the case of Bethlehem Steel; ten in Pittsburgh Steel; twelve in Cambria Steel, Crucible Steel, Hercules Powder, N.Y. Aid Brake and U. S. Steel; seventeen in Baldwin Locomotives and Du Pont Powder; twenty-three in the American Writing Paper Company; and one hundred and forty-two in Niles, Bement and Pond. It is easy to realize, from a cursory glance at this list, why captains of industry in the Republic themselves advocate that a tax ranging from 40-80 per cent should be imposed upon excess profits reaped from war orders.

CANADA'S BURDEN.

Canada is bearing a relatively heavier part of the war burden by taxation than is proposed in the United States under the taxation measures agreed upon by Congress. Nevertheless, it should be recalled that much of our revenue—by far the greater part—is raised under a Protective Tariff; and that tariff taxes bear especially heavily upon the working class. The new income taxes will tap additional sources of revenue; and it is interesting as well as important to understand just how these taxes will affect industry. It is said, of course, that heavy taxation upon corporate incomes will leave little or no capital for new investments during the course of the war. It should be noted, however, that neither in Canada nor the United States have new businesses been undertaken since 1914, except on war account. The only enterprise that seems likely to suffer because of the dearth of new capital is hydro-electric development, and this may well wait until the close of hostilities. In the meantime provision is made under the taxation schemes of both Canada and the United States for the replacement of worn-out machinery and plant, and for the maintenance of industries at full efficiency. Such new enterprises as have been launched since the outbreak of war have operated on Government contracts; and, as the data above prove, have received such prices as have permitted them to provide against the inevitable collapse of business at the close of the struggle. It is safe to say that, even while the United States was still neutral, no new enterprises were undertaken, aside from those given over to war work. There is little or nothing, therefore, in the argument that heavy taxation will stifle industrial development during the course of the war.

NOT ESSENTIAL.

This leads us to consider whether, as a basic fact, profit is really essential to the carrying on of hostilities with efficiency and determination. It seems to us that the contrary is true. Notwithstanding all that has been said in a few Canadian financial journals, we are convinced that profit is not the driving force, the dynamic factor, in urging our captains of industry to herculean effort. We have been blandly told that high profits are essential to compensate Canadian manufacturers for the stress and strain and the terrific wear of nerve fibre imposed upon them by war work. We do not believe it. We believe that there is something higher and more worthy that compels them to put forth the utmost of which they are capable—not profit, but patriotism.

This is made abundantly clear by the fact that the English railroad operators have consented to turn over the entire railway system of the United Kingdom to be operated for, on behalf of, the Government, at the normal profit earned before the war. More than that—the chief executives have given their services to the Government entirely without thought of war profits, and have operated British railways in a manner that has commanded the admiration of the world. The plain truth is, that if Canadian manufacturers receive through their enterprise normal ante-bellum profits they are doubly fortunate without wishing, in this grave time of peril, to gain at the expense of their native land.

Since the outbreak of war it is the working classes who have carried the chief burden in Canada. Notwithstanding material advances in wages, the cost of living presses cruelly upon them. They are not driving expensive motor cars, or buying silks and champagne. No, it is the capitalist class in this country that has gained primarily and principally through the war, and it ill behooves their journalistic protagonists to come to their support by crying ruin and disaster when they are asked to bear taxation according to faculty or ability. It must never be forgotten that 420,000 Canadians volunteered to fight the battle of democracy on the understanding that they were safeguarding human liberty and freedom. It would be fatal, therefore, in view of these circumstances, to hold human life cheap and capital dear. Especially so when it is recalled that the United Kingdom and France have laid their all, wealth as well as men, on the altar of patriotism, and all with little thought of profits on the one hand, or the burdens of taxation on the other. The simple truth is that capital has been protected and favored in Canada more than in any other belligerent country—whether in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia or Italy.

SIGNS OF UNREST.

Let labor once be convinced that the present struggle is being waged in the interests of a class, and especially of the capitalist class, and the hope of victory for the Allied cause will have gone glimmering. Already there are signs of unrest in Europe. In England and in France, as well as in Russia; and the wave of unrest may soon reach our shores. Let Canadian leaders of industry, finance and politics recall the crisis in the political life of the United Kingdom just a few weeks ago. What was, fundamentally, the cause of that crisis? Simply the idea that had got hold of the most conservative and aristocratic elements in British labor that the reactionaries, the political oligarchies and the capitalists, were unduly prolonging the struggle for selfish ends. Mr. Arthur Henderson, the strongest man in the British labor world, gave place to Mr. Barnes—a man inferior in talent, who has made a bad fist of the pensions scheme—because of his intense convictions on these and similar points. It required the consummate skill of Mr. Asquith to solve the problem, and control the dynamic forces let loose. In a similar situation in Canada, where would our Asquith be found?

BUSINESS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

(Continued from Page 4.)

A case of salmon contains 48 pounds, and ranges in value from \$3 to \$10. Taking \$7 as an average value, the present season's pack, at the hopeful estimate of 100,000 cases, would be worth only \$700,000. This compares with about \$5,000,000 for the 1913 "big run."

The run started during the latter part of July, and when the first report was issued on the 23rd of that month, the main river boats averaged 20 sockeyes; North Arm boats, 25; Canoe Pass boats, 15; and up river boats, 20.

This average was fairly well maintained, with occasional fluctuations, until August 6, when, apparently the run reached its height. On that date main river boats averaged 50 sockeyes; North Arm boats, 20; Canoe Pass boats, 50; and up river boats, 60.

The day following showed a heavy catch also, but since then there has been a rapid falling off. On Monday the main river boats only averaged 10 sockeyes; North Arm boats, 8; Canoe Pass boats, 5; and up river boats, 30.

It is a curious fact that the sockeye, now regarded as the choice and high-priced salmon, was the fish originally discarded by the aboriginal fisherman as unworthy of notice. They preferred the fish that are now regarded as inferior. The public demand for the lower grades has been improving as the supply of sockeyes fell off, and it now appears likely that this taste for the other varieties of salmon will have to be cultivated still more.

Conditions in the West

By E. CORA HIND.

WINNIPEG, Sept. 7, 1917.

Interest continues to centre round the probable price for the Canadian crop of wheat. The Board of Grain Supervisors sat yesterday, and it is understood that they communicated a despatch with Ottawa. Whether that was a final decision or not, is not known. It is understood that there will have to be some communication between Ottawa and Washington before the final announcement is made.

There are a good many interesting side stories about this matter of the price of wheat that would make interesting reading if it were possible to publish them, but at the present time, it certainly would not be wise; and the unfortunate men who are devoting their time and strength to the work of the Board of Grain Supervisors are coming in for a great deal of unjust and unfair criticism.

As has been pointed out before, the situation as regards the crop in the two countries is very different, and what would be a profitable price to the American farmer with his greater means of transportation would not be so good to the farmer in the Canadian West. The fact that 80 per cent of the wheat produced in the United States is consumed there, materially lessens their transportation difficulties as it widens the number of terminal markets in their own country, and there is not likely to be any serious amount of carrying charges owing to delay in movement. In Western Canada, the reverse is the case; 80 per cent of the crop has to be exported and with the present shortage of men, and the fact that for the past two years at least, there has been a lack of mechanics to keep the rolling stock up to the highest efficiency, means that the railroads of Canada are not in the best position possible for moving the crop rapidly, and the percentage which can be moved before navigation closes will, in all probability, not be even as large as in past years. This means that all carrying charges from December to May must be taken care of by someone, so that if our price is fixed at \$2.20, it will mean that very many of the farmers of the three prairie provinces will not realize that amount.

On the other hand, if our price advances sufficiently to cover this carrying charge there will undoubtedly be trouble in Washington with the American farmer, who will refuse to recognize that the additional fixed price does not mean any more profit to his Canadian neighbor. The necessity of the two countries closely co-operating about the crop this year, has certainly complicated the situation.

It would materially have helped had the Canadian banks seen their way to finance the purchasing of the crop by Great Britain for the time being; there was talk of this earlier in the season, but it does not appear to have materialized. The banks have plenty of money, and it is not quite clear why they should not have undertaken this work, thus relieving Great Britain of the need of arranging with the United

States for the purchase of the crop, which, it is understood, is the method being followed.

THRESHING.

Threshing is progressing very rapidly, and so far there has been but one storm of any magnitude, and that did little harm, beyond delaying the work for twenty-four hours.

The receipts of new wheat are running around 175 cars a day, and 90 per cent of the crop, so far marketed, has graded No. 1 Northern and a small percentage of No. 1 Hard. Unless very bad threshing weather should intervene, there will be little wheat below No. 3. The color of the berry is beautiful, and it is plump and well formed; even the oats crop which is certainly far from a bumper, is vastly better than appeared possible even a month ago. For example, the famous Yorkton district, the largest individual oats area in any of the western provinces, figured, on August 2nd, that an average of 40 bushels per acre would be about the best that could be hoped for; now they are confident of an average of 55, and possibly 60, while many individual crops will thresh over 100 bushels. Some idea of the extent to which oats are grown in Yorkton district may be gathered from the fact that you can motor 50 miles without getting out of sight of an oat field.

All the north country where there are bluffs of trees, has heavier crops this year than the open plains in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, but in Southern Alberta, the open plains have the heaviest crops in the province, but this section had much more rain than the open country of the two other provinces.

CONDITION OF LIVESTOCK.

The livestock of the three prairie provinces is in excellent shape, and there is an abundance of feed on the stubble to last until the end of October, and should the weather continue fine, until the middle of November. It is hoped before that time that the scheme being devised by the Dominion Government for linking up the districts that have an abundance of feed but few cattle, with the districts that have many cattle and little feed, will be in working order. No further details have been heard of it since the return of the men invited to Ottawa by the Minister of Agriculture for consultation along this and other lines.

The movement of finished grass cattle south is heavy at the moment, and the Canadian Northern Railway, within the next ten days will move from the Rosebud country and from the Melfort country, between five and six thousand head of fat steers; part of them to the Chicago and part of them to the Boston market. Presumably these steers are for filling contracts for the Allies.

Nothing further has been heard about the decision of Great Britain to cease buying Canadian bacon. At the present time, the receipts of hogs on the Winnipeg market are very limited, and the price is firm, being \$17.25 to \$17.50 for selects with an excellent demand.

recovery as sudden and sharp as the recent fall.

Good crop reports are a factor of the greatest importance, both from a military and economic standpoint.

Another factor which directly and emphatically contradicts depression in Wall Street is the number of commercial failures, which during the past week was the smallest since the war began.

The banking position in New York, gauged by the amount of surplus reserves, is less favorable than for some time past, but it must be borne in mind that there has been a radical alteration in the country's banking system, and that while the reserve of the New York banks is still a matter of importance, it is by no means so important as it was before the changes above referred to took place. In fact, under the old system the bank reserves of a single city, or even of a single bank, were much more narrowly limited in their use than they are at present. Substantially, the reserves of all the National banks are now joined for mutual protection, thus immensely contributing to the strength of the general financial situation.

The building trades, which were halted by our entrance into the war, show signs of revival; bank clearings this week were slightly below those of a week ago, but on the whole better than for previous periods, there being a very marked gain in the month of August as compared with the same month of 1916 and 1915. Internal revenue receipts for the past year (ending June 30th), broke all records showing an increase of \$296,670,358 over last year.

U. S. GOVERNMENT WHEAT PRICES.

The basic price of wheat, including No. 1 Northern Spring, Red Winter and No. 1 Hard winter wheat, fixed by the Food Committee and approved by President Wilson, is \$2.20 per bushel delivered at Chicago.

The basic prices for the different grades are as follows:

GOVERNMENT PRICE.

No. 1 Dark Hard Winter	\$2.24
No. 1 Hard Winter Basic	2.20
No. 1 Red Winter Basic	2.20
No. 1 Yellow Hard Winter	2.16
No. 1 Soft Red Winter	2.18
No. 1 Dark Northern Spring	2.24
No. 1 Northern Spring Basic	2.20
No. 1 Red Spring	2.18
No. 1 Humpback	2.10
No. 1 Amber Durum	2.24
No. 1 Durum Basic	2.20
No. 1 Red Durum	2.13
No. 1 Red Walla	2.13
No. 1 Hard White Basic	2.20
No. 1 Soft White	2.18
No. 1 White Club	2.16
No. 2 of grade, 3c less; No. 3 of grade, 6c less; No. 4 of grade, 10c less.	

INCREASED COST OF LIVING.

The list of comparative prices in 60 cities in Canada, contrasting those of June, 1914, 1916 and 1917, shows in a very marked way the reduced purchasing power of a dollar. Take, for instance, such everyday necessities as bread, butter and eggs. Family flour, 10 pounds of which cost 33 cents in 1914, now costs 73 cents, or nearly 2½ times as much. Dairy butter, of which 2 pounds might be purchased for 52.4 cents in 1914, now costs 83.4 cents, while a dozen fresh eggs, costing 25.8 cents in 1914, now bring 42½ cents. Meats, cheese and potatoes are also amongst the commodities which show the largest increases, and these also are every-day necessities.

Commodity.	lbs. or doz.	1914	1916	1917
Sirloin steak	2	48.8	52.0	63.2
Beef shoulder roast	2	33.2	35.0	43.6
Veal roast	1	17.1	18.8	22.6
Mutton roast	1	21.0	24.2	28.5
Pork roast	1	20.0	22.2	30.1
Pork, salt, mess	2	36.4	40.2	54.0
Bacon, breakfast	1	25.6	28.9	39.0
Lard, leaf	2	37.2	40.2	62.2
Eggs, fresh	1	25.8	28.6	42.5
Eggs, storage	1	25.	26.2	36.6
Milk	6 qts.	51.6	51.0	58.8
Butter, dairy	2	52.4	61.2	83.4
Butter, creamery	1	31.2	35.1	46.8
Cheese, old	1	21.4	25.5	34.0
Cheese, new	1	19.4	23.8	32.0
Bread, plain	15	64.5	70.5	111.0
Flour, family	10	33.0	37.0	73.0
Rolled oats	5	21.5	24.0	31.5
Rice, good	2	11.8	13.0	16.0
Beans	2	11.8	19.5	30.4
Prunes	1	12.3	13.2	15.1
Sugar, gran.	4	22.0	38.0	40.0
Sugar, yellow	2	10.2	17.6	19.0
Tea, black	¼	8.9	9.9	11.5
Coffee, med.	¼	9.4	9.9	10.1
Potatoes	2 pks.	40.2	60.5	127.0

BACON EXPORTS.

A Statement from the Food Controller's office, dated Sept 7, says:

"There is no foundation whatever for the report that exports of Canadian bacon to Great Britain are to be suspended. What has happened is merely that the British Food Controller, Lord Rhondda, will permit no importation without specially granted licenses. The British food ministry established on September 3rd a single Government buying agency in the United States for the purchase of Canadian and American bacon, butter, ham and lard. From that date no purchase will be made except through the official channel. Shipments of bacon, therefore, will continue, but it will now be possible for the British authorities to keep promptly and continuously informed as to quantities received, quantities in transit, and quantities consumed. Great Britain and our allies still require at least 25 per cent. of our output.

"A glance at the following figures will show what Canada has already done—Canadian exports of bacon to the United Kingdom, France and Italy, in pounds (fiscal years ending March 31st): 1913, 36,032,597; 1914, 23,620,861; 1915, 72,041,293; 1916, 144,228,501; 1917, 207,284,673."

BANKING AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS IN THE U.S.

(Continued from Page 3.)

become apparent in helping turn the scale against Germany.

Both our own people and those in other lands who are accustomed to import goods from the United States are coming to realize that war demands must first be met. The process of shifting industrial activity from peace to war has not yet reached its culmination, and before the end of the struggle we must reconcile ourselves to the loss of many things still regarded by many as necessities, but which must be dispensed with when the nation strips itself for the final effort. The warning, recently uttered in the United States Senate by the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, that we may yet suffer from invasion, will serve as a stimulus to a still greater industrial and military effort in helping to win the war.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS.

Some of the salient facts regarding the business situation have been set forth above. To what has been said may be added the statement that there appears no good reason for doubting a continuance of prosperity, in the absence of some great and sudden change of an unfavorable character in the military situation. The depression in the stock market probably represents merely one of the fits of gloom to which Wall Street is peculiarly subject from one cause or another. Nobody would be surprised by a

Mentioned in Despatches

STURMER.—Former Premier and Foreign Minister Sturmer, of Russia, who died a few days ago, was one of the "Dark Forces" which stood in the way of a successful prosecution of the war. Sturmer, with former Minister of the Interior Protopoff and Rasputin, the disreputable monk, were the three men who combined to undermine the Russian Government and force the weak-minded Czar into more or less intimate relationship with the German party. Sturmer was for many years Master of Ceremonies at the Imperial Court. He became Premier in 1916, but even before he accepted the office of premier wielded great influence in the councils of the nation.

GEO. F. STEELE, who recently crossed the boundary to assume the management of the Canadian Export Company, was one of Uncle Sam's big business men. When south of the border Mr. Steele drew a neat little stipend of \$25,000 a year as secretary of the American Newsprint Manufacturers' Association. It is to be assumed that an even larger salary was necessary to bring him to his new post. Mr. Steele has long been regarded as one of the most efficient and best informed men in the newsprint industry, and knows the business from start to finish. Canada is to be congratulated that she is able to attract men of Mr. Steele's capabilities.

MR. GEORGE CHAHOON, Jr., president of the Laurentide Company, Ltd., whose annual report has just been made public, is another example of the wide-awake American who saw big possibilities north of the border. Chahoon was brought up in the paper manufacturing business, his father being a manufacturer in the New England States. He came to Canada, as a very young man and joined the Laurentide Company, working his way up through various stages until he assumed the presidency a few years ago on the death of Sir William Van Horne. Previous to that he was for many years general manager of the company, and is generally regarded as the man who made Laurentide the foremost paper company in the country.

CHARLES A. HANSON.—Montrealers will take more than usual interest in the forthcoming election of the Lord Mayor of London, owing to the fact that Charles A. Hanson, a member of the firm of Coates, Son & Co., London, and brother of the Messrs. Hanson of this city, is likely to be London's Chief Magistrate. Mr. Hanson, who is a man of "three score and ten," has long been a prominent member of the London City Council, and is also Conservative member of Parliament for one of the Cornwall divisions. Mr. Hanson married a Canadian lady from Halton County, Ont., who will doubtless do her part in spending the \$50,000 plus generous allowances, which the Lord Mayor receives. Mr. Hanson will be the 27th Lord Mayor of London since the time of the Norman Conquest. He succeeds Sir William Dunn, who was known as "The Lord Mayor's Lord Mayor," owing to the fact that his election was brought about through the casting vote of his predecessor in office.

BORIS SAVINKOFF, head of the War Department under Premier Kerensky, is said to be the man primarily responsible for the enforcement of the death penalty. Savinoff is the last man in the world one would suspect of enforcing a blood and iron policy. In the old pre-war days he was a Nihilist and at one time was taken prisoner and sentenced to death. This sentence was afterwards commuted to life imprisonment, and later he made good his escape from Siberia. As a Nihilist he took part in several dynamiting undertakings, being the man who arranged for the assassination of Minister of the Interior Plehve, and of the Grand Duke Sergius. Savinkoff freely admits that he directed both executions. Evidently this man who arranged matters so that prominent government officials and members of the nobility should meet with violent deaths will not hesitate to enforce a death penalty against mutinous soldiers who leave their trenches. His efforts, combined with those of Kerensky and Korniloff ought to effect a restoration of the old Russian fighting spirit.

Canadian Trade in 1916

In his report of the trade of Canada for 1916, Mr. C. Hamilton Wickes, H.M. Trade Commissioner in Canada and Newfoundland, reviews and analyses the economic conditions in Canada with special reference to the crops, minerals, immigration, census of manufacturers, the development of shipbuilding, and investment of British and other capital in the Dominion. Mr. Wickes has included detailed tables in the report, showing the value of the imports and principal classes of merchandise during the years ended March 31, 1915 and 1916. Mr. Wickes points out that the value of the United Kingdom's share in the trade in "competitive merchandise" declined from 29.2 per cent. in 1915 to 27 per cent. in the year 1916, and devotes a section of the report to hints to British traders with a view to an expansion of their trade and an improvement of their commercial relations with Canadian firms.

SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS.

There was a noticeable increase in the arrivals of cocoa preparations, chiefly from the United States.

The falling off in imports of tea during 1916 was considerable. Although imports from the United Kingdom increased, there was a great decrease in direct arrivals from the British East Indies.

The increase in imports of manufactured tobacco came almost entirely from the United Kingdom, but in pipes and smokers' sundries the bulk of the increase was from the United States.

The United States increased its lead considerably in imports of bricks and tiles, especially fire bricks.

There was an advance in the value of the imports of drugs and chemicals of over \$11,000,000, or 82 per cent. in excess of 1915—the United States, under present conditions, easily obtaining the major portion of the additional trade.

As regards imports of earthenware, china and glass, the United States also obtained the bulk of the increased business, especially in plate and window glass.

The value of the total imports of manufactures of metal and machinery increased by 37 per cent. Imports of British goods have remained practically stationary, the additional trade being from the United States. In 1915 the relative proportion of the trade from the United Kingdom was 7.7 per cent; in 1916 it has fallen to 6.1 per cent.

The trade in paints and colors in 1916 increased by nearly 70 per cent. in value, while the imports from the United Kingdom increased by 37 per cent.

The position as regards manufactures of paper, books and stationery is less favorable, total imports having increased in value by about 20 per cent., while United Kingdom figures show a decrease of 4 per cent.

It is worthy of note that the entire increase in value of imports of precious stones, etc., is traceable to imports of unset diamonds from the United Kingdom.

It will be noted that a slight improvement is shown in the value of settlers' effects entered from the United Kingdom during 1916. The bulk of the increase during the year is, of course, traceable to arrivals from the United States.

Reports of the trade of the Dominion of Canada for the year 1916, by Mr. C. Hamilton Wickes (His Majesty's trade commissioner in the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland). To be purchased through any bookseller or directly from H. M. Stationery Office at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and 28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37 Peter Street, Manchester; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23 Forth Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsoby, Limited, 116 Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies, of T. Fisher Unwin, Limited, London, W.C. (Cd. 8679.) Price 3d. net.

BOOK REVIEW.

The Bobbs-Merrill Co. of Indianapolis have just published "Modern Business Corporations," by William Allen Wood, LL.M., of the Indianapolis Bar, this being the second edition.

This useful book deals with the organization and management of private corporations and financial principles and practices, and gives summaries of decisions of the courts, elucidating the law of private business corporations, explanations of the acts of promoters, directors, officers and stockholders of corporations and forms of procedure illustrative of the formation, organization, operation and consolidation of corporations. As American company law and practice is founded largely on English law, this book will be of service to the Canadian business men as well as to Canadian lawyers.

QUEBEC'S MINERAL PRODUCTION.

The annual report of the Mines Branch of the Department of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries of the Province of Quebec has just been issued. It covers the calendar year ending December 31, 1916.

This report, which is addressed to the Honorable Honore Mercier, the head of the Department, shows that the mining industry of the Province is in a healthy condition. The mineral production for the year in question amounted to a value of \$13,287,024, which is the highest ever recorded, being an increase of nearly \$200,000 over the previous banner year, 1913.

These results are all the more gratifying if we consider that the increase is wholly attributable to the products of the mines proper, such as asbestos, copper, chromite, magnesite, molybdenite, zinc, and lead, whereas the building materials, as stone, brick, lime, cement show decreases. Yet the total shows a marked advance as compared with previous years.

Besides the technical review of the mining operations the report goes fully into the statistics of accidents in mines, and the measures to be taken to prevent them. There has been a shortage of labor in the mines of the province which has been keenly felt and which has resulted in a very notable raise of the average wages.

The report also gives a full account of the results of an investigation of the mineral resources along the line of the Transcontinental Railway, between Hervey Junction and Doucet. The volume is carefully edited and well illustrated, and will be much appreciated by the interested public.

NO MAN'S LAND.

(O. C. A. Child, in New York Times).

The rain will help—I'm not so thirsty now!
How cool it falls upon my burning lips!
Thirst is a frightful thing—I realize how
It drives men mad, like scores of scourging whips.

The still, cool dark is better than the light!
The sun beats down so fiercely through the day,
It seemed to burn away my very sight—
To shrivel me to nothing where I lay!

This "No Man's Land" is strange—a neutral ground
Where friend and foe together come to sleep,
Indifferent to the shaking hell of sound—
To shell still searching for more grain to reap.

Kincaid died very well! Before he went
He smiled a bit and said he hoped we'd won.
And then he said he saw his home in Kent,
And then lay staring at the staring sun.

That German over there was peaceful, too,
He looked a long, long time across their line,
And then he tried to sing some song he knew,
And so passed on, without another sign.

Well, this won't do for me—I'd best get back,
I'm just a little sleepy, I confess,
But I must be in time. We may attack—
The lads would miss me, too, at evening mess!

A moment more, and then I'll make a start—
I can't be shirking at a time like this,
I'll just repeat—I know them all by heart—
Some words of hers that ended in a kiss.

Why do I seem to feel her tender hand?
To see her eyes with all their old-time light?
Is she beside me? Ah, I understand—
I think, perhaps, I'll sleep here through the night!

Public Opinion

ONE GUESS.

(Atlanta Constitution).

A German navy officer said the other day that "God has called us by name." Now, we're curious to know by what name!

HIGH COST OF VILLA.

(Indianapolis Star).

A statistician figured that it has cost \$14,000 to kill a man in the European war. Yes, but it cost us \$100,000,000 to kill Villa, and he isn't dead yet.

SPOKESMAN OF THE DYNASTS.

(Kansas City Star).

Since at the very outset the premier of France has shown Michaelis to be a liar and a Russian minister shows he is a falsifier, it becomes evident that Michaelis is the sort of chancellor the Kaiser and the Crown Prince have been looking for all these years.

WE WILL TRADE.

(Albany Argus).

It is said that quite a number of Americans have gone to Canada to escape conscription and that quite a number of Canadians have come to this country to escape military service. Does Canada want to swap a job lot of perfectly useless Americans for a job lot of perfectly useless Canadians?

THE CRIMINAL CLASS.

(From the New York World).

The report of the Illinois bureau of criminal statistics shows that 5 per cent of the population of the state is arrested annually, and 2 per cent convicted of crimes and misdemeanors. Approximately 37,000 persons are sent to penal institutions every year and 83,000 pay fines or are placed on probation.

WORK OR FIGHT.

(From the Prairie Farmer).

The prosecuting attorney of Hamilton county, Ind., says that "in every town and village there are a few box whittlers—men who do not like to work under any circumstances. They should be made to work, both for their own benefit and for the good of the general public." Able bodied men who will not work should be branded as traitors to our country. The best of our young manhood is marching to the front to preserve the country for the rest of us, and, compared with their sacrifices, no demand that can be made on those who remain at home is too great. The Red Cross has adopted the slogan, "Give or fight." Along with that should go the slogan, "Work or fight."

VIVE LA FRANCE!

(Chicago Tribune).

The real France—strong, serious, devoted, patient, kind, and endlessly courageous—observant travellers knew from old. The war has not redeemed France. It has merely revealed France. The most unobservant of travellers looks back, now, to things he saw and was too prejudiced to recognize at the time, and cries, "This is no news to me—this superb revelation of French character. Those people were not frivolous. They were not degenerate. Mentally, morally, spiritually, and even physically, they were preparing for Verdun. I told you so!"

He did not. He told us the exact opposite. But let that pass. In his way he is contributing to the world wide, ringing cheer of "Vive la France!"

THE ROUMANIAN ARMY.

(Christian Science Monitor).

One of the wonders of the war of to-day is the marvellous resurrection of the Roumanian army. During the Austrian attack and invasion of some months ago, this paper kept a careful return, compiled from the Austrian communiques, of the Roumanian losses. Early this year, we were able to announce, in this way, that the Roumanians had already lost more troops than they had ever had, and that the process of decreasing zero was steadily continuing. Since then the non-existent army has been holding up Mackensen's troops on the Sereth, at the expense of further colossal losses. The Austrian General Staff have clearly solved the problem of how you can take something from nothing, and yet leave something over.

NEXT!

(Louisville Courier-Journal).

"I received my crown from God Almighty."—The Kaiser.

You are a liar, Bill! You got it off Satan. Next!

PLATINUM PROFITS.

(Wall Street Journal).

About two years ago, when platinum commenced to mount from \$30 an ounce, which advance did not end until it reached \$110, a certain jeweller sent a couple of agents throughout the United States to purchase pawn tickets on platinum articles put in loan when the metal was low. These agents in two years have purchased platinum valued at \$43,500, which cost the jeweller a little over \$10,000 to obtain.

THE WORLD'S BEST SELLER.

(Christian Science Monitor).

It is interesting to learn that the American Bible Society's presses have been running sixteen hours a day since May 1, and that, while 400,000 copies of the Bible have been printed in the mean time, the concern is still a long way behind its orders. These orders include 1,000,000 Bibles for the Y. M. C. A. That organization recently, it is said, searched high and low in an unsuccessful effort to obtain 500,000 pocket Testaments for soldiers. The New York Bible Society is appealing for funds with which to purchase Bibles for the army and navy. According to authorities on the subject, even with the war demand left out of the account, there never was a time when the Book of Books was more popular in the United States than it is to-day.

WAR BRIDES.

(Philadelphia Ledger).

Mars and Venus have still more than a passing acquaintance, but to many a youth and many a maid whose dream of love in a cottage is deferred the sudden mobilization is no laughing business. A woman's imagination is quick in these matters, and it does not minimize the risk. The wounded soldier is her soldier and "the white face of the uncomplaining dead" is hers. Her heart detects the sound of battle, though the Maxims are far beyond the range of the ear; her own intuitions, which she trusts beyond man's logic, are messengers of dismal tidings when naught is certainly known. Perhaps in the haste of the going and the bustle of departure a glamor attaches to the warrior exceeding the effect he produces as a mere civilian. If he seems more of a man in khaki than in mufti, that is all his gain. The girl left behind will think more of the man who goes than of the man who might go and refuses for the sake of ease or safety. Abroad they have an uncomfortable way of quizzing the man who is not at the front. Soon the tennis absentee and the cotillon slacker may become equally unfashionable here.

THE "OBSTINATE NATION."

(Christian Science Monitor).

What saved the liberties of Europe at this juncture—Mr. Gerard makes no secret of it—was the sudden entry of England into the war. For three years the "obstinate nation" (the Kaiser's words to Mr. Gerard) has kept up the war. For three years its fleet has cleared the seas of German shipping. During three years it has built up vast armies, financed half of Europe, and instead of sending half a dozen divisions to assist France, has put into the field some millions of trained soldiers. British troops fought with the Japanese at Kaio Chau. British troops pressed from the Persian Gulf into Bagdad, driving the Turks before them. British troops flung the Turks back from the Suez Canal, and advanced to the walls of Jerusalem. British troops kept the Turks busy, in the Gallipoli, during critical months, and landed at Saloniki to help to hold up the Bulgarian attack. And yet the bargain with the Dual Alliance was the British fleet to aid the armies of France and Russia, and only a few divisions to reinforce the French across the channel. No man living knows the story of the German conspiracy, and how it miscarried, more completely than Mr. Gerard. And the story of that conspiracy, as he is telling it to the world to-day, is something that should be known by the world.

A TIME FOR CO-OPERATION.

(New York Journal of Commerce).

There has never been a period in human history comparable with that which we are now going through. It completely upsets the ordinary working of what have become established principles on account of necessity for prompt and energetic action in what is entirely outside of the normal requirements of peace activities.

What we need now is co-operation of all the various interests of the people with each other and with the Government, and it is necessary that its spirit should be displayed on the side of the Government as well as on that of the people who have made themselves its subjects as well as its source. There must be sacrifices in this process, but they will be sacrifices to a great cause on whose ardent support and assured triumph, the security and prosperity of the future will depend.

DUTY.

(Wall Street Journal).

A well-known banker is proudly exhibiting four letters from somewhere in France. Their cryptic contents typify the heroism which prompts England's sons to answer duty's call from all parts of the world. When the war broke out the banker had two Englishmen in his employ—George and William. They were brothers. George, the elder, immediately volunteered and sailed for England. He was sent to the western front. The first letter he wrote told that he had been made a corporal. The second described his appointment as lieutenant. The third simply said he had been made a captain. Meanwhile the younger brother, William, had also volunteered, and he was placed in George's command. The fourth letter the banker received was from William. Here is the way it concludes: "George was hit by a shell to-day. It struck him squarely in the forehead, and he died instantly, just like every true soldier wishes to die, if die he must. Back of the lines is his grave. When the war is over relatives will visit the little mound to honor a man who did his duty. I am captain of the company now, and the chances are that there will be two lying in that narrow plot before you receive this note."

COMPELLING POWER OF IDEAS.

(Viscount Haldane in The Nation, London).

A free people will do all that a people that is not free can if it possesses compelling ideas. For history shows that the compelling power of ideas over those who possess them is greater than any other compelling power. The possession of ideas is, in a vigorous people, the real source of organization. It is so in the business of individuals, and it is so in the business of nations. Moreover, where ideas are lacking no change in the form of Government can make up for their absence. . . .

I believe that all the nations engaged have met with misfortune, due to lack of ideas, Germany suffered from the lack which is characteristic of oligarchies. She does not appear to have foreseen the magnitude or the risk to herself of the conflagration she was kindling. The outlook of her war party was too restricted to admit of complete grasp of the situation with which she was confronted when she provoked a conflict with half the world. The mind of her people was too little disciplined by the sense of personal responsibility for affairs to enable it to control that party.

In this country we were defective in a different way. Germany had ideas imposed on her, ideas which were too narrow and which were ethically defective. But they were ideas, and her people have always been receptive to ideas. Our own citizens have never been receptive in the same way, nor has it been their habit to call on their leaders to think strenuously for them. When the time comes to take stock, I think the wonder will be, not that we were so unprepared, but that we were as well prepared as was the case.

For the public did not insist that the unrest of Europe should be the foremost subject of political consideration, nor was it ready to devote the nation's energies to securing its future in peace any more than in war. The democracy in this country was suffering from an indisposition to reflect, and, in consequence, was not disposed to listen to the few who preached.

AMONG THE COMPANIES

TORONTO RAILWAY.

Within four years Toronto can take over the franchise of the Toronto Railway Company. During the year just closed the earnings of the company amounted to \$6,029,560, an increase of \$280,038 over the preceding year. The city's shares of the gross receipts were \$945,912, an increase of \$46,408.

WINNIPEG ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

For the first time in the history of the corporation the Winnipeg Electric Railway recently submitted a monthly statement showing a deficit. It amounted to \$29,879.20. Gross earnings for July were \$242,797. The net earnings after deducting operating expenses were cut to \$31,346.41, and the deficit, less fixed charges, was \$29,879.20.

BANK OF B. N. A. DIVIDEND.

The Board of Directors of the Bank of British North America have declared a dividend of 40 shillings per share for the half year, less income tax at the rate of 8 per cent per annum. The amount carried forward is £39,000, as compared with £17,500 for the same period last year.

DECREASE IN AUGUST R. R. EARNINGS.

The gross receipts of Canada's three principal railway companies for August, 1917, show a decrease of 3.9 per cent when compared with those of August, 1916. This is the first contraction shown in monthly earnings for a very long period. In the first three weeks of the month the decreases were larger than in the last week. However the returns for the final ten days show substantial recovery towards the level of last year, the decrease contracting from nearly 9 per cent in the first week of the month and about 4 per cent in the second and third, to a fifth of 1 per cent in the fourth period.

The G. T. R. system showed an increase for the month, but decreases were reported by both Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern, a direct reflection of the smaller tonnage of grain remaining to be moved in the west as compared with August a year ago. The upturn in the earnings of both the latter companies coincides with the commencement of the new harvest.

Returns for the last ten days of August, with the change from a year ago, and the totals for the month, also with comparisons, follow:

Road.	Week		
	August, 31st, 1917.	Increase.	P.C.
C. P. R.	\$4,018,000	*\$74,000	1.8
G. T. R.	2,008,128	55,965	2.9
C. N. R.	1,134,400	5,300	.5
Totals	\$7,160,528	*\$12,735	.2
Road.	Month		
	Aug., 1917.	Increase.	P.C.
C. P. R.	\$12,023,000	*\$857,000	6.7
G. T. R.	6,020,820	270,444	4.7
C. N. R.	3,405,200	*279,700	7.6
Totals	\$21,449,020	*\$866,256	3.9

*—Decrease.

Aggregate gross earnings of the three systems month by month this year, with the change from 1916 in each case, are tabulated below:

Month.	gross, 1917.	Increase.	P.C.
January	\$17,450,888	\$2,726,672	18.5
February	15,043,606	375,691	2.5
March	19,967,437	2,623,194	15.1
April	20,236,111	2,158,306	11.9
May	23,709,303	3,755,467	18.8
June	23,281,719	3,441,546	17.4
July	22,771,680	1,825,119	8.7
August	21,449,020	*\$866,256	3.9

*—Decrease.

LAURENTIDE POWER COMPANY.

At the annual meeting of the Laurentide Company, Limited, some interesting statements in regard to the Laurentide Power were made by the directors.

C. R. Hosmer, vice-president, pointed out that the Power Company would shortly be on a dividend paying basis, after which F. A. Sabbaton explained that at the present time the Laurentide Company was taking its full quota of power, 25,000 horse-power, from the Power Company. The Shawinigan Company since July 1, had been taking at the rate of 40,000 horse-power per year, which would be increased to 50,000 next year. The Shawinigan Company he adds, was also taking some excess power.

Certain industries springing up in Shawinigan and Three Rivers will be taking additional power very soon, and earnings will then be two, three, or four per cent on the common stock, after bond interest.

In answer to a question, Mr. Sabbaton pointed out that the company was selling about 65,000 horse-power. He said they had a unit capacity of 120,000 horse-power, and this capacity could be reached when the storage dam on the St. Maurice was completed. Work on this dam, he said, was progressing satisfactorily, and the concrete work would be completed this fall.



MR. C. R. HOSMER, Vice-President of the Laurentide Co., Ltd., whose annual report appears in this issue.

NEW COMPANIES.

The following new companies are announced in the various gazettes:

FEDERAL CHARTERS.

- Women's Attire, Limited, Montreal, \$40,000.
- Bennett Martin Asbestos and Chrome Mines, Limited, Thetford Mines, \$1,500,000.
- John R. Evans Leather Company, Limited, Montreal, \$50,000.
- British and French Paperstock Company, Limited, Montreal, \$10,000.
- Pickering and Gravel Company, Limited, Toronto, \$100,000.

QUEBEC CHARTERS.

- The Canadian Skirt and Waist Manufacturing Company, Limited, Montreal, \$19,500.

ONTARIO CHARTERS.

- Liberty Motor Car Company of Canada, Limited, Windsor, \$10,000.
- W. E. Saunders and Company, Limited, London, Ont., \$40,000.
- Mutual Motors, Limited, Hamilton, \$25,000.
- Ridgeville Canning Company, Limited, Toronto, \$100,000.
- Thunder Bay Store Company, Limited, Fort William, \$40,000.
- The Boivin Tie and Lumber Company, Limited, Timmins, \$40,000.
- Trenton Gas and Oil Company, Limited, Toronto, \$40,000.
- The Collingwood Steamship Company, Limited, Collingwood, \$40,000.
- Midland Free Press, Limited, Midland, \$40,000.
- Greenwood Telephone Association Limited, Sault Ste. Marie, \$1,000.
- The Progressive Gas and Oil Company, Limited, Hamilton, \$1,000,000.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CHARTERS.

- The B. C. Oyster & Fishing Company, Limited, Victoria, \$10,000.
- Galena Copper Company, Limited (Non-Personal Liability), Victoria, \$150,000.
- C. W. Nunley, Limited, Vancouver, \$50,000.
- Hill Tire Company, Limited, Vancouver, \$10,000.
- Metro Pictures, Limited, Vancouver, \$10,000.
- Pacific Sheet Metal Works, Limited, Victoria, \$25,000.
- Prince Rupert Ice and Cold Storage Company, Limited, Vancouver, \$150,000.
- Steelhead Roof Glazing Company, Limited, Vancouver, \$59,000.
- Walthey Limited, Vancouver, \$25,000.

THE DEMERARA ELECTRIC CO.

The earnings for July, 1917, of the Demerara Electric Co., amounted to:

	Gross.	Net.
Railroad	\$6,103.66	\$ 725.12
Light and power	7,528.79	4,383.81
Miscellaneous		74.49
	\$5,183.42	

INCREASE IN BUILDING PERMITS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY.

The value of building permits issued in 35 Canadian cities show that the building trade increased in July 9.5 per cent over June. The total value of building permits rising from \$4,165,961 in June to \$4,563,134 in July, an increase of 397,173, or 9.5 per cent. Increases were shown in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, the largest gain being reported in Ontario.

As compared with the corresponding month of last year, building permits in July showed an increase of \$1,291,625, or 39.5 per cent, the value for July, 1916, being \$3,271,509. As compared with July of last year, there were increases in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, and decreases in the remaining provinces. Of the larger cities, Montreal reported an increase in building operations as compared with June, and also an increase as compared with July, 1916. Toronto recorded increases in both cases, while Winnipeg showed a decrease as compared with June and an increase as compared with July, 1916. Vancouver showed declines in both cases. Of the smaller centres, Quebec, Moncton, New Westminster and Brandon reported substantial increases over both months, the increase at Port Arthur being especially noteworthy.

The comparative figures are as follows:

City.	June, 1917.	July, 1917.
Nova Scotia	\$141,613	\$96,223
Halifax	102,750	56,840
New Brunswick	77,785	39,500
St. John	62,750	7,100
Quebec	1,099,849	1,549,241
Malsonneuve	848,900	167,100
Montreal	557,745	877,195
Quebec	86,179	448,956
Ontario	1,576,939	2,447,775
Hamilton	287,325	243,715
London	150,230	75,030
Ottawa	137,117	59,050
Port Arthur	13,268	925,470
Toronto	693,244	762,004
Windsor	138,035	237,340
Manitoba	762,700	183,823
Winnipeg	755,200	164,050
Saskatchewan	308,755	99,485
Regina	44,525	47,360
Saskatoon	249,790	43,100
Alberta	144,400	77,000
Calgary	101,300	32,600
Edmonton	43,100	44,400
British Columbia	53,920	70,087
Vancouver	42,555	27,602
Victoria	5,485	19,635
*Total (35 cities)	\$4,165,961	\$4,563,134

AMONG THE COMPANIES

ANNUAL MEETING OF UNION PACIFIC.

The annual meeting of stockholders of Union Pacific Railroad Co. will be held on Oct. 9 for the purposes of electing 15 directors of the company, considering and acting upon a proposed amendment of the by-laws and changing the date of holding subsequent annual meetings of stockholders to the second Tuesday in April each year.

FAILURES LAST WEEK.

Commercial failures last week in Canada numbered 15, against 17 the previous week, 23 the preceding week, and 17 last year. Of failures last week in the United States, 83 were in the East, 59 South, 51 West, and 23 in the Pacific States, and 83 reported liabilities of \$5,000 or more, against 60 last week.—R. G. Dun & Co.

STEEL CORPORATION FORMED.

The American International Company announces the formation of a new subsidiary, the American International Steel Corporation, to engage in the importation of steel and steel products.

The new corporation intends to develop a foreign selling corporation so that this combined with its financial and shipping connections will bring the foreign buyer and American steel manufacturer into much closer relations than have existed heretofore.

NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL CO.

The Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co., Ltd., for the six months ended June 30, 1917, earned after interest on bonds and debenture stock, \$1,596,469. This compares with net of \$2,104,478 for the entire 1916 year, and is a little in excess of the \$1,576,743 earned in the whole of 1915.

After deducting the 4 per cent dividend for the six months on the \$1,000,000 preferred, there is left a balance applicable to the common stock of \$20.75 per share. This is an annual rate of \$41.50. Of course, this is counting the common stock issue as \$7,500,000, which will be increased to \$15,000,000, when the pending financing is completed and the proposed 20 per cent stock dividend is paid. On the enlarged capital, therefore, Nova Scotia earned in the six months at the annual rate of \$20.75 per share.

This compares with three previous years as follows:

	Net af. chgs.	Pfd. div.	Bal. for com.	% on com.
6 months, 1917	\$1,596,469	\$40,000	\$1,556,469	120.75
1916	2,104,478	80,000	2,024,478	27.0
1915	1,576,743	123,600	1,453,143	19.3
1914	308,986	41,200	.....	.....

*Deficit. †On \$7,500,000.

NIPISSING MINES CO.

Nipissing Mines Co., Ltd., has been incorporated in Ontario, with \$6,000,000 capital, to own and control the Nipissing Mining Co., an operating concern, and to exercise the functions of the Nipissing Mines Co. of Maine.

Within a fortnight it is expected that the Maine corporation will have been dissolved after all its assets and business have been transferred to the newly organized company. The new Ontario concern will issue new certificates share for share for those of the existing company.

Nipissing has shared handsomely in the advance in silver through sales made at top prices. Many of these transactions have taken place on a basis of Vancouver prices, or several cents an ounce over the New York quotation. A small part of the premium would have to cover extra cost of transportation across the continent although much of it would accrue to profits.

Dollar silver means that Nipissing has in reserve \$9,000,000 in gross values against \$4,500,000 when the metal was at 50 cents an ounce. At a cost of 30 cents an ounce the maintenance of dollar silver would add \$6,300,000 to net profits from the 9,000,000 ounces now known to be below ground.



MR. WELLINGTON FRANCIS, K.C.,
The newly elected President of the Toronto Mortgage Company.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER.

On a little lot of 200 tons of newsprint which the Government ordered last month the secretary of war, by order of the President, fixed a price of 2½ cents per ton. This paper will be furnished by International Paper Co., and it is likely that at this selling price the company will lose money.

International Paper officials claim that they have sold no paper so far this year at less than 3 cents per pound. This claim must refer to spot paper, for on contracts deliveries will undoubtedly be made right through 1917 at not much over 2½ cents per pound.

The open market price of newsprint has varied considerably this year, but during the last few months there has been a rising tendency. To-day International Paper could probably obtain fully 3 cents and perhaps a little better on any lots of free paper it had for sale.

The cost of producing newsprint is tending upward very sharply. It is estimated by one authority that at prices prevailing for pulp wood for the 1918 season it will cost \$33 per ton of newsprint for the bare wood that goes into it. A 2½-cent per pound selling price means \$50 per ton. It obviously costs more than \$17 per ton to make paper from the wood stock. In fact, the cost of production with prices for wood which are now in sight will be not less than \$50 per ton for next year.

There is probably no phase of industrial activity in this country or Canada where lack of labor is so acute as in the supply of "lumber jacks." The newsprint industry is a question of wood. And wood in turn is a problem of getting labor into the forests to cut supplies to float down river in the spring or assemble for railroad shipment to the paper mills. Cutting timber for paper making is still a primitive, hand-worked process and there appears to be no way in which machinery can take the place of labor or alone for the shortage of lumbermen.

TO INCREASE PRODUCTION.

Nipissing will increase its mine run of ore approximately 20 per cent. This increase will be largely brought about by treatment of all ores run through the mill by flotation.

The Nipissing has now five callow rougher cells and one cleaner cell. The flotation capacity will be increased to eight roughers and two cleaner cells. The present capacity of the mill averages about two hundred and forty tons a day. It is expected that a capacity of from 250 to 300 tons a day will be secured.

The installation of flotation will allow the bringing down of cyanide consumption, which is at present the largest item in milling costs. The heads to flotation will average about eight ounces a ton, of which it is expected to extract six ounces, resulting in a tailing containing two ounces per ton. Mill heads run between thirty and forty ounces per ton.

Until the whole part is in operation no definite idea can be had of the increased profits.

CHANGES IN STAFF OF STERLING BANK.

T. S. Murray has been appointed acting accountant at Winnipeg, and S. V. Moulton is at Kelwood Branch, relieving Mr. Binns, absent on a honeymoon trip.

N. L. McNaught has just returned to Kirkfield from his holidays and he is optimistic for this fall's business.

E. Hayes, manager at Killaloe, is now on his holidays, after having moved into the new bank premises. R. S. Bailey is relieving at the Shedden branch.

J. M. Lang, of St. Catharines, is relieving Mr. Meek, of Port Dalhousie, who is on holidays.

U. S. BANK CLEARINGS.

Payments through the banks, as reflected in Clearing House transactions, continue very heavy and again show material improvement over all previous records for this period, the total this week at the principal cities in the United States, according to Dun's Review, amounting to \$4,710,264,037, an increase of 13.2 per cent over the same week last year and of 85.7 per cent contrasted with the corresponding week in 1915. All of the fourteen cities report more or less gain, that at New York being 8.2 and 89.1 per cent, respectively, as compared with the same weeks in the two immediately preceding years, while the aggregate of the cities outside the metropolis is 27.0 per cent in excess of last year and 78.9 per cent larger than two years ago. Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, New Orleans and San Francisco continue to show very marked expansion. Average daily bank exchanges for the year to date are given below for three years:

	1917.	1916.	1915.
September	\$967,426,000	\$832,063,000	\$527,666,000
August	817,965,000	640,400,000	483,844,000
July	905,527,000	662,427,000	493,471,000
1st. Quar.	902,921,000	762,943,000	495,973,000
2nd Quar.	827,235,000	698,970,000	460,832,000

The C. N. R. legislation is likely to receive several amendments before being passed, one limiting the amount the arbitrators may fix as value of the \$60,000,000 stock, and the other fixing a date for disclosure of the full liabilities of the company.

UNCERTAINTY IN WALL STREET.

"Uncertainty is a poor foundation for enterprise," says the Bache Review this week. "Fogs stop progress temporarily. Lights are burning somewhere, but they are invisible. There are so many uncertainties clouding decision that trading in the market is left to floor operators and professionals."

"There has been some investment buying of importance at the low levels. A number of good stocks are selling at pre-war prices and, as in the case of some of the standard railroads, below such prices."

"When the vital question of prices and of taxes are settled, and fairly settled as now seem probable, activity will be resumed, and the enormous volume of business, even if profits are more moderate, will afford ample returns to investors."

LIVE STOCK REGULATION.

OTTAWA, September 7.

Hon. Martin Burrell's Live Stock Act was put through committee in the Commons on Friday, September 7. The measure, which had been threshed out in the Agricultural Committee was framed to meet the demands of stock raisers throughout the Dominion, but particularly in the West. It places in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture a large measure of control over live stock exchanges, and authority by means of regulation, to protect the interests of stock raisers in relation to prices, space and feeding.

The bill was discussed in detail with criticism for the most part of a friendly nature. One objection raised to the bill was that it might interfere unduly with small enterprises that went under the name of exchanges, but were often no more than co-operative groups. It was pointed out that the bill was not intended to touch them, and the suggestion was made that the measure be made specific upon the point.

The bill was finally put through committee and given third reading.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

Paid-Up Capital
\$6,500,000



Reserve Fund
\$12,000,000

TOTAL ASSETS OVER \$110,000,000

The strong position of the Bank of Nova Scotia not only assures the safety of funds left on deposit with the Bank but also places it in a position where it can readily care for any legitimate business needs of its customers. We invite banking business of every description.

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

BANK OF ENGLAND STATEMENT.

The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes:

Total reserve	Dec. £	278,000
Circulation	Inc.	263,000
Bullion	Dec.	14,930
Other securities	Dec.	7,759,000
Public deposits	Dec.	2,064,000
Other deposits	Dec.	6,097,000
Notes, reserve	Dec.	259,000
Government securities	Dec.	105,000

The proportion of the bank's reserve to liabilities last week was 18.92 per cent; the preceding week it was 18.21 per cent.

GERMAN BANK STATEMENT.

The statement of the Imperial Bank of Germany for the week ending August 31 shows the following changes:

Total coin and bullion, increased 45,000,000 marks; gold, increased 177,000 marks; treasury notes, increased 103,817,000 marks; notes of other banks, decreased 4,335,000 marks; bills, discounted, increased 197,751,000 marks; advances, increased 2,295,000 marks; investments, increased 4,134,000 marks; other securities, decreased 5,085,000 marks; notes in circulation, increased 359,125,000 marks; deposits, increased 15,729,000 marks; other liabilities, increased 28,222,000 marks.

Total gold holdings, 2,404,036,000 marks.

JULY BANK CLEARINGS.

The following table gives the Canadian bank clearings for July, 1917, with comparisons, with July, 1916.

	July, 1917.	July, 1916.	Changes.
Montreal	\$361,480,320	\$326,715,007	+ \$34,765,313
Toronto	262,966,414	208,759,891	+ 54,206,523
Winnipeg	174,458,431	166,054,953	+ 8,403,478
Vancouver	35,285,172	27,481,846	+ 7,803,326
Ottawa	26,024,089	22,748,421	+ 3,275,668
Calgary	26,512,178	18,305,071	+ 8,207,107
Hamilton	20,581,042	16,550,551	+ 4,030,491
Quebec	19,791,439	16,662,264	+ 3,129,175
Edmonton	11,064,031	8,498,667	+ 2,565,364
Halifax	14,913,658	11,374,668	+ 3,538,990
London	9,744,933	8,718,756	+ 1,026,177
Regina	13,013,121	8,918,126	+ 4,094,995
St. John	8,802,474	7,807,281	+ 995,193
Victoria	7,321,437	7,715,591	- 394,104
Saskatoon	.....	2,974,844	.....
Moose Jaw	4,483,089	3,851,749	+ 631,340
Brandon	2,276,235	2,624,982	- 348,747
Brantford	3,718,664	2,800,569	+ 918,095
Ft. William	3,013,144	2,541,474	+ 471,670
Lethbridge	3,487,002	2,251,235	+ 1,235,767
Medicine Hat	2,220,796	1,428,348	+ 792,448
New Westminster	1,601,716	1,259,331	+ 342,385
Peterboro	2,913,954	2,277,538	+ 636,416
Sherbrooke	2,792,452	2,245,750	+ 546,702
Kitchener	2,449,430	2,007,149	+ 442,281
Total	\$882,574,062	\$882,574,062	+

BRANCH BANKS.

The following is a list of the banks opened in July, 1917:—

BRANCHES OPENED—12.

- Clarke's Harbour, N.S.—Royal Bank of Canada.
- Jasper, Ont.—Bank of Nova Scotia.
- La Porte, Sask.—Union Bank of Canada.
- xLegal, Alta. (Sub.)—Banque d'Hochelega.
- xNotre Dame de Ham (Sub.)—Banque d'Hochelega.
- Port Colborne, Ont.—Bank of Hamilton.
- xRogersville, N.B. (Sub.)—Banque Provinciale du Canada.
- xSt. Claire, Quebec, (Sub.)—Banque Provinciale du Canada.
- xSt. Claude, Man. (Sub.)—Banque d'Hochelega.
- St. Eustache, Que.—Banque d'Hochelega.
- xSt. Laurent Ste. d'Orleans, (Sub.)—Banque Nationale.
- St. Philomene de Chateauguay, Que., (Sub.)—Banque d'Hochelega.

BRANCHES CLOSED—1.

- Lanigan, Sask.—Canadian Bank of Commerce.

x Sub-branches.

BRANCHES OF CANADIAN CHARTERED BANKS.

	July 31st, 1917.
In Canada	3,318
Ontario	1,179
Quebec	817
Nova Scotia	119
New Brunswick	83
Prince Edward Island	17
Manitoba	203
Alberta	267
Saskatchewan	444
British Columbia	186
Yukon	3
In Newfoundland	28
Elsewhere	88
Total	3,434

WEEKLY CLEARINGS.

Canadian bank clearings from 18 cities for the week ending September 6th aggregated \$187,067,713, an increase of \$21,897,181 over those of the corresponding week a year ago.

	1917.	1916.
Montreal	\$70,290,231	\$60,680,178
Toronto	51,389,714	39,867,004
Winnipeg	26,544,260	32,252,494
Vancouver	8,067,512	6,181,547
Ottawa	5,430,123	5,718,039
Hamilton	4,779,113	3,244,257
Calgary	4,493,914	3,827,467
Quebec	3,954,687	3,800,402
London	2,367,856	1,593,103
Halifax	2,569,339	2,526,534
Victoria	2,027,763	1,579,738
St. John	1,633,415	1,536,279
Brantford	824,023	513,501
Lethbridge	627,309	501,525
Sherbrooke	610,549	433,203
Fort William	566,236	475,380
Peterboro	511,284	407,823
Medicine Hat	380,321	93,068
Grand total	\$187,067,713	\$165,170,532

STOCK EXCHANGE.

Despite pronounced weakness in Wall Street during the past week, the Montreal Stock Exchange for once did not follow the lead of her big neighbor. This is partly due to the fact that liquidation has been carried on in Montreal pretty consistently since last December and stocks to-day are at levels where the return from large dividends yields. They are also selling below their real market value. As a result of this liquidation and the low levels to which they have gone, the local list does not break with weakness in Wall Street.

A few specialties showed gains for the week, but for the most part the market was dull and listless. The total transactions and unlisted transactions numbered about 17,000 as compared with 19,000 for the previous week, and 49,000 for the corresponding week last year. The only issues to show activity were: Civic Power, with 1,100 shares and a net gain of ½ point; Canadian Steamships, 1,100 shares and a loss of ½ point; Dominion Steel Corporation, with transactions of 5,400 shares; Scotia with 1,300, and Steel of Canada with 1,500.

Bonds were active, the demand for the war loans being well sustained. But transactions in stocks were small, as the following table of comparisons shows:

	Week ending		
	Sept. 8, 1917.	Sept. 1, 1917.	Sept. 9, 1916.
Shares	17,074	19,229	49,301
Bonds	\$577,700	\$246,000	\$102,900
Unlisted shares	520	1,010	1,580
Do. bonds	.....	.....	\$8,600

ILLINOIS TRACTION COMPANY

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND NO. 51.

The regular dividend of one and one-half per cent. (1½%) on the Preferred stock of the Illinois Traction Company will be paid October 1st, 1917, for the quarter ending September 30th, 1917, to shareholders of record September 15th, 1917.

By order of the Board,

GEO. M. MATTIS,
Treasurer.

Champaign, Ill.

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED.



HEAD OFFICE: 71, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C. 3.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED . . . £31,304,200

CAPITAL PAID UP . . . 5,008,672

RESERVE FUND . . . 3,600,000

DEPOSITS, &c. (June, 1917) 141,053,601

ADVANCES, &c. do. 67,573,973

THIS BANK HAS NEARLY 900 OFFICES IN ENGLAND & WALES.
Colonial and Foreign Department: 17, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C. 3. London Agency of the IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.
The Agency of Foreign and Colonial Banks is undertaken.

French Auxiliary: LLOYDS BANK (FRANCE) LIMITED,
with Offices at PARIS, BIARRITZ, BORDEAUX, HAVRE and NICE.

THE DOMINION BANK

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO
SIR EDMUND B. OSLER M.P., President
W. D. MATTHEWS, Vice-President

C. A. BOGERT, General Manager

The London, England, Branch
of
THE DOMINION BANK

at
73 CORNHILL, E.C.

Conducts a General Banking and Foreign Exchange Business, and has ample facilities for handling collections and remittances from Canada.

(ESTABLISHED IN 1836)
Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1840.
— THE —
BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Paid-up Capital, \$4,866,666.66.

Reserve Fund, \$3,017,333.33

Head Office: 5 Gracechurch St., London, E.C. 3
Head Office in Canada: St. James St., Montreal.

H. B. MACKENZIE, General Manager.
Advisory Committee in Montreal:

SIR HERBERT B. AMES, M.P.
W. R. MILLER, Esq. W. R. MACINNES, Esq.

This Bank has Branches in all the principal Cities of Canada, including Dawson (Y.T.), and Agencies at New York and San Francisco in the United States. Agents and Correspondents in every part of the world.

Agents for the Colonial Bank, West Indies.

Drafts, Money Orders, Circular Letters of Credit and Travellers' Cheques issued negotiable in all parts of the world.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT AT ALL BRANCHES
G. B. GERRARD, Manager, Montreal Branch.

ESTABLISHED 1872
BANK OF HAMILTON

Head Office: HAMILTON

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED..... \$5,000,000
CAPITAL PAID UP..... 3,000,000
SURPLUS..... 3,500,000

Business Founded 1795

AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY

Incorporated by Act of the Parliament of Canada
ENGRAVERS AND PRINTERS

BANK NOTES AND CHEQUES
CORPORATION BONDS
STOCK CERTIFICATES
MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES
and other MONETARY DOCUMENTS.

Head Office and Works: OTTAWA

Branches:—
MONTREAL, Bank of Ottawa Building.
TORONTO, 19 Melinda Street.
WINNIPEG, Union Bank Building.

Decline in Value of Dollar

Swiss bank sees reason in alliance with Britain—Fixation of Anglo-American exchange said to be sufficient cause for dollar moving with pound sterling—Same solidarity may communicate itself to currency of all the Allies, is prediction—whole exchange field reviewed from natural standpoint.

The status of the American dollar as affected by war conditions is discussed in the current bulletin of the Swiss Bank Corporation, which reviews the foreign exchange field.

"The sudden fall of the dollar below par in Switzerland," says the bulletin, "surprised many who had begun to regard it as an almost universal monetary instrument and as shielded from the abrupt variations to which European currencies have become subject. Everything seemed to favor the dollar. The United States had accumulated huge reserves, had the commercial balance immensely in her favor, had bought back great quantities of her own securities, and had lent enormous sums to the Allies."

The bulletin rejects the suggestion that since the United States went to war she has lost the confidence of other neutrals, who in any case had no such balances in America that their withdrawal could vitally disturb the exchange. The Swiss commentator finds in the almost complete fixation of the Anglo-American exchange a sufficient reason for the dollar moving with the pound sterling in a purely neutral atmosphere.

STATUS OF THE POUND.

With respect to the pound, the bulletin remarks on the success with which depreciation was so long fended off by ways and means that are enumerated. It is implied that this success might have been continued had not Great Britain put her credit and financial power so freely at the service of her Overseas Dominions and her allies.

Despite the enlargement in the depreciation of the French franc the bulletin counts that it has been relatively well sustained in Switzerland considering how the balance of indebtedness has worsened. The Swiss writer remarks how incomplete the mobilization of French holdings of foreign securities has been compared with the vigor with which similar measures were enforced in Britain and Germany, which he attributes partly to the greater liberalism of the French Government coupled with the conservatism of "Tepargne Francaise."

It is judged that the solidarity now existing between the pound and the dollar may communicate itself to the currencies of all the Allies. Meanwhile the Swiss bulletin commiserates with the commission which has been charged with the work of studying and remedying the exchange situation, and says that the proposed system has no remedial quality.

FLUCTUATIONS IN EXCHANGE.

The principal movements in the rates of exchange on the Swiss market are shown in the following table, on the basis of francs:

	Parity.	July 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1916.
Paris	100	79.30	86.75
London	25.22	21.65	24.10
Berlin	123.45	63.50	84.60

This shows that the depreciation of the mark this year has been very heavy from 84.60 francs to 63.50 francs per 100 marks, or over 25 per cent. The bank points out that Germany has now mobilized all her foreign securities in an effort to stay the fall in the mark; while her chief exports, coal and iron, have had to be curtailed more and more.

Although no statistics are available, it is evident that Germany's adverse trade balance is considerable, and very noteworthy is the indebtedness to Switzerland. The mark has now fallen 48½ per cent despite the drastic effort made at the end of 1916 to rehabilitate it. But, as the bank points out, the causes of the depreciation still remain, and the mark must continue on its downward course.

The position of the Swiss franc has been well maintained throughout the war. The paper circulation of the country has nearly doubled during that period, but has had a correspondingly strong metallic backing. Though Swiss industry has been hampered by lack of materials, on whose import the belligerents have imposed daily growing restrictions, the republic has exported on a scale which created credits acting

in support of the national currency, and enabling Switzerland to amass considerable quantities of securities. So as the tables and the chart appended to the bulletin show, the curves representing the relation of foreign to Swiss moneys are all descending. It is pointed out that, as Switzerland is a relatively small monetary reservoir, little causes may produce notable and rapid effects on the level of her exchanges.

Of the Allied currencies those of Italy and Russia have fared worst. Italy had no mass of securities to realize, but has been able to enlarge her exportations to Switzerland. The bulletin says the lire will be among the first to revive after the war, because the old temporary and periodical emigration will be resumed, tourists will pour in with gold, and exports of silk, wine, fruits, and so forth will take their old course.

PROSPECTS FOR THE ROUBLE.

The prospect of a restoration of the heavily depreciated rouble is much more remote. The bulletin acknowledges the great natural resources of Russia, which might lead to a development of exportation on a grand scale, provided security and regular work are re-established among a population diverted from its customary ways by revolution.

As regards Austro-Hungarian currency the bulletin has little to say. The suppression of bank returns obscures the situation and the expedient of centralizing dealings in exchange works haltingly. External operations are rare and the official quotations of the krone at home rarely correspond with those in neutral centres.

At an early stage Germany sought means of balancing the loss of her export trade by obtaining credits in neutral States and realizing her holdings of foreign securities. Her remaining exports, chiefly coal and iron, consistently decline as war needs grow at home. The commercial balance is against Germany with her neighbors, and in particular Germany becomes every month more deeply indebted to Switzerland. The establishment of a monopoly of exchange was of temporary service; "soon natural law asserted itself and the causes of depreciation not having disappeared, the influence of the monopoly was evanescent, for no arbitrary regulation of the market can produce or increase the indispensable instruments of exchange."

The exchanges of three neutral countries are discussed in the bulletin. It is observed that the Dutch florin was at a premium in Switzerland during 1915 and 1916, but is now at a discount, apparently temporary. It is asked whether this may be due to Holland importing more largely than Switzerland is able to do, or to her giving accommodation more freely to belligerents. In the absence of trustworthy data, the question is left unanswered.

The Swedish crown attained a premium of 17 per cent over Swiss currency in May, 1916, but did not long retain that elevation, though it remains over parity. On this the comment is that, as exemplified by timber, cellulose and minerals, Sweden has, more than other neutral States, been able to enlarge her exportation. Similarly, in the case of Spain, an improved commercial balance accounts for a favorable exchange, "and only political and social troubles can disturb the situation."

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L.,
President.

SIR JOHN AIRD, General Manager.
H. V. F. JONES, Assistant General Manager.

Capital Paid Up, \$15,000,000
Reserve Fund, - \$13,500,000

BANKING SERVICE

This Bank provides every facility for the prompt and efficient transaction of all kinds of banking business.

German Trade with Russia

Total trade between Germany and Russia in 1912 was \$525,432,600.

The subject of German competition in Russia after the war is discussed in the current issue of "The Americas." The value of German importations from Russia is given, and it is pointed out that the relationship between Germany and Russia after the war need not be as close as it was prior to 1914. The article says in part:

"The question as to what extent Germany will be a factor in Russia is being considered not only by the Russians themselves, but also by the representatives of foreign firms now in the country. This question is of immense importance to the United States.

Figures for 1912 from German official statistics show that Germany's total imports from all countries in the world for that year amounted to \$2,544,553,200. In the same year her total exports amounted to \$2,131,718,400. This makes a total foreign commerce for that year amounting to \$4,676,271,600.

"In 1912 the total interchange of commerce between the two countries amounted to \$525,432,600. It may safely be said that in July, 1914, immediately before the outbreak of war, Germany was carrying on one-tenth of her foreign commerce with Russia. An examination of the trade balances, however, shows a net amount in favor of Russia of \$191,847,800. In other words, Russia is actually more dependent upon Germany as a good customer than vice versa, and this will be one of the most powerful arguments in favor of the Germans very rapidly recovering their positions in the Russian markets after the war is over.

"The following table shows some of the leading products which Germany imported from Russia in 1912, the year which shows the trade relations of the two countries at their best:

Article.	Value.
Barley	\$75,541,200
Pine timber, sawed and logs	46,243,400
Wheat	22,586,200
Seeds	20,706,000
Ores	19,825,400
Eggs	16,303,000
Flax	14,660,800
Butter	12,875,800
Oats	12,875,800
Rye	8,829,800
Maize	7,449,400
Hogs	5,521,600
Bristles	4,807,600
Horses	4,593,400
Oils	3,879,400
Potatoes	3,427,200
Caviar	2,113,400
Benzene	2,094,400

This table shows that there is no other country in the world in a position to furnish Germany with the barley, timber and wheat which was supplied by Russia before the war.

"One of the great secrets in Germany's industrial development from 1871 to 1914 was the policy of drawing upon the whole world for supplies of food and raw materials for her peoples and factories. Only a nominal tariff was placed on certain things. The higher tariffs were always placed on imported manufactured articles.

"Regarding exports, the following table shows to what extent Germany sold manufactured goods to Russia in 1912; at least the principal articles:

Article.	Value.
Cloths, bleached and dyed	\$5,569,200
Leather, uppers	3,855,600

Automobiles	2,546,600
Electric lamps	2,261,000
Motors	2,142,000
Metal working machines	2,142,000
Glazed leather, all kinds	2,118,200
House and kitchen utensils	1,713,600
Sewing machines and parts	1,594,600
Iron plows	1,594,600
Superphosphates	1,569,800
Raw zinc	1,499,400
Woolen cloths	1,475,600
Electric lighting apparatus	1,285,200
Leather goods	1,237,600
Books	1,237,600
Chemicals	1,047,200
Copper and brass plated goods	991,600
Steam locomotives	904,400
Dyes	880,600
Printing machines	737,800

"These are the chief articles which Germany exports to Russia. With the exception of superphosphates, chemicals and dyes, there is not a single article which American manufacturers cannot place in Russia and successfully meet German competition.

"The American automobile, electrical machinery and apparatus, leather of every description, agricultural machinery, sewing machines, locomotives and printing machines should be able to hold their own in any case. Two great American industries manufacturing agricultural machinery and sewing machines have already built factories in Russia, which at the same time are acting as pioneers of home methods of business and technique.

"When the storms of war and revolution have spent themselves in Russia, and the country returns to normal conditions again, it is probable that a tariff of some kind will be adopted as a fiscal policy. Such a policy, however, will not make its influence felt as far as importations are concerned for many years to come. Such a tariff will be borne by the Russian consumer, and it will take a long time for the Russian laborer to become schooled to the use of complicated machinery and to the extensive skilled workmanship methods which characterize, for example, American industries. Therefore, no matter how high the tariff may be, either as a protection for home industries or as a means of state revenue, unlimited markets will present themselves, not only for the manufactured articles mentioned in the preceding table, but in many others as well. And it is also certain that the one-sided commercial treaty which existed between Russia and Germany at the outbreak of the war, which gave the kernel to Germany and the shell to Russia, will not be renewed when the time comes for the two countries to again adjust industrial and trade relations. And it may be said in this respect that a new treaty between America and Russia, based upon wise and equitable commercial reciprocity, is a thing now longed for by the business interests of both nations."

During the cross-examination of a young physician in a lawsuit, the plaintiff's lawyer made disagreeable remarks about the witness's youth and inexperience.

"You claim to be acquainted with the various symptoms attending concussion of the brain?" asked the lawyer.

"I do."

"We will take a concrete case," continued the lawyer. "If my learned friend, counsel for the defence, and myself were to hang our heads together, would he get concussion of the brain?"

The young physician smiled. "The probabilities are," he replied, "that the counsel for the defence would."—Boston Transcript.

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Reserve Fund - \$4,800,000

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Reserve Funds - \$14,300,000
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T. H. Purdom, K. C. Nathaniel Mills
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The Bank of Nova Scotia

DIVIDEND NO. 191.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of fourteen per cent. per annum on the paid-up Capital Stock of this Bank has been declared for the quarter ending September 30th, and that the same will be payable on and after Monday, the 1st day of October next, at any of the offices of the Bank. The Stock Transfer Book will be closed from the 17th to the 30th proximo, inclusive.

By order of the Board,
H. A. RICHARDSON,
General Manager.

Halifax, N.S., August 17th, 1917.



THE STANDARD BANK

OF CANADA
HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO

Money Orders and Drafts are issued by this Bank payable in all parts of the world.

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JAPAN EAGER FOR WORLD TRADE.

It is not fully recognized that Japan is gradually changing from an agricultural to an industrial country, and that in her new drive to win some of the foreign markets she has captured considerable of the business which was formerly held by this country, says the latest issue of "Industrial Conservation." Continuing, the article says: "The great expansion of her foreign trade since 1914 is shown by the official returns of her trade in 1916. During that year the total value of imports was 756,500,000 yen, being an increase of 224,000,000, while the exports for the same period amounted to 1,127,500,000 yen, being an increase of about 419,000,000 yen. The actual excess of exports over imports for the year was 371,000,000 yen, as compared with 170,000,000 yen for 1915.

"The changed position which has taken place since the beginning of the war may be seen from the fact that for the year 1914 there was actually an excess in the value of imports over exports of about 4,500,000 yen.

"Cotton manufacture is one of her principal industries, and the statistics show that the average number of spindles working daily in Japan in 1914 (the latest available year), was nearly 2,500,000. Wool manufacture was not carried on before the war to any great extent, but it has now received a considerable impetus, and Japanese factories are executing orders from the Russian Government.

"The production of iron and steel—both in Government and private works—has also been very considerable, the best iron ores being imported from China. Japan has some 600,000 tons of shipping now under construction, and the industry is in a flourishing condition. Her merchant marine consists of 2,170 steamers of 1,704,785 tons, and 9,187 sailing ships of 572,403 tons. Ocean-going steamers exceeding 1,000 tons number 448, with a total tonnage of 1,428,212. Thirty-nine ocean-going steamers of 140,236 tons were launched, from Japanese yards in 1916.

"It might be added that Japan is now investigating the possibility of using American cotton-spinning machinery in their mills. The extent of purchases already decided on is estimated at 200,000 spindles.

"How her credit stands may be seen from the fact that her 4½ per cent. loan is quoted on the London Stock Exchange at 91½, yielding at that price interest of nearly 5 per cent. Great Britain's 4½ per cent. loan is quoted at 92¼, so we see how the relative positions of the two countries have changed since 1914. Before that fateful time no one would have dreamed of comparing the two credits.

"Already Japanese manufacturers have quadrupled their exports to Australia. Ships which in the past averaged a cargo of 450 tons now bring to Sydney 2,500 tons. The Japanese have captured a great deal of the trade once firmly held by American, British, German and French exporters. In the silk market they have won the premier position, and Australian shops are now filled to overflowing with cheap Japanese silks.

The following Japanese goods are now sold with great success in the Australian market: Glasses, scientific instruments, silks, Panama hats, cottons, toys, insulators, electric light apparatus, camphor, sulphur oil, matches, basketware, rubber tires, bottles, porcelain."

CANADA'S IMPORTS FROM U. S. \$319,000,000 IN A YEAR.

The detailed figures of the foreign trade of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30th, show an increase of \$319,000,000 in the total of Canada's purchases in that country as compared with 1915-16. That is, we were buying at the rate of about \$26,500,000 more a month than in the previous year.

Washington's own details of American trade for the twelve months ending June 30th show Canada as the third largest purchaser of goods in the United States, and offer substantial reasons why Canada's occasional applications for credit arrangement merit favorable consideration. Great Britain again led, with a total of upwards of two billions, and France was second, with upwards of a billion. But at upwards of three-quarters of a billion dollars, Canada's total was 360 millions ahead of the country fourth in the list, namely, Russia-in-Europe.

Comparisons of American exports to the four leading customers of the United States for the last two fiscal years ending June 30th, show:

	1917.	1916.
Britain	\$2,047,545,843	\$1,526,685,102
France	1,011,529,095	628,851,988
Canada	787,529,729	468,784,798
Russia	428,284,663	178,694,800

CANADA'S GOLD PRODUCTION.

According to the Preliminary Report issued by the Dominion Department of Mines, the gold production for 1916 was the largest since 1902, amounting to 926,923 fine ounces valued at \$19,162,025, an increase of one per cent over 1915. Of this production the Hollinger Consolidated Mines contributed about 48 per cent and the Dome about 21 per cent.

The report shows that Ontario has been since 1914 the largest gold-producing province of Canada. For 1916 the production was 489,679 fine ounces valued at \$10,122,563, being 52.8 per cent of the total production for Canada and an increase of 20.4 per cent over that of 1915 and 82 per cent over the 1914 production.

Of the total 1916 production \$4,957,663 or 26 per cent were derived from placer and alluvial mining; \$10,472,723 or 54 per cent in bullion and refined gold and \$3,731,639 or 20 per cent, contained in matter, blister copper, residues and ores exported.

OTHER PROVINCES.

The production in Nova Scotia was about \$103,359 a decrease of 24.4 per cent from that of 1915, and was due to the water shortage which interfered seriously with the operations of the hydro-electric plants.

The production in Quebec is derived from the pyrites ores of the Eastern Townships. The gold content of these ores is very low, and is apart from a very small recovery of alluvial gold in Alberta no production is recorded from this province nor from Manitoba, or Saskatchewan.

The production in British Columbia was \$4,520,868 as against \$5,651,184 in 1915, a decrease of 20 per cent; this total includes \$575,000 estimated by the provincial mineralogist as being the output of placer mining, and \$3,945,000 recovered from milling and smelting operations.

The production from the Yukon Territory amounted to \$4,391,669, as against \$4,750,450 in 1915, a decrease of 7.5 per cent, and was derived from the alluvial deposits with the exception of about \$9,000 which was produced from the gold and copper ores of White Horse and the silver-lead ores of the Silver King mine near Mayo.

The exports of gold bearing dust, nuggets, gold in ore, etc., in 1916 are reported by the Customs Department as \$18,382,903.

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YOU LOOK FOR SECURITY

Whether with the intention of taking out insurance or associating yourself with some Company, you look for security.

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Assets over - - - - -	16,400,000
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The largest general Insurance Company in the World.

Capital Fully Subscribed	\$ 14,750,000
Capital Paid Up	1,475,000
Life Fund, and Special Trust Funds	76,591,535
Total Annual Income Exceeds	51,000,000
Total Funds Exceed	151,500,000
Total Fire Losses Paid	193,774,045
Deposit with Dominion Government	1,245,467

(As at 31st December, 1916.)
Head Office, Canadian Branch:
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J. MCGREGOR - Manager Canadian Branch.
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We teach a man the Insurance Business, which offers permanent success, does not fluctuate, is a professional occupation, and has been truly named "The best paid hard work in the world."

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When he is fully prepared for the work, we place him in a position and help him to make good.

The first two lessons of the Company's correspondence course will be sent to anyone interested. It will pay young men who desire to get on in the world to look into this.

All correspondence strictly confidential.

**CANADA LIFE
ASSURANCE COMPANY**
Head Office, Toronto.



THE INCOME TAX IN THE SENATE.

Some amendments, but no material change.

OTTAWA, September 4.

Amendments were made to the Income Tax Bill by the Senate, this afternoon.

The section defining the income that is subject to taxation was amended, so that taxable income is declared to be the "annual net profit" instead of the "annual profit" as in the original bill. Other amendments were made to the same clause to make it clear that while bequests and proceeds of life insurance policies were not to be regarded as income, the earnings of the bequests and the policies were income and subject to taxation.

Another amendment declares that in computing income the person taxed shall not be allowed to deduct the amount of personal or living expenses.

Senator Bostock moved that for each dependent child the taxpayer should have exemption of \$150. He stated that there was exemption for each child in England and France.

Sir James Loughheed replied that he could not accept the amendment. The amendments already made were of an explanatory nature, and did not affect the principle of the money bill. This amendment proposed to reduce the amount of the taxation which the Government and the House of Commons had agreed should be collected. Therefore, it altered the principle of the bill.

Senator Landry said that under the measure a married couple with no children would have \$3,000 exemption of income from taxation. The couple living next door with half a dozen children would have exactly the same exemption, no more and no less. He held that this was an immoral provision.

Senator Boyer said that in European countries, where there had been much experience with income taxation it had been found that neglecting to give special exemption for children had the effect of lowering the birth rate.

Senator Watson suggested that the exemption be given in favor of children and that the loss be made up by increasing the rate of taxation on large incomes.

Senator Domville suggested an exemption of 5 per cent. for each child.

Sir James Loughheed raised the point of order that the revenue provisions of the bill could not be altered by the Senate.

Chairman Sproule, acting as chairman of the committee, sustained the ruling.

Senator Bostock appealed to the Senate from the decision, which was sustained by 27 to 23.

The clause requiring employers to deduct the amount of the tax from the salaries of employees and pay only the "normal" tax. He stated that Sir James Loughheed, so that employers will deduct and pay only the "normal" tax. He stated that it would be impossible for employers to compute the amount of the super tax.

As amended the bill was reported.

1916 UNIVERSAL OUTPUT IN QUEBEC.

The annual report of the Mines Branch of the Department of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries, covering the calendar year ending December 31, 1916, has just been issued. The mineral production for the year 1916, amounted to a value of \$13,287,024, which is the highest ever recorded, being an increase of nearly \$200,000 over the previous year, 1915.

Besides the technical review of the mining operations the report goes fully into the statistics of accidents in mines, and the measures to be taken to prevent them. There has been a shortage of labor in the mines of the province which has been keenly felt and which has resulted in a very notable raise of the average wages.

The report also gives a full account of the results of an investigation of the mineral resources along the line of the Transcontinental Railway, between Hervey Junction and Doucet. The volume is carefully edited and well illustrated, and will be much appreciated by the public.

The geography lesson was about to begin, and the subject of it was France.

Accordingly, the teacher started off with the question: "Now in this present terrible war, who is our principal ally?"

"France," came the answer from a chorus of voices. "Quite right," said the teacher, beaming. "Now can any of you give me the name of a town in France?"

A small boy at the back of the class almost fell over in his eagerness to tell: "Somewhere," he said, breathlessly.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then"

Black—After getting all your money, did the mining company give any explanation for no dividends?

White—Yes; they wrote that they had been following a vein of humor!—The Lamb.

Woman (talking over telephone): "Send up a bale of hay."

Feed Merchant: "Who's it for?"

Woman: "Now, don't get fresh. It's for the horse."
—Judicious Advertising.

A rising young artist was showing a lady through his studio.

"This picture," he said, stopping before one of his early efforts, "is one I painted to keep the wolf from the door."

"Indeed!" replied the woman. "Then why don't you hang it on the knob where the wolf can see it?"

Military Inspecting Officer: "Now sergeant, what precautions do you take against infected water?"

Sergeant: "Well, sir, first we boil it."

Officer: "Good."

Sergeant: "Then we filter it."

Officer: "Excellent!"

Sergeant: "Then we drink beer!"—Tit-Bits.

There is a certain Brooklyn man who takes a great interest in his household. So the other day, just before he left his office, he telephoned to his wife to ask whether she wanted him to bring anything home.

"Yes," said the wife. "I wish you would stop and get some tea. And you might as well, while you're about it, get a set of china, too."

"China?" gasped the husband.

"Yes. Of course, we've got some, but cook says there's not enough to last the week out."—Harper's magazine.

A story is going the rounds concerning the inquiry in London into the best method of checking extravagance in restaurants and hotels, says Pearson's Weekly.

Among the witnesses before the committee was a certain stolid-looking waiter. The particular article of food under discussion at the moment happened to be margarine, and one of the members asked incidentally:

"How do you call it in the restaurant business—'margarine' or 'marjorine'?"

"Neither, sir," blandly replied the waiter; "we call it butter!"

Little red-headed Mike Casey got a job as office boy for the president of a large western railway. After he had been upon the job several days they gave him a form to fill out with his "personal record." When young Mike came to a particular paragraph that said, "Have you any visible marks for identification in case of accident or death?" he rose from his chair and rushed over to a mirror near by, to give himself a general inspection. Then he returned to his task and wrote as his answer to this personal query, "Nothing except freckles."

A policeman, with more than usual avoirdupois and expanse of shoe leather, had just passed a little terrace, with a bit of garden in front, when a small boy ran after him.

"Halloa, kiddie!" said the arm of the law, genially, "what can I do for you?"

"Mother sent me out," answered the youngster, "to ask you if you would mind walking up and down our path for a minute or two. It's just been gravelled, and we ain't got a roller."—Good Jests.

"The Carnegie Foundation's recent resolution to the effect that the only way to insure a permanent world peace is to crush Germany," said Capt. W. E. Dame of the Rough Riders, in his New York office, "reminds me of the stocky, well-dressed chap in the police station.

"A big, burly drunk had been brought in on a stretcher, and the sergeant said to the stocky chap rather sternly:

"What have you got to say for yourself?"

"Sergeant," said the stocky chap, "have merely been acting the part of a peacemaker."

"But, good gracious," said the sergeant, "you broke six of this man's ribs."

"It was the only way," said the stocky chap, "to get peace."—Washington Star.

LUMBER, PULP AND PAPER

What Birds are Worth to Forests

One hundred million dollars is estimated insect injury yearly to field and forest.

By W. C. J. HALL, Quebec, in Canadian Forestry Journal.

Canada has a formidable contract confronting her since the passing of the treaty signed by Great Britain (acting for us) and the United States regarding the protection of migratory birds in North America. It should not be necessary to have a treaty at all, because it is in the direct interest of every man, woman and child that bird life should be fully protected, but unfortunately legislation and treaties are necessary owing to the fact that we all have been shamefully neglectful of our own interests, and in very many cases ignorant of them.

To demonstrate the necessity of bird life, one must first of all show what would happen if we had no birds. The foremost statisticians of the United States have stated over their signatures that if we had no bird life, no forests would exist on the North American continent in twelve years. If then the forests were thus obliterated by the onslaught of insects, owing to the absence of bird life, what would become of us? Naturally man also would become extinct and that very rapidly.

As things stand at present, the best informed statisticians affirm that the annual loss in the United States to field and forest crops is one billion dollars; in the Dominion, the loss is estimated at one hundred millions annually, all owing to injurious insects.

The only agency we have to check the devastations of the insects is the birds. A man can spray his trees in an orchard, or his potato crop in the garden, but if he is confronted with the task of looking to the whole of his farm in the same way, what could he do? Nothing! The case would be one of surrendering. Then take the forests, could any government undertake to spray the forests? I trow not. The only way to preserve the balance of nature and let humanity survive, is to protect the birds and let them do the work. They charge nothing for it, it is their daily work, from morning to night. Some varieties of birds can and do consume their own weight of insects daily. With very few exceptions, they are all useful in one way or another, and it is our direct and vital interest to see that they are not killed, captured, or even molested.

Any person versed in ornithology will admit that birds take a toll of fruit, but compare the good they do with the small amount of depredations they commit. It is about in the same proportion to the damage done to field crops by the red deer and moose; they kept a record one year in Maine and established that some fifty dollars worth of crops were damaged by these animals. That is the proper point of view to look at the matter from.

EACH ROBIN WORTH \$10.

Much as our existence depends upon bird life, still a large percentage of us are busily at work destroying the birds and especially our alien population. These latter come from all parts of Europe, and finding they can carry arms without let or hindrance, they sally forth and shoot anything and everything. Massachusetts has just passed a law prohibiting aliens from carrying arms in the State. In New Jersey no one is permitted to use anything in the shape of an arm, except the double barreled gun. They conclude that anyone so armed is sufficiently equipped for sport, and does not need pump-guns, repeaters, or automatics. But the aliens are not the only offenders; far too many of our young people destroy insectivorous birds. It is estimated that each robin is worth ten dollars annually to the country, so when a young fellow goes out and kills fifty odd of these birds one can easily calculate the great work he did on that day. In the United States Dr. Hornaday, the best authority, asserts that apart from the grown up population who use arms, each twelve months sees at least 500,000 young men mature and go out shooting; will any sane person claim that under such conditions there is a fair chance of bird life surviving in sufficient quantity to hold in check the operations of injurious insects. In my opinion, it would be a good investment for the Dominion Government to buy wholesale Dr. Hornaday's work, entitled "Our Vanishing Wild Life," and distribute it gratis to people in our towns and country places, as a preliminary educational measure to the masses.

A MONUMENT TO A BIRD.

It would be easy to quote many instances of the tremendous utility of insectivorous birds in America, and on the other Continents, but just one will suffice for my purpose: In the State of Utah, near the Great Salt lake, the black crickets arrived for three years running and utterly destroyed the grain crops. The people had to buy grain in neighboring States and fortunately could do so. The black headed gull made its appearance, found the crickets to its liking, and in a short space of time freed the country of the pest. The population have erected, or are about to erect, a monument to the bird which saved them from starving.

It is in the forest that the birds are of most inestimable value; they are the great and only agency which keeps in check the gypsy-moth, the bud-worm, the larch fly, the brown-tail, etc., etc. The parasite does good work too, but cannot compare in efficiency with the birds. Disease will not exterminate injurious insects, nor will the parasite, animals cannot do it, man cannot do it, there is no force in nature which can control the insect world but the birds; they are the most indispensable balancing force of nature.

BIRD LIFE AND FORESTS.

It will be well for the Conservation Commission to take this subject up warmly, start a crusade for bird protection. They would find very able assistants in the women of the country. It would only be necessary to give one or two lectures in each town, city, or village, to enlist their services and start a branch society for bird protection. This action would ensure a fair measure of protection in such places and their environs. The farmers should be interviewed and their true interests explained, they would look after that section of the country. There remains the forests—I wonder how many of our lumbermen have given any study to bird life and realize what it means; it must be a small percentage. Their efforts are confined to trying to keep fire out of their holdings, they have thought little of the insects and the birds. It is time they awakened to the true situation and lent their assistance to bird protection, thus helping themselves at an absolutely minimum outlay, for their fire rangers could placard the outskirts of their forests, and thus help to a very great extent.

FIRE AND INSECTS.

As between the damage done by fire and the insects let us see what figures tell us, and for this purpose let us take the Dominion only. We are told on the best authority that one hundred million dollars of damage is done annually to field and forest crops—well, for the sake of argument let us at one fell swoop assume that the figures are wrong, that only 50 per cent of it is the correct amount, viz.:—fifty million dollars, then let us assume that field crops are one half of this total, or twenty-five millions—let us proceed and cut the thing in half again and get down to 12½ millions. Without in the least asserting that the calculations of our exports are wrong, let us figure on the 12½ million basis, surely this is conservative. If we can assist in conserving such an amount, or the major part of it, we are assisting materially in conservation of the forests. And how? Simply by leaving our feathered friends unmolested; we do not have to expend one dollar. The task should not be hard.

Jas. Buckland in concluding his pamphlet on "The Value of Birds to Man," says as follows:—"It is the nature of infamies, as well as of disease whose progress is not checked, to daily grow worse; and if the present day wasteful and depraved practice of denuding the world of one of its most valuable natural resources is not checked, then will be wrought a mischief, a universal disaster more awful in its results than words can express."

With the great war going on and the food being one of the most serious problems confronting the whole world, each and every one can help by protecting the birds, thereby protecting the crops and forests, and thus doing a "little" bit even if they do not go to the front. There is no time to lose if we want to see birds in sufficient quantity in the near future, and the present time is very opportune to take up the duty, for no other word than "duty" can express the situation.

PAPER BOX MEN STRIKE.

Ten thousand employees of 225 paper box factories in New York are reported on strike following refusal to consider demands for increased pay, reorganization of working hours and recognition of the workers' union.

FOREST EXHAUSTION IN CANADA

Senator W. C. Edwards, speaking in the Senate a few days ago on the subject of our forest resources, said in part:

"I do not hesitate to make the statement that every province in the Dominion of Canada far over-estimates its resources in this respect. There are many in Canada who even to-day believe that our resources in this respect are inexhaustible and that it will only be a question of time until the United States will be exhausted of lumber and will have to turn to Canada for a supply. This idea, I assure you, is absolutely incorrect. The United States has as great a supply of lumber relatively to her wants as Canada has, and the total quantity of standing timber in Canada would not supply the wants of the United States for more than eight years. Canada was once a comparatively rich country in this resource, but bush fires and unwise administration of our timber resources on the part of the various provinces have brought about the unfortunate result I have named.

PULPWOOD IN DANGER.

In pulpwood we are considerably stronger than in timber for lumber manufacturing—of this there is no question; but, if our pulpwood resources are no better administered than our lumber resources have been in former years, they too will become exhausted much more rapidly than is at present anticipated.

BAD SETTLEMENT POLICY.

I would ask honorable gentlemen who travel through this country from Halifax to Ottawa, or farther west, just to observe as they pass over the various streams the logs that are being sawn to-day; for I assure you, honorable gentlemen, that the logs being sawn to-day in most of the mills in eastern Canada are such as were left in the woods twenty-five years ago, and I do warn the various provinces of this Dominion that, if we do not take care of our resources in this respect, the lumber trade of Canada, except west of the Rockies, will in a comparatively short time be a thing of the past. A stage was reached several years ago in the lumber industry, making it the continuous aim and object of every lumberman to conserve his resources in this respect; but they have not been supported by the administrators of the various provinces. Considerable portions of country are each year being sold for settlement where the object is not settlement but to obtain cheap lumber, on the part of illicit settlers and a certain class of lumbermen. To give evidence of this I could show to any one who would accompany me, say fifty miles from this city, in one single district from fifty to sixty farms once occupied by pretended settlers, but now, as all the timber is cut off, will have no settlers whatever. This condition of affairs, I assure honorable gentlemen, has been most serious in so far as the timber resources of eastern Canada are concerned.

EXAGGERATED VALUES.

In making the statements I do relative to our timber resources I do not want to pretend that we have not still timber resources of very considerable value, but I do contend that they are not nearly of the value which the average Canadian believes. With regard to the destruction of these resources, I quite admit that the provinces are not all equally guilty. In so far as fire protection is concerned, the provinces of Quebec and British Columbia have made the greatest strides in improvement in recent years."

OUR PULP FORESTS.

The Manager of Eastern Lands of the Canadian Northern Railway has just returned from a trip through Northern Ontario and says that he believes that there are tributary to the present railways and waterways leading to them, 250,000,000 cords of spruce pulpwood in Ontario and 350,000,000 cords in Quebec. He says that it is useless to consider timber north of the Transcontinental Railway, as the rivers, run north, and only a small portion could be brought up-stream by building dams which would enable the wood to be towed back.

WOODEN SILOS.

The silo originated in the southern part of Europe somewhat previous to 1845, and there are five or six still standing, have done constant service and are made of wood.

GUIDE TO INVESTORS

CANADIAN STOCKS

Quotations of Listed Securities on the Montreal Stock Exchange-

COMPANY.	Shares par Value.	CAPITAL. Issued.	DIVIDEND PER CENT. Present.	When payable.	1914.		1915.		1916.		1917.	
					High.	Low.	High.	Low.	High.	Low.	High.	Low.
Ames-Holten	100	\$2,500,000	..	..	15	23	..	..	..	..	23 1/2	14
Ames-Holten, pfd.	100	2,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23 1/2	14
Abestos Cor. of Can.	100	3,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	14
Abestos Cor. of Can., pfd.	100	4,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150	42
Bell Telephone	100	18,000,000	2	h.y.	150	140	159	140	60	53	150	136 1/2
B. C. Fishing	100	4,187,400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	43
Brazilian Tractor	100	106,600,000	1 x 1/4	..	92	54	59 1/2	54	62 1/2	48	47 1/2	37 1/2
Brompton Pulp	100	7,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	45
Calgary Power	100	1,850,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	165	116
Can. Pacific Ry.	100	260,000,000	2 1/2	..	219 1/2	173 1/2	133 1/2	142	182 1/2	165	165	146 1/2
Can. Car & Fdy.	100	4,225,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84	25 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	7,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63	89
Canada Cement	100	13,500,000	1 1/2	..	109 1/2	98	126	98	101	63	37 1/2	69
Canada Cement, pfd.	100	10,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	67
Can. Converters	100	1,733,500	1 1/2	..	93	88	92	90 1/2	98	90 1/2	95 1/2	40
Can. Con. Rubber	100	2,305,500	1 p.c.	..	40	34	34	..	..	..	100	97 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	3,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	97	97
Can. Cottons	100	2,715,500	1 1/2	..	97	97	101	100	97	97	70	56
Do., pfd.	100	3,661,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	80
Can. Fur Banks, pfd.	100	1,500,000	1 1/2	..	92	92	..	..	..	..	205	77
Can. Fds. & Forgings	100	860,000	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85	84
Do., pfd.	100	100,000	1 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	114 1/2	101
Can. Gen. Electric	100	8,000,000	..	..	110	91	132	91	125 1/2	108 1/2	114 1/2	59 1/2
Can. Locomotive	100	2,000,000	1 1/2	..	53	53	64 1/2	36	67 1/2	51	60	..
Do., pfd.	100	1,500,000	..	..	90 1/2	86	82	78	85	15 1/2	40	28 1/2
Canada Steamships	100	5,745,000	..	..	18	10	..	..	..	..	14	3 1/2
Do., Voting Trust	100	6,255,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	77 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	12,500,000	1 1/2	..	75 1/2	59 1/2	76	59	95 1/2	70	93 1/2	9
Carriage Factories	100	1,200,000	3 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	25
Do., pfd.	100	1,200,800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	70
Civic Power	100	63,696,100	2 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83 1/2	82 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	10,534,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28 1/2	30
Con. M. & Smel. 1916	25	1,999,957	5	..	1.95	1.00	..	..	..	..	60	22 1/2
Crown Reserve	100	2,752,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	23
Do., pfd.	100	2,290,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	123	106
Detroit United Railway	100	12,500,000	2 1/2	..	73 1/2	62	73	62	123 1/2	69 1/2	128	106
Dominion Bridge	100	6,500,000	3 1/2	..	122 1/2	107	237	107	231 1/2	160	170	125
Do., pfd.	100	3,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98	92
Dom. Coal, pfd.	100	5,000,000	3 1/2	..	93 1/2	68	96	73	105	92	95	64 1/2
Dom. Iron and Steel, pfd.	100	10,534,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	52 1/2
Dom. Steel Corporation	100	37,097,700	..	..	125	120	125	120	82	42	71 1/2	..
Dominion Park	100	400,000	1 1/2	..	86 1/2	64	77	64	90 1/2	74	89	76 1/2
Dominion Textile	100	5,000,000	1 1/2	..	105	100	107	..	105	100 1/2	105	99 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	1,925,975	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dom. Textile, pfd.	100	3,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43 1/2	41
Durham Superior	100	1,750,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	..
Goodwins	100	1,250,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	..
Goodwins, pfd.	100	1,400,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	185	160
Halifax Electric	5	3,000,000	4	..	19.25	15.25	29.00	22.50	30.25	25.25	..	68
Hollinger	100	833,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	73	68
Howard Smith	100	475,000	1 1/2	..	60	..	..	..	..	..	44	87
Do., pfd.	100	12,252,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87 1/2	83
Illinois Traction	100	2,100,000	2	..	135	127	137	129	136 1/2	126	130	125
Lake Woods Mill	100	1,500,000	1 1/2	..	120	115	120	116	128	116	195	170
Do., pfd.	100	9,600,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	176	170
Laurentide	100	1,750,000	1 1/2	..	193 1/2	160	198	160	217 1/2	176	195	170
Lxall Construction	100	1,750,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	84
Mackay Co.	100	41,839,400	1 1/2	..	86 1/2	75 1/2	84	75 1/2	89	79	88	81 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	50,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65 1/2	96
Maple Leaf Milling	100	2,500,000	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	122 1/2	144 1/2
Do., pfd.	100	2,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	58 1/2
Montreal Cottons	100	3,000,000	1 1/2	..	103	97 1/2	99 1/2	99	103	99	102	100
Do., pfd.	100	600,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	175	165
Mont. Loan and Mtg.	25	2,000,000	2 1/2	..	175	175	175	175	175	165	165	162 1/2
Montreal Telegraph	100	4,000,000	2 1/2	..	140	134	140	136	136	135	180	..
Montreal Tramway	100	16,000,000	2 1/2	..	230	192	220	180	200	180	180	72
Do., Tram d.b.	100	2,254,300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	77
National Breweries	100	2,775,000	3 1/2	..	95	95	107 1/2	95	107 1/2	92	126	88
Do., pfd.	100	7,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110	105
N. S. Steel & Coal	100	1,030,000	2 plus 5	..	5.97	5.97	125	110	110	110	112	105
Do., pfd.	100	6,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.00	..
Nipissing Mines	5	2,500,000	2 plus 4	..	123	107	144	107	152	123	150	137
Ogilvie Flour	100	2,000,000	1 1/2	..	117	111 1/2	113	113	116	112	114	110
Ont. Steel Products	100	750,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	21
Do., pfd.	100	750,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	19
Ottawa Power	100	3,434,400	1 1/2	..	171 1/2	139 1/2	174 1/2	127 1/2	174 1/2	120	93	80
Peimans	100	2,150,600	1 plus 1	..	55 1/2	48	63	49	78	59 1/2	73	69
Do., pfd.	100	1,075,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	80
Porto Rico Ry.	100	3,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	36
Price Bros.	100	5,000,000	1 1/2	..	70	46	46	..	..	..	131	36
Quebec Railway	100	9,099,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	120
Riordon P. & P. com.	100	4,500,000	1 1/2	..	16%	..	..	..	..	..	45	35
Riordon P. & P. pfd.	100	1,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150	127
Russell Motor	100	800,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96	94
Do., pfd.	100	1,200,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sawyer-Massey	100	1,500,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31 1/2	30
Do., pfd.	100	14,973,750	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76	69 1/2
Shawinigan	100	4,000,000	1 1/2	..	142 1/2	110	139 1/2	110	137	128	130 1/2	119
Sherrin Williams	100	3,000,000	1 1/2	..	60 1/2	53	65	55	69	54 1/2	59	56
Do., pfd.	100	1,718,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	97 1/2	99
Smart Woods	100	1,546,500	1 1/2	..	20	20	45	28	57	33 1/2	55	43
Do., pfd.	100	8,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	80
Spanish River, pfd.	100	3,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31 1/2	19
Spanish River, pfd.	100	2,699,100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	50
Steel Co. of Can.	100	11,500,000	1 plus 1/2	..	20	12 1/2	..	..	..	..	69 1/2	52
Do., pfd.	100	6,426,300	88	71 1/2
Toronto Railway	100	12,000,000	2	..	144 1/2	11	95	69 1/2	107 1/2			

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News of the Week

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Riga, Russia's principal battle port, has been abandoned to the Germans.

Russo-Roumanian armies are stubbornly resisting all the Teuton attempts from the south and west, and are repeatedly counter attacking them, on the Roumanian front.

Five thousand Italian workmen have followed the victorious Italian army on the Isonzo front, mending roads and transforming the conquered territory.

The Italians make further advance in the district south of Goritz.

German airplanes make another raid over the southeast coast of England. No losses reported.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

German airmen again raid England bombing points on the coast as well as the London district.

Canadians advance on 600 yard front of a depth of 250 yards.

A French report declares that Western Flanders is being evacuated as far as the line of Courtrai-Thournt to the east of Ypres and Dixmude.

30 Italian airplanes fly over Pola, the Austrian naval port bombarding the enemy's fleet and military works.

Twenty-one Norse ships were destroyed during the month of August.

Over 100 were killed in the region of Chatham, England, by enemy air raiders.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.

Italian troops have captured Monte San Gabrielle with nearly 1,000 prisoners, which gives domination of the Goritz area. The battle on the Bainsizza Plateau has been resumed.

Eleven people were killed, sixty-two injured and one foe raider was brought down in the last German airplane raid over England, in the course of which bombs were dropped over London.

On the Roumanian front the Russo-Roumanian Armies are not only still holding their own, but by counter-attacks have recaptured some fortified heights recently taken by the enemy.

British aviators have bombarded Adrianople and other interior points in Turkey.

On the West front aerial fighting is also reported at widely scattered points.

The French report a successful attack in the Champagne, though apparently on a small scale, and the repulse of a German attack on the Casemates Plateau on the Aisne.

The British do not report anything more than raiding by both sides. Reports that the Germans are preparing to retreat on a considerable front persist, but have not yet been confirmed by any of the official statements.

In East Africa Anglo-Belgian Columns have joined hands, and the rounding up of the enemy continues, 400 Germans having surrendered at one point to colored South African troops of the British forces.

A big Romanoff conspiracy was nipped by arrests. Enemy depots in Belgium were raided by British airplanes.

General Haig's airplanes are reported to be paving the way for a new drive in Flanders.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

Canadian troops have made further advances around Lens.

Desperate fighting between the Italians and Austrians still continues in the neighborhood of Monte San Gabrielle.

A German fleet has appeared in the Gulf of Riga, according to Petrograd advices, and it is thought that attempts may be made on the ports of Reval and Kronstadt. Grave doubt is entertained as to the stability of the Russian Baltic fleet, which, it is said, with the fortress of Kronstadt, is controlled by an element that would sooner hand over the fleet and the stronghold to the Germans than fight.

Some fighting is taking place in Macedonia. Around Lake Doiran the British have repulsed a number of attacks by the Bulgarians, and have taken prisoners. Recent despatches say that the Italian forces are evacuating portions of southern Albania, which have now been recognized as being within the sphere of Greek influence.

Canada's fourth domestic war loan will be floated in November and will probably be for \$100,000,000.

The people of Brussels refused to be en fete on the occasion of the Kaiser's visit.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

Austrians are on the defensive in the Goritz region. Austrians are making desperate efforts to push Italians back from the Carso.

The struggle for Lens continues to be bitterly

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waged.

French and British aviators are bombing German positions of a military nature at many points near and far behind the front lines.

There are no new developments on the Russian front.

The Ribot Ministry in France decided to resign to solve the Cabinet problem.

Samuel Gompers was elected at Minneapolis to head the anti-pacifist organization.

The "peace" Mayor of Chicago has sued papers there for amounts aggregating \$1,600,000.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

The Swedish Legation at Buenos Aires is accused of sending military and other unneutral information to Germany under cover of the Swedish diplomatic cipher code by way of Argentina.

Germans are defeated by British and Belgian troops all along the line in German East Africa.

The Finnish Senate has drafted a bill for the definite separation of Finland from Russia.

7,000 freight handlers and checking clerks of the Rock Island Missouri, Kansas and Texas and Missouri Pacific railroads go out on strike.

\$19,038,000 IN NEW U. S. SHIP FIRMS.

The amount of capital stock authorized in the organization of shipping and shipbuilding enterprises last month in the U. S. was \$19,038,000, which compares with \$19,020,000 in July. The total is below the figures for February, April, May and June of this year, activity reaching a maximum in June, when the authorized capital of new shipping and shipbuilding companies was \$84,025,000, but is well above the monthly average for preceding years of the war.

The authorized capital of shipping and shipbuilding companies started during the first eight months of 1917 is \$245,193,000. The extent of the increase which this represents is indicated by comparison with the figures for other war years. In 1915 the authorized capital of similar companies was only \$37,662,000, and during the twelve months of 1916 only \$69,466,000. During the first thirty-seven months of war the indicated investment in shipbuilding and shipping in the United States has been \$354,165,000, of which the 1917 total represents almost 70 per cent.

The following table shows the total capitalization by months so far this year, divided between the builders and operators of vessels:

	CAPITAL STOCK AUTHORIZED.		
	Total	Shipbuilding.	Other Shipping.
January	\$2,175,000	\$ 225,000	\$2,250,000
February	30,525,000	18,050,000	12,475,000
March	13,225,000	3,125,000	10,100,000
April	29,395,000	15,500,000	13,895,000
May	47,490,000	42,840,000	4,650,000
June	84,025,000	75,525,000	8,500,000
July	19,020,000	11,700,000	7,280,000
August	19,038,000	11,085,000	7,943,000
	\$245,193,000	\$178,050,000	\$67,093,000

NEW STEAMSHIP LINE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND CHILEAN PORT.

The announcement by the Shipping Board of the establishment of a rapid freight and passenger service between New York and Valparaiso, Chile, represents the partial fulfillment of one of the most important purposes of the International High Commission, formed as a result of the Pan American Financial Conference of 1915. Adequate means of communication between the United States and Latin America was one of the leading questions discussed at the conference. One of the duties entrusted to this commission is the encouragement of steamship and railway communication between the Republics of America.

It is important to bear in mind that the establishment of this service is of interest to the Argentine as well as to the west coast countries. With an 18-day service to Valparaiso it will be possible to reach Buenos Aires from New York in less than 20 days. This will involve using the Trans-Andean Railway from Valparaiso to Buenos Aires; a trip of about 40 hours. It is understood that the sailings of these vessels will alternate with those of the regular fortnightly line from New York to Buenos Aires. This will mean, therefore, that there will be a weekly service between New York and Buenos Aires.

In establishing this service the Shipping Board has set a new standard in transportation facilities between the United States and South America. With such a far-seeing and statesmanlike policy we are likely to witness within the next few years a rapid improvement in the means of communication with all parts of South America. Not only will our commercial relations with these countries be improved thereby, but it will also mean a new era in the development of our intellectual and cultural relations with those countries.

The establishment of the new service between New York and west coast countries has been the occasion of congratulatory cablegrams between the Secretary of the Treasury and the high commissions of Chile, Argentine, Peru and Panama.

RUSSIA NEEDS LOCOMOTIVES.

Daniel Willard, of the United States Council of National Defence, says arrangements have been made to send 1,000 locomotives to Russia by February. An equal number may be sent to France and England. Mr. Willard claims that adequate rolling stock supply for Russia will be equivalent to 1,000,000 American troops on the western frontier.

SMALL OR LARGE SHIPS?**Difference of opinion in New York shipping trade.**

Local shipping interests are divided quite as sharply in their opinions on the relative advantages of the large and small ship to meet the emergency requirements of the war situation as on the merits of wooden and steel tonnage, says the New York Journal of Commerce.

The difference of opinion has not yet reached the controversial stage which marked the wooden-steel ship discussions and no open breach is expected, as the delay which this would cause is generally held to be counter to the interests of the Allies. Notwithstanding information gained in interviews with leading shipping men indicates that both sides are urging their arguments upon the Shipping Board.

Details of the Government's shipping programme, so far as announced to date, are looked upon as showing that the authorities in charge at Washington have decided upon a middle course. In its estimates of construction costs furnished in connection with its application for increased appropriations, the Emergency Fleet Corporation supplied the following data:

Contracts already let, 433 ships of 1,919,200 tons.
Contracts ready to let, 452 ships of 2,968,000 tons.
Under negotiation, 237 ships of 1,281,000 tons.
Miscellaneous, 150 ships of 1,800,000 tons.
The average tonnage of ships the contracts for which have been let is seen to be 4,432 tons; of ships, the contracts for which were ready to let at the time of announcement, 6,566 tons; for ships under negotiation, 5,405 tons, and for the 150 miscellaneous ships, 12,000 tons.

WHY LARGE SHIPS ARE FAVORED.

Those who favor the construction of cargo ships of more than 7,500 tons and are loud in decrying the building of 3,000-ton ships are, almost without exception, opposed to including in the Government's programme any wooden units, the size of which is restricted by the nature of material used. On the other hand, many who approve the smaller vessels are against the use of wood on the grounds that it is not a suitable material.

"All the energy of the nation's shipyards should be devoted to ships of not less than 5,000 tons each, the larger sizes being preferable," said a representative of a prominent shipbuilding company. "Two things are of first importance in overcoming the submarine menace: (1) an increase in cargo carrying capacity; (2) the construction of speedy ships. Vessels of 2,500 or 3,000 tons will not increase the cargo capacity as rapidly or as economically as larger ships, and their speed cannot be developed in the same degree.

"The following data, which I have worked out leave, I think, no room for doubt. In turning out 81,000 tons of shipping, it is possible to build either twenty-seven 3,000 ton vessels or nine ships of 9,000 tons each. The latter, when completed, will carry almost 15,000 more tons of cargo than the twenty-seven smaller steamers. At any time during the period of construction the cargo-carrying capacity of the 9,000 ton vessels finished will exceed that of the 3,000 ton ships, the time required for construction being almost identical. The larger units, if properly equipped, will move much more rapidly, even though the engines installed on the 3,000 ton ships insure the highest rate of speed possible for them.

MEN AND FUEL REQUIRED.

"The fleet of twenty-seven boats would require many more men to handle than the fleet of nine. This is a highly important consideration in view of the fact that one of the most difficult of the country's problems is to obtain crews to man its ships. Then, there is the item of fuel. The larger vessels would make a relatively small demand upon the coal or oil supply as compared with the 3,000-ton ships. An additional factor would be the difference in cost of equipment, favoring the nine steamers.

"Some complaint has been heard because the Shipping Board has delayed placing contracts with the Great Lakes yards for ships that would not be larger than 2,500 or 3,000 tons. Such vessels would, in my opinion, be practically useless at the present time, and the material that would be required in their construction could be much better applied to other purposes. Let the Great Lakes yards build for the lakes trade; there is an important demand for tonnage to be met there.

"Entirely aside from the war situation is the fact that 3,000-ton vessels, constructed in great numbers, would be a dead loss to the United States after the war, when they would be economically unprofitable. While this argument would not be con-

PANAMA CANAL APPROACHES ON WAR BASIS.

Approaches to the Panama Canal have been placed on a war basis by executive order. Defensive areas extending far out have been defined, and strict rules made to govern the movement of ships within those areas beyond both terminals of the canal. No ship other than a public vessel of the United States may cross the forbidden waters between sunset and sunrise.

Early in the war defensive areas about almost all ports along the American coasts were defined, but until now there has been imposed no unusual restriction on navigation near the canal.

considerable if the small ships could be employed advantageously now, it is important in conjunction with the fact that they are of relatively little use to day."

ENGLAND BUILDING 3,000-TON VESSELS.

In connection with reports from Washington that the wooden shipbuilding plans were about to be abandoned, shipping men see in the estimates of the Emergency Corporation a sign that this is no new proposition. The average tonnage of ships, for which contracts are ready to be placed or under negotiation, shows, they say, that few wooden vessels were included in the plans.

Advocates of the smaller vessels take the position that not to build small ships as well as large would constitute failure to utilize all available facilities and would neglect an important opportunity for increasing the tonnage output. They also point out that the number of ships and the wide distribution of cargo is desirable, because the loss of one large ship would be heavy, while the sinking of a small freighter, representing the expenditure of similar effort by the U-boat, would be insignificant and easily offset by new construction.

Attention was called to Great Britain's decision. The British shipbuilding plans, inaugurated last winter, call for the construction of three standard types of vessels, of 3,000, 5,000 and 8,000 tons deadweight, respectively. An argument in favor of ships of small tonnage which carried weight in the British discussions was their ability to enter harbors of all sizes and conditions. Opponents of the small ships say that this contention loses force here, as most of the American ships will be employed in transatlantic trading between United States and Allied ports able to accommodate vessels of large size.

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Japanese Trade

Decline in some lines—Shipbuilding—Abundance of Gold.

Japanese commerce, which enjoyed a phenomenal increase during the first half of the present year, has been experiencing a somewhat remarkable decline in the second half, due chiefly to abnormal prices and freight congestion, says the Tokio correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce. During the first ten days of August, for example, exports totalled 40,878,000 yen, and imports 23,733,000 yen, leaving a favorable balance of 17,145,000 yen; but, while the balance is 12,934,000 yen above the corresponding period of last year, it yet represents a total decline of 25 per cent in general trade for the present year. The aggregate result of the past seven months as compared with the same period last year may be indicated as follows:

	Yen.	
	1917.	1916.
Exports	888,305,000	297,067,000
Imports	549,415,000	89,063,000

This shows that the year's net gain for Japan so far has been 338,890 yen.

The decrease in exports is for the most part in raw silk and copper, which the increased trade in cotton textiles and refined sugar could not offset. It is worthy of notice that raw silk soared beyond all expectations and checked foreign purchase. Copper was in great demand abroad, but lack of adequate tonnage and the disorder in Russia retarded exports of the metal from Japan.

Though the figure for imports shows an increase of 6,395,000 yen over the corresponding period of last year, it nevertheless represents a decline of 23 per cent, as compared with the preceding ten days of August this year. Urgent as extended exports may seem to Japan, this falling off in imports is of far more importance, since it means the impossibility of securing sufficient raw materials for industry.

WEAVERS FEEL WOOL SHORTAGE.

The most important reductions were witnessed in wool, iron bars, rods and other raw materials, only hemp and sugar having registered a fractional increase. Since the commandeering of Australian wool by the British Government, Japan has been largely dependent on the South African clip, but now the wool crop there is wanted in England, and the inconvenience to Japanese weavers will be very great.

In a similar way the progress of Japanese shipbuilding is being hindered by the ban on exports of steel in the United States. A deputation of shipbuilders has been dispatched to America to see if something cannot be done to keep the Japanese yards going, but the results do not appear hopeful as yet. The seriousness of the situation will be apparent when it is remembered that the shipbuilding industry has undergone great development during the last two years, some seventeen new dockyards having been opened. In 1915 Japan constructed only 50,000 tons of shipping; last year she launched 108,000 tons, and this year, if she can secure the necessary material, she will launch some 500,000 tons, a good part of which is to British order. Charter rates are still increasing, 40 yen per ton being now demanded, and for new hulls 900 yen a ton. A vessel of 1,600 tons has recently been sold for 1,250,000 yen.

Japanese shoe men have recently concluded an order with Russia for 700,000 pairs of army boots at \$9.50 a pair, payment to be made by issue of Russian treasury bills in Japan. The output and export of chlorate of potash continues at a remarkable rate, some 8,000 barrels having left Yokohama since the first of the year, chiefly to America, China and Hong Kong, at about 70 yen a barrel.

GOLD HOLDINGS INCREASE.

Financially Japan continues to prosper to an unprecedented degree. Gold specie has now reached the enormous figure of 924,000,000 yen, of which 373,000,000 yen is being held at home and 551,000,000 abroad. Of this sum 318,000,000 yen belong to the Government, and 601,000,000 to the Bank of Japan. Unlike foreign governments, it has for many years been the practice of the Japanese authorities to publish the amount of specie on hand every ten days or so, but the recent abnormal increase is believed to be exciting envy in certain quarters abroad, and a proposal has been brought forward to discontinue the publication of the specie reserve. Publication was considered advisable for the sake of ensuring national credit so long as Japan suffered from an unfavorable balance of trade, which caused an unusual outflow of gold; but now there is no longer any doubt as to the stability of the nation's convertible note system and foreign investors are in no need of reassurance.

QUEBEC AND SAGUENAY RAILWAY.

In the House of Commons at Ottawa on Thursday evening there was a discussion on an item of \$3,367,000, a revote of part of \$4,000,000, for the purchase of the Quebec and Saguenay Railway. The road had been taken over by the Government and the difference between the two items had been spent in construction. The company objected to the allowance made by the Exchequer Court as the purchase price and nothing had been paid. The Minister of Railways said nothing would be paid, except what was required to finish the road, until the matter came under review of a new Parliament. Mr. Nickle, Conservative member for Kingston, strongly opposed the Government's proposal as one of a class of unnecessary expenditures, contrary to the spirit of economy that was everywhere preached. He voted with the Opposition against the item, which was carried in committee-of-the-whole by a vote of 29 to 14.

TONNAGE SOO CANAL.

With a tonnage slightly higher than for the month of July, but not as high as August of last year, the present month's statistical report of traffic through St. Mary's Falls canal closed, showing 13,967,108 tons of freight were locked through.

FRANCE'S SHIPPING LOSSES.

The official weekly report of French merchantmen sunk by mines or submarines during the seven days ending September 2, shows that three vessels of more than 1,600 tons were sent to the bottom. No vessels in the category of less than 1,600 tons were sunk.

One vessel was unsuccessfully attacked by a submarine.

No fishing vessel met with disaster.

The Admiralty statement for the week ending August 26 said three vessels of more than 1,600 tons and one vessel of less than 1,600 tons had been lost by submarine attacks or striking mines.

PERSONALS.

Mr. W. E. Duperow, assistant general passenger agent, Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, Winnipeg, has been made general passenger agent of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway and the Canadian Government Railways, with headquarters at Winnipeg.

The resignation of J. K. MacNeillie, general superintendent of the Canadian Government Railways, is announced. He has accepted a position on the Delaware and Hudson under F. P. Gutelius, former manager of the C. G. R.

L. S. Brown, who has for some time been occupying the position of assistant general superintendent, will be appointed to the post vacated by Mr. MacNeillie.

Out of twenty representative English railway companies, four have just paid larger mid-year dividends than in the middle of 1914, five have paid less, and the others made no change.

In this connection it is interesting to note the decision of the Japanese Exchange Banks to raise the rate of exchange with Japan. Hitherto it has been the practice to keep the value of the yen as low as possible in order to enhance the export trade of Japan, but now an effort is being made to place importers in a more favorable position, as well as to improve the advantages of Japanese investors abroad. It is also hoped that the change will encourage borrowers to seek money in Japan, and thus relieve the present surplus of specie to some extent. The Yokohama Specie Bank was the first to put the new policy into practice, raising the rate on American exchange one-eighth. Thus the yen in one day jumped from 50% c. to 50% c., and the yen in shillings is now 2s. 1% d.

The Government contemplates raising a domestic loan of 100,000,000 yen in September at 5 per cent. for the conversion of Russian treasury bills, term to be three years and a half; while the city of Kyoto is raising a domestic loan of 18,500,000 yen at 5% per cent. to convert a French loan of 50,000,000 francs at 4.5%.

"PROPER PACKING AND LOADING."

To assist in the effort now being made to conserve the food supply of the country, the Grand Trunk is initiating a campaign of which the slogan will be—"proper packing and loading." In a special notice widely circulated, the company points out the important part which the railways of the country must play in the campaign for the conservation of food. Indeed, that part is as conspicuous as that of the producer himself, the company says. To the end that the railways may render the most efficient service in the connection, the co-operation of all is sought in the proper and most efficient handling of freight and freight equipment.

"Full loads, prompt loading and unloading, and speedy movement are essential features of freight service, that are now demanded as never before."

The Grand Trunk also points out the necessity for proper packing and unloading; and shows that losses result through unsuitable package cases. In many instances cases that would be suitable for oranges are not suitable for canned goods, and so forth. Proper packing and loading, prompt unloading, speed, efficiency in the handling are the factors which will tell as far as the railways are concerned in the important matter of food conservation, according to the statement of the Grand Trunk.

THE C. P. R. AND C. N. R.

Sir Thos. White replies to Lord Shaughnessy.

OTTAWA, September 4.

In a statement to-night Sir Thomas White says: "My attention has been called to a statement, appearing in to-day's press, by Lord Shaughnessy, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, respecting the proposed acquisition by the Government of the capital stock of the Canadian Northern Railway Company. In the course of his remarks, Lord Shaughnessy makes the following assertions:

"It is true that the acquisition of the Canadian Northern by the Canadian Pacific was discussed by representatives of the parties concerned, but the discussion was at the suggestion of members of the Dominion Cabinet."

"After a time it was evident that no transaction was possible and negotiations were dropped."

"I desire to say that Lord Shaughnessy is under a complete misapprehension as to the origin of the negotiations referred to, which were initiated by the two companies themselves, and not by the Government. We became aware that such negotiations had been initiated and that they involved as a part of the transaction the surrender of the forty million dollars of stock of the Canadian Northern Railway Company held by the Dominion Government. In one or more interviews I discussed the matter informally with Mr. Beatty, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. My conclusion was that the transaction was impracticable, and I so informed Mr. Beatty, suggesting at the same time that nothing further should be done in the matter pending a full consideration by the Government of the report of the Railway Commission, which had come to hand some time before, but which had not yet been taken under deliberate review. After giving the report its best consideration, the Government determined to acquire the capital stock of the Canadian Northern Railway Company and introduced to Parliament the necessary legislation to that end.

"Lord Shaughnessy refers to 'personal investments in unfortunate ventures, such as coal mines, lumber mills, blast furnaces and other works alleged to have been undertaken for the advantage of the Canadian Northern enterprises, but being in fact private speculations of the promoters of the railway company.' As the mines, lumber mills, furnaces and other works referred to are not owned by the Canadian Northern Railway Company, it is to be pointed out that they are not within the scope of the arbitration for determining the value of the Canadian Northern Railway shares which are to be acquired by the company."

UNION IS STRENGTH.

There are to-day over 100,000 cars in the States transporting material for military camps and this without in the least disturbing normal business. This has been made possible by the co-operation of effort which has been brought about through the action of the railway board.

COMMODITY MARKETS

Week's Wholesale Review

There has been little change in the general trade situation in the Dominion of Canada during the past week, according to dispatches received by Dun's Review from branch offices of R. G. Dun & Co. in the principal cities, although retail distribution has been stimulated to some extent by the return of many vacationists.

Montreal reports that wholesalers in leading lines are receiving a good volume of orders, dry goods houses being especially busy, and with retail trade showing an improving tendency, sentiment among merchants is cheerful. The current volume of business at Quebec is well up to the average for this period and an active fall and winter movement of merchandise is anticipated. There has been a noticeable increase in the retail demand for reasonable commodities at Toronto, and wholesalers generally express satisfaction at the rate with which orders for fall and winter requirements are being placed. A number of munition workers have been laid off, but many of them are finding work in other lines and little or no adverse effect is expected from this cause. Business continues in normal volume in the Far West and Northwest, and as optimistic reports are being received from the farms a heavy fall trade is confidently anticipated. Winnipeg reports some improvement in the call for dry goods, hardware, agricultural supplies and other staples, and with crop results favorable a steady increase in the distribution of merchandise is looked for. An active movement of groceries, dry goods and other staples is reported by Regina, and as crop prospects are favorable, merchants generally regard the outlook as very encouraging. Retail trade is in fair volume at Saskatoon and wholesale business is well maintained, with material improvement expected as soon as harvesting is completed.

GRAIN.

The demand for cash wheat, which increased 1c per bushel in price on Tuesday, continues good. The tone of the market for corn and oats has been strong with prices showing further increases. Flax prices have declined.

The cash grain situation is as follows:

Grains:	per bushel.
Spring Wheat, Northern No. 1	\$2.21
Do., No. 2	2.13
Do., No. 3	2.16
Do., No. 4	2.07
Do., No. 5	1.83
Do., No. 6	1.70
Feed	1.63
Oats	
No. 2 C. W.	0.65%
Do., No. 3 C. W.	0.65%
Do., Extra No. 1 feed	0.63%
Do., No. 1 feed	0.63%
Barley:	
No. 3	1.21
Do., feed	1.12
Rejected	1.12
Flax:	
No. 1 N. W. C.	3.15

THE LOCAL GRAIN MARKET.

The feeling in the oats situation has been strong throughout the week with a good demand from millers and from the Government for export purposes. The market closed with a net rise of 1½c to 2½c per bushel, which led to the development of a very strong feeling in the local market and an increase in prices of 1c to 2c per bushel. A fairly active trade was done with local and outside buyers. Sales of No. 2 Canada western were made at 76½c to 77c, No. 3 C. W. at 75½c to 76c, extra No. 1 feed at 75½c to 76c, No. 1 feed at 74½c to 75c, and No. 2 feed at 72½c to 73c per bushel ex-store. Ontario and Quebec new crop oats were offered and sales of car lots of No. 2 white were made at 68c, and No. 3 at 67c per bushel ex-store. There has been some demand for Manitoba rejected and feed barley, and sales of one or two round lots were made for shipment from Fort William. On spot sales of car lots were made at \$1.26 per bushel ex-store.

LOCAL FLOUR MARKET.

There has been a decided improvement in the demand for spring wheat flour at the reduction in price noted last week, and millers say that while there has been no contracting for large lines for delivery spread over several months a great many orders have come forward for car lots. A weaker feeling developed in the market for winter wheat flour and prices declined 30c to 40c per barrel. The demand for winter wheat flour has been good, but owing to the light stocks and the difficulty in securing supplies, dealers have had to refuse orders for car lots for shipment to outside points. Sales of 90 per cent patents were made at \$11.50 to \$11.80 per barrel in wood, and at \$5.60 to \$5.75 per bag in broken lots, delivered to the trade. A steady trade in a wholesale jobbing way is passing in corn flour at \$6.50 per bag, and in rye flour at \$5.60 delivered.

MILLFEED AND ROLLED OATS.

A more settled feeling prevailed in the market for rolled oats, last week, but prices were unchanged. Carlots of standard grades were quoted at \$4.30 and broken lots at \$4.40 per bag of 90 lbs. delivered to the trade.

The bran market ruled easy, owing to the increased offerings and somewhat decreased demand and prices for full carlots were shaded 50c to \$1 per ton, with sales at \$34 to \$34.50 per ton, including bags.

EXPORTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

Exports of breadstuffs from all Atlantic ports last week (including New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, Portland, Montreal, Mobile and Quebec), and the preceding week were as follows:

	Last wk.	Prev. wk.
Flour, barrels	74,345	223,362
Wheat, bushels	667,880	1,042,698
Corn, bushels	85,430	18,499
Oats, bushels	1,877,127	1,293,271
Barley, bushels	55,205	36,229
Peas, bushels	.....	15,299
And from July 1, 1917, to September 1, 1917, and for the corresponding period of 1916-17:		
	1917-18.	1916-17.
Wheat, bushels	14,680,389	59,091,078
Flour, barrels	1,150,826	2,752,342
Total wheat, bushels	19,859,106	71,476,617
Corn, bushels	3,537,149	11,648,383

LIVESTOCK.

MONTREAL: The receipts of livestock at the two yards for the week amounted to 3,050 cattle, 6,350 sheep and lambs, 2,700 hogs, and 1,075 calves. The offerings of cattle were large at Monday's sale and prices remained about steady. There was a good demand for common cattle from Ontario buyers and packers, many of whom have large contracts from the Government to fill, and also from American buyers for shipment to U. S. markets. At Wednesday's market the demand was good, but the supply limited so that trade was quiet.

A stronger feeling developed for sheep and lambs, at Wednesday's market, and prices of sheep advanced 50c. per 100 lbs., and of lambs 25c. per 100 lbs. The supply was large, and a brisk business was done with packers and butchers at the advanced prices. Prices remained firm at Wednesday's sale, and business was brisk.

The market for hogs was very slow on Monday, with small offerings and a very limited demand. On Wednesday the demand from packers was good, with the result that a stronger feeling developed, and prices scored an advance of 25c. per 100 lbs.

TORONTO: The receipts for the week, at both yards, were 6,824 cattle, 520 calves, 2,584 hogs, and 4,552 sheep and lambs. Monday's market opened with the largest run of cattle in many weeks—over 5,000 head. However, the cattle were of a somewhat inferior quality, prices ruled lower, the market was draggy, and many cattle remained unsold. Prices for choice cattle remained unchanged, although the market developed a weaker undertone. Trade remained draggy, with prices steady at Monday's decline, throughout the week.

In the market for small meats the demand for sheep was strong, and for lambs good, with prices steady with the previous week.

Hogs turned stronger, and on Monday prices went up 25c to 50c per cwt., and on Wednesday were further increased 50c per cwt. to \$18.25.

	Montreal.		Toronto.	
Per Cwt.				
Butchers' steers, per 100 lbs.				
Do., choice	10.25	10.75	11.50	12.00
Do., good	9.75	10.00	9.50	10.00
Do., medium	8.75	9.00	8.50	9.00
Do., rough	8.00	8.50	7.50	8.00
Butchers' Cows.				
Do., choice	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.50
Do., good	7.00	7.25	7.00	7.50
Do., fair	6.50	6.75	6.25	7.00
Bulls, choice	8.25	8.50	8.50	9.00
Do., good	7.75	8.00	7.50	8.25
Do., fair	7.25	7.50	6.25	7.25
Canners cattle.				
Do., bulls	6.15	6.25	5.00	6.00
Do., cows	5.00	5.25	.....	.....
Sheep and Lambs.				
Ewes	9.00	9.50	8.50	10.50
Bucks	8.50	8.75	6.50	7.50
Ontario lambs	14.50	14.75	.....	.....
Quebec lambs	12.75	13.75	.....	.....
Calves, choice	13.00	14.00	14.00	15.00
Do., good	11.00	12.00	11.50	13.00
Hogs.				
Do., choice selects	17.00	17.50	17.25	18.50
Do., heavyweights	15.50	16.00	.....	.....
Sows	14.00	14.50	.....	.....
Stags	13.00	13.50	.....	.....

CALGARY CATTLE SALES.

The highest price for cattle ever recorded on the Calgary market was paid on Thursday last, when a load of steers, raised by Elmer Davenport, of Acme, Alta., was sold to Wilson and Co., the Chicago packers, for \$12 flat. The animals were of the Aberdeen-Angus breed and in the opinion of the talent were by far the best load that ever went across the scales here. There were twenty animals in the load, and they averaged 1,428 lbs., or more than \$170 a head.

PROVISIONS.

According to a statement made by the food controller, Canadian bacon is not barred from Great Britain but will still be largely imported, though under special license.

Prices remain steady for smoked and canned meats, with a good demand. The tone of the market for lard is firm and the demand from country and local points is good.

It is expected that hog prices will be increased this week. The receipts during the week amounted to 1,439 boxes meats, 73 pkgs. hams and bacon, 817 pkgs. lard and 100 pkgs. pork, as compared with 82,791 boxes meats, 1,947 pkgs. hams and bacon, 15,798 pkgs. lard and 500 pkgs. pork for the same week last year.

The receipts of live hogs amounted to 3,279, as against 4,901 last year.

Current prices are quoted as follows:

Hams:—	Per lb.
Shoked Hams, 8-10 lbs.	0.30
Do., 12-15 lbs.	0.28
Do., over 25 lbs.	0.28
Bacon:—	
Breakfast	0.35
Windsor Bacon, selected	0.39
Windsor Bacon, boneless	0.38
Pure Lard:—	
20 lb. pails	0.25½
Compound Lard (Western Grades):—	
Tubs	0.21½

BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending September 9th, 1917, were 10,525 packages, which show a decrease of 4,179 packages as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 9,981 packages with the same week last year, while the total receipts from May 1st to date show a decrease of 87,067 packages as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Of the total receipts for this week last year 4,294 packages were received from the United States.

A firmer feeling prevailed in the market, although prices remained steady at the recent decline.

We quote prices as follows:—

Finest creamery	0.41½	0.42
Fine creamery	0.40½	0.41
Finest dairy	0.37½	0.39
Fine dairy	.....	0.37
Lower grades	.....	0.36

CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending September 9th, 1917, were 71,700 boxes, which show an increase of 2,019 boxes as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of 5,578 boxes with the same week last year, while the total receipts from May 1st to date show a decrease of 212,788 boxes, as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. Of the total receipts for the same week last year 6,748 boxes were received from the United States.

Although prices paid at the country boards were somewhat irregular there has been very little change in the condition of the cheese situation.

No. 1 western and eastern cheese	0.21%
No. 2 western and eastern cheese	0.21%
No. 3 western and eastern cheese	0.20%
Lower grades	0.20%

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

EGGS.

The receipts of eggs in Montreal for the week ending September 8th, 1917, were 5,266 cases, as against 7,383 for the previous week, and 15,383 for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st to date were 211,809 cases, as compared with 315,202 for the corresponding period in 1916, showing a decrease of 103,433 cases.

The demand for domestic consumption has been good throughout the week, with prices firm, with sales of guaranteed new laid at 53c, and the ordinary run of new laid at 51c and 52c. An increased demand from English importers for supplies of both Canadian and American stocks is reported.

We quote current prices as follows:

Strictly new laid	0.52	0.53
Selected stock	0.47	0.48
No. 1 candled	0.00	0.44
No. 2 candled	-0.40	0.41

POTATOES.

Prices of potatoes have fluctuated during the week and the market has shown great activity.

Early in the week, on account of a temporary scarcity, prices advanced sharply to \$3.25 per bag of 80 lbs., in a wholesale jobbing way, but later a weaker feeling developed in the market owing to increased offerings, and prices declined \$1 per bag, with sales at \$2.25 per bag ex store and car lots have changed hands at \$2. The market closed easy and lower prices are expected in the near future.

SUGAR.

The Atlantic Sugar Refinery reduced the price of refined sugar 25c per 100 lbs. on Thursday last, to the level of the other refineries on the basis of \$9 per 100 lbs. for extra granulated in bags, and 9.05 in barrels.

We quote current prices on the local market as follows:

Extra granulated bags, 100 lbs.	9.00
Do., gunnies, 5-20's	9.15
Do., gunnies, 10-10's	9.20
Do., cartons, 20-5's	9.25
Do., cartons, 50-2's	9.30
No. 1 yellow, bags, 100 lbs.	8.60
No. 2 yellow, bags, 100 lbs.	8.50
No. 3 yellow, bags, 100 lbs.	8.40
Extra ground barrels	9.20
Do., boxes, 25 lbs.	9.60
Do., boxes, 50 lbs.	9.40
Do., cartons, 50-1 lbs.	10.50
Do., cartons, 20-1 lbs.	10.75
Powdered, barrels	9.10
Do., boxes, 50 lbs.	9.30
Do., boxes, 25 lbs.	9.50
Do., cartons, 50-2 lbs.	10.00
Do., cartons, 25-2 lbs.	10.25

CANNED GOODS.

The trade in canned goods is very quiet due to the Controllors embargo. The prices for new peas are announced and are as follows:

Standard peas, class A, \$1.70, B, \$1.67½; Early June, class A, \$1.77½, B, \$1.75; Sweet Wrinkle, class A, \$2.02½, B, \$2.00; Extra Sifted, class A, \$2.32½, B, \$2.30.

Prices of new pack salmon were also announced and are as follows:

Salmon Sockeye—

"Clover Leaf," ½-lb. flats	2.45
1 lb. talls, cases 4 doz., per doz.	3.00

½ flats, cases 8 doz., per doz.	1.50	2.00
Chums, 1-lb. talls	1.80	1.80
Pinks, 1-lb. talls	2.20	2.20
Cohoes, 1-lb. talls	2.65	2.65
Red Springs, 1-lb. talls	2.70	2.70
Salmon, Gaspé, Niobe Brand (case of 4 doz.), per doz.	2.25	2.25

LOCAL STOCKS OF DAIRY PRODUCE.

The following table shows the stocks of butter, cheese and eggs in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned:

	Sept. 1, 1917.	Aug. 1, 1917.	Sept. 1, 1916.
Butter—			
Creamery, pk.	130,493	99,275	99,036
Dairy, pkgs.	4,416	2,956	6,581
Cheese, boxes	203,363	271,737	202,398
Eggs—			
Fresh, cases	6,379	2,771	2,276
Cold storage	114,549	115,463	127,072

THE PRICE OF CHEESE.

The following letter is a reply to one received by the Cheese Commission from the Brockville Dairymen's Board of Trade, and speaks for itself:—
Mr. J. B. Wilson, Secretary, Dairymen's Board of Trade, Brockville, Ont.:

Dear Sir,—The Cheese Commission begs to acknowledge your communication of the 30th ultimo and the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Brockville Dairymen's Board of Trade, requesting that the commission use its influence with the British Government to secure an advance in price for Canadian cheese, etc.

This resolution comes as a surprise in view of the many expressions of satisfaction which have reached the commission with regard to the price being paid for cheese this season.

As to the fairness of the present price and the increased cost of production, the commission does not feel called upon to express an opinion, but desires to point out that there are other and very much more important considerations. If it were permissible to make a full statement of the position at the present time, the commission feels sure that the members of the Brockville Dairymen's Board of Trade, instead of asking for more money, would be congratulating themselves on the present situation.

A mistaken idea seems to prevail that Great Britain must have Canadian cheese, and the commission regrets that any move of this kind should have been made at this juncture, as it may have the effect of endangering the whole trade.

If the dairymen will accept the advice of the commission, they will allow the business to proceed with as little disturbance and comment as possible. The price of any article is not fixed by the cost of its production, but rather by what it can be sold for. If the British Board of Trade should stop buying Canadian cheese, it is quite certain that there would be a disastrous slump in the price without any regard whatever to cost.

Under the general system of control which is being worked out in the United Kingdom, United States and Canada, it seems probable there may be a general reduction of prices, which would react on the cost of production.

Yours truly,
CHEESE COMMISSION,
Thos. M. Todd, Secretary.

RECEIPTS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE.

The following table shows the receipts of butter and cheese in Montreal for the week ending September 9th, 1917, with comparisons:

	Butter, pkgs.	Cheese, boxes.
Receipts, September 9, 1917	2,544	16,696
Receipts, September 1, 1917	3,742	12,943
Receipts, September 10, 1916	4,466	10,733
Week ending Sept. 9, 1917	10,525	71,700
Week ending Sept. 1, 1917	14,704	69,681
Week ending Sept. 10, 1916	20,506	77,278
Total receipts May 1st, 1917 to Sept. 9th, 1917	234,939	1,230,325
Total receipts, May 1, 1916, to Sept. 10th, 1916	322,006	1,443,113

CORN CROP IN U. S. TO MAKE RECORD.

Corn, the country's greatest crop, needs only a few weeks' freedom from frost to mature into the largest production ever known in the history of the nation. The Government's September crop report, issued on September 7, forecasts a production of 3,248,000,000 bushels, which is 124,000,000 bushels more than produced in the record year 1912.

Corn prospects improved to the extent of 53,000,000 bushels as a result of good weather during August, the Kansas crop showing improvements to the extent of almost 40,000,000 bushels, and Missouri 23,000,000 bushels. Declines were recorded in other states.

Spring wheat yields are turning out better than expected, and the September forecast showed an increase of 14,000,000 bushels over the production forecast in August, with a total of 250,000,000 bushels. Adding the winter wheat production, a total yield of 668,000,000 bushels of wheat this year was announced. That is 28,000,000 bushels more than last year's harvest, but 138,000,000 bushels less than the average of the crops for the five years 1911-1915.

Besides the record crop of corn, larger production than ever before will be harvested in oats, with 1,533,000,000 bushels; rye, with 56,000,000 bushels; white potatoes, with 462,000,000 bushels; sweet potatoes, with 88,200,000 bushels; tobacco, with 1,221,000,000 pounds; and hay, with 81,700,000 tons.

Oats prospects increased 79,000,000 bushels during August, but tobacco lost 49,000,000 pounds.

Washington, Sept. 7.—Forecasts of production of the principal crops, based on conditions existing September 1, were announced to-day by the United States Department of Agriculture as follows:

Winter wheat, 417,000,000 bushels, compared with 482,000,000 bushels in 1916; spring wheat, 250,000,000 compared with 159,000,000 last year; all wheat, 667,000,000 compared with 640,000,000 last year; corn, 3,248,000,000 compared with 2,583,000,000 last year.

Corn condition, 76.7 per cent. of a normal, compared with 71.3 last year and 75.2 the ten year average. Indicated yield, 26.8 bushels per acre, compared with 24.4 last year.

Oats condition, 90.4 per cent. of a normal compared with 78.0 last year, and 77.8 the ten year average. Indicated yield, 35.5 bushels per acre, compared with 30.1 last year and 31.7 the 1911-15 average.

Barley condition, 76.3, yield 24.3 compared with 74.6 and 23.6 respectively last year.

Oats, 1,533,000,000 bushels, compared with 1,252,000,000 last year.

Barley, 204,000,000 bushels compared with 181,000,000 last year.

Other details of the report follow:

Spring wheat condition, 71.2 per cent. of a normal compared with 48.6 last year and 74.0 the 10 year average. Indicated acre yield, 13.1 bushels, compared with 8.8 last year.

All wheat indicated yield, 14.3 bushels per acre compared with 12.1 last year.

LOCAL STOCKS OF GRAIN IN STORE.

The following table shows the stocks of grain and flour in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned:

	Sept. 9, 1917.	Sept. 1, 1917.	Sept. 10, 1916.
Wheat, bushels	298,282	673,079	1,088,275
Corn, bushels	19,377	10,568	914,700
Oats, bushels	609,920	1,503,463	3,819,629
Barley, bushels	103,451	102,915	409,930
Rye, bushels	1,680	1,680	152,214
Flour, sacks	55,516	59,783	46,019

PROFESSIONAL

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF INSTRUCTION IN THE LANGUAGES.—Instruction in the Languages and Mathematics. No. 91 Mance Street, or telephone East 7302 and ask for Mr. E. Kay.

The Montreal City & District Savings Bank

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of two dollars and ten cents per share on the Capital Stock of this Institution (55% paid up) has been declared and will be payable at its Head Office in this City, on and after Monday, the first of October next, to shareholders of record on the 15th day of September next, at one o'clock p.m.

By order of the Board,
A. P. LESPERANCE,
Manager.

Montreal, August 20th, 1917.

FIELD CROPS AT END OF AUGUST.

OTTAWA, September 4.

The Census and Statistics Office issued to-day the following special report on the condition of field crops throughout Canada, as compared from telegrams despatched at the end of August.

Atlantic Provinces.—In Prince Edward Island the hay crop was heavier than anticipated. Pests have reduced wheat 20 per cent below average. Other grains are full crop. Potatoes, except for a few blighted areas, should yield above average. Full crop of roots, vegetables and corn. In Nova Scotia all crops made excellent growth. Labour scarce, haying slow, but hay being stored in good condition. Flax ripening nicely, hemp fair growth, considerable rust. In New Brunswick August weather too wet and warm for best crop yields. Wheat and oats below average; potatoes going down with late blight, reducing crop prospects to about 60 per cent. of average yields. Roots promise well. Very heavy hay crop. Pastures good.

Quebec.—Rimouski: Abundant yield of hay; grain and potatoes have fine appearance; plums good; apples small and a month late. Lennoxville: Considerable hay not cut and much grain ripe but in bad shape through excessive rainfall. Cap Rouge: Hay crop heaviest in years, but not yet all in and quality not good owing to frequent rains. All grain much below normal from same cause. Silage corn and potatoes poor; apples only half a crop.

Ontario.—Ottawa: Harvesting is almost completed, and grain crops are giving a very fair yield; potatoes, roots and corn are doing well; pastures are short. Peterborough: Wheat, barley and oats yielding high; grain extra good sample; mangolds, turnips and potatoes doing well; corn, large acreage, and heavy crop; pastures good; apple crop light. Oshawa: Yield of wheat and oats above average. Lodged oats decrease crop and double labor, otherwise a record crop. Barley average crop; root crops good, corn fair. Hyde Park: Wheat yielding 25 bushels per acre; oats in stock, grain light; barley grain small, corn late and may not mature; potatoes and roots good. Large acreage of fall wheat will be sown if possible. Petrolia: Ideal harvest weather; all grain crops harvested except 10 per cent. of oats. Best season for years. Increased acreage being sown to fall wheat.

Manitoba.—Brandon: Dry weather has continued throughout August. Cutting completed, threshing begun. Yield better than was feared, and quality excellent. Franklin: Conditions much improved during month. Wheat will yield very fair, good sample. Oats and barley a little light. No damage by frost. Harrowby: Wheat harvest well along. 15 bushels per acre. Oats and barley 40 per cent. cut for feed, will thresh 25 bushels; potatoes 30 per cent. of average.

Saskatchewan.—Rosthern: Most wheat will grade 1 and 2. Yield 20 to 30 bushels. Scott: Wheat will probably average 16 bushels, barley 30, oats 30 to 45. Sufficient labourers for immediate requirements at \$4 per day. More help wanted for threshing.

Alberta.—The Alberta Department of Agriculture reports that crops have greatly improved on account of general rains, frequent showers and favourable weather conditions. It is now estimated that the yields will be a good average, if not a little better, although the previous dry weather permanently reduced average over a considerable area. With the exception of a number of destructive hailstorms, there has been no damage to crops by frost or otherwise. Harvest operations are now general; in the lighter districts 50 to 75 per cent. of grain has been cut. Threshing will be general latter part of next week. No frost yet; all cereals will grade higher than usual; roots and live stock in excellent condition. Lethbridge: Harvest well advanced in southern Alberta. Yields generally are somewhat lighter than anticipated. Oats and barley rather poor. Serious hailstorms at Hyde Park. No frost recorded. Lacombe: Harvesting in central Alberta further advanced than for any previous season for ten years. Yield of grain below average, but superior in quality.

British Columbia.—Agassiz: August hot and dry. Grain medium crop, no damage from rain in stock; root crops and pastures badly need moisture. Summerland: Apples 10 per cent. more than last year, and of best quality. Grain not well filled. Serious water shortage. Invermere: Good second cuts of alfalfa and clover under irrigation; roots and corn have made good growth. Sidney: All grain harvested in excellent weather. Yield not heavy, forage crops, roots and potatoes will be light; apples and other orchard fruit below average, pastures very short and rain much needed.

GREEN FRUIT TRADE.

The Department of Agriculture at Ottawa has issued the following on transportation:

As the fruit shipping season approaches and with it perhaps unusual difficulties owing to the scarcity of cars and other marketing conditions, you are requested to advise the undersigned of any matters which in your opinion should be undertaken to improve transportation service in your particular locality. Because of the urgent need of marketing all the crop and preventing all possible waste, we are particularly anxious to assist in obtaining the most perfect service possible from the carriers. Therefore, any complaints of unreasonable delay in obtaining cars, delays in transit, etc., which may be referred to the branch will have our prompt attention.

Rail and Water Rates.—Increased Class and Commodity Rail and Water freight rates between Eastern and Western Canada are now effective under General Order No. 197 of the Board of Railway Commissioners of Canada, dated July 10, 1917. Only one exception is mentioned, viz., the rates on sugar to Port Arthur, Fort William and Westport for furtherance. The new tariffs, however, make no change in the rate on apple shipments.

Fifteen Per Cent Case.—The application of the railway companies for an increase of 15 per cent in freight rates is still pending. There has been no order of the board granting a general increase. You will be advised as soon as any decision is given by the board.

Increased Rail Rates.—Advance tariffs covering local apple shipments from Nova Scotia points to coast and Montreal and Quebec; also commodity rates to Western Canada points are now effective. The Montreal and Quebec increase amounts to 4 cents per 100 pounds from nearly all points, and an increase of about the same proportion to points west of Westport. Up to the present there has been no increase in the class rates to Ontario points, which, however, would be effective under any order the Board of Railway Commissioners may issue in connection with the pending application of the Canadian railways for a fifteen per cent increase. A schedule of rates from the principal shipping points in Nova Scotia to the larger market centres will be given in a later circular.

Arrivals at Montreal since last report:—California Bartlett's 1, California mixed fruits 6, Delaware apples (hampers) 1, Ontario barreled apples 1, Ontario mixed basket fruits 3, Duchess apples No. 1, \$4.50 to \$5; No. 2, \$4 to \$4.50; No. 3, \$2.50 to \$3 per barrel. No. 1 Table apples, 50c to 60c per 11-quart basket. No. 1 cooking apples, 35c to 45c per 11-quart basket. Peaches, 11-quart flat, 50c to 60c; Yellow St. Johns, 11-quart flat, 75c to \$1; Leno, \$1 to \$1.25; 6-quart Leno, 70c to 80c. Plums, 6-quart flat, 35c to 45c; imported peaches, \$1 to \$1.25 per box; pears, \$2.50 to \$4; plums, 4-basket crates, \$1.25 to \$1.75; blueberries, New Brunswick, 14c to 15c, and Quebec, 12c to 13c per quart. Lawton berries, 18c to 20c per box; tomatoes, 40c per 11-quart basket. Imported apples, bushel hampers, \$1.50 to \$1.75. Potatoes, Quebec, \$2 to \$2.25 per 80-pound bag; imported, \$4.75 to \$5 per barrel. Onions, Spanish, \$2.50 per large crate.

BRITISH IMPORTS STILL GROWING.

July's greatest gain was in grain and flour.

A large increase in the value of imports of articles of food is the feature of the Board of Trade returns for July. Mainly as a result of this advance, the total imports last month marked a rise of £13,449,987, the value being £90,182,430, compared with £76,732,443 in the corresponding month of last year.

There was also an increase in the value of last month's exports, the total being £49,833,635, against £46,323,057 in July of last year, an advance of £3,510,578.

An important alteration has, however, been made in compiling the returns, which makes a comparison with previous months misleading. The last month's returns for the first time include articles imported and exported in public as well as in private ownership, except exports for the use of our forces abroad. The figures for all previous months, on the other hand, excluded goods, other than foodstuffs, which were the property of the Government or the governments of the Allies.

NEW COMPILATION METHOD.

As the returns no longer give the quantities it is not possible to say exactly to what extent the larger import values indicate actually increased supplies of foodstuffs. The imports of grain and flour last month were valued at £24,462,431, compared with

£9,628,376 in July of last year, an increase of £14,834,055; those of meat, including animals for food, rose from £6,885,370 to £9,385,321, and those of other food and drink from £14,057,762 to £14,731,985. A decline of £1,004,464 was shown under the heading of raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured, and one of £2,946,800 under that of articles wholly or mainly manufactured.

With regard to exports, there was an advance of £4,777,428 in articles wholly or mainly manufactured, the largest increase being one of £3,000,405 in cotton.

The imports for the seven months ending July were £500,403,281, an increase over the corresponding period of 1916 of £39,720,074, and an increase over the corresponding period of 1915 of £85,958,149. The exports for the seven months ending July were £300,981,179, an increase over the corresponding period of 1916 of £12,850,241, and an increase over the corresponding period of 1915 of £82,636,780.

Broomhall cabled: "World's shipments keep fair for this period. Of the total quantity the United Kingdom received a good proportion. Movement in the United States is disappointing, and, therefore, shipments are as large as can be expected. Arrivals are satisfactory and consumption is considerably reduced owing to the substitution of vegetables. Flour exports continue heavy, with the major quantity to the United Kingdom. Oats shipments are light as compared with the previous week."

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