

## Cat-Bite Fever Cases Reported In Devonshire, Eng.

An Obscure Eastern Feverish Disease Reported To Medical Journal.

London, Eng.—The occurrence of two examples of an obscure Eastern feverish disease brought about by the bite of a cat in each instance is recorded in the British Medical Journal, writes the Medical Correspondent of the Morning Post. The extraordinary feature of this coincidence, is that in each case the type of fever is that associated with rat bite, and indeed, under the name of rat-bite fever this disease is commonly described in medical textbooks.

One of the patients was bitten while on holiday in a Devonshire farmhouse, by a sick kitten. After a few days her finger became swollen and a serious state set in about a fortnight later. After a story course, during which time a diagnosis of the described disease was finally established, the patient made complete recovery.

In the other case, reported from Redhill, the victim was a woman of 42, who sustained a severe bite on the left arm whilst attempting to stop two fighting cats. The bite healed readily, but about ten days later she became ill again and in the course of the next few months suffered from "rat-bite fever."

This disease, which is also known as Sodoku, is common in Japan and certain parts of India, and although it has been described before in this country it is not a common disease. While generally caused by the bite of a rat, it is on record that cats, dogs, ferrets and even a pig have been responsible for the illness.

It is a remarkable coincidence that two instances of infection from a cat should have occurred at much the same time in two different parts of this country.

## GREAT BRITAIN'S BETTING INDUSTRY IS VERY LARGE

No human activity is older than gambling, but except in the form of betting on stock prices, it does not usually engage the serious attention of economists and financial writers. The gambling "industry" in Great Britain has now reached such dimensions, however, that it is being analyzed by the "London Economist." That periodical concludes that the total current turnover of betting on horse racing in Great Britain may be put (translating pounds sterling into dollars at the rate of one to five) at \$1,250,000,000 to \$1,500,000,000 a year. The turnover of betting on greyhound racing, which is newer, is put at not less than \$250,000,000 a year. Some eight million people weekly place an average bet of about fifty cents during the season in the football "pools," a total of \$150,000,000 a year. Subscriptions to the Irish Hospitals Sweepstake totaled about \$50,000,000 a year at their peak period. Automatic gambling machines account for another \$75,000,000 a year. Altogether, the total betting turnover in Britain is placed somewhere between \$1,750,000,000 and \$2,000,000,000.

## The Federal Financial Review Contains Interesting Items

(Continued from Page 2)

tries had increased 4.1 per cent., Canada's trade had increased 11.3 per cent., the Minister said, and the Dominion had moved from eighth to sixth place among the nations in world trade.

Imports during the fiscal year were valued at \$56,803,000 as against \$52,416,000 the previous year, while exports, excluding gold coin and bullion, were \$765,615,000, compared with \$659,899,000. A total surplus of exports over imports was shown amounting to \$216,000,000 apart from gold or invisible exports. To this the speech added \$119,000,000 in

gold exports and an estimated favorable balance of \$110,000,000 in tourist trade, bringing the total surplus to \$445,000,000 which would be a valuable item in meeting foreign commitments.

After detailing the steps already taken to expand trade, such as the Canada-United States agreement and the adjustment of differences with Japan, the Minister said it was proposed, in the near future, to open active negotiations with several other countries for bilateral agreements "and the removal of hindrances now hampering international trade."

Attention was now being given

trade relations with the United Kingdom, the Minister said, "and I am happy to be able to state that discussions will shortly take place between representatives of the two governments."

Mr. Dunning made special reference to financial relations with the provinces and observed that the future was "clouded" by the "uncertain" financial position of some of the provinces. It was no secret, he said, that for some years the credit of the four Western Provinces had been maintained by support from the federal Treasury despite heroic efforts by the provincial governments to curtail expenditures.

It was the intention of the Government, the Minister continued, to proceed with the Loan Council scheme with some modifications. He mentioned with regret the recent default by Alberta on a bond maturity and remarked that both British Columbia and Saskatchewan were finding it possible to meet bond maturities this month without help from the Dominion, the latter through the Bank of Canada, pending passage of loan council legislation.

Loans to provinces under various relief acts had now reached \$116,500,000, having been increased during the 1st fiscal year by \$42,304,000. To continue mak-

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ing loans for meeting maturing obligations would quickly make the Dominion the provinces' largest single creditor, a condition which he wished to avoid, the Minister said.

There was no longer any statutory authority to loan to the provinces for other than relief costs, nor would any be considered apart from the Loan Council scheme.

Other loans and investments which had to be provided for during the year, in addition to the \$42,304,000 for relief, were in connection with the railways, Farm Loan Board, Harbor Commissioners, soldier settlement and housing, bringing the total loans and investments to \$60,403,000.

Loan flotations during the year reached \$500,000,000 with a consistent lowering of interest rates which averaged 3.9 at the end of the fiscal year as compared to 4.15 a year ago. In this connection it was shown that taking an index figure of 100 for 1926 interest rates in Canada had dropped in 1936 to 69.9.

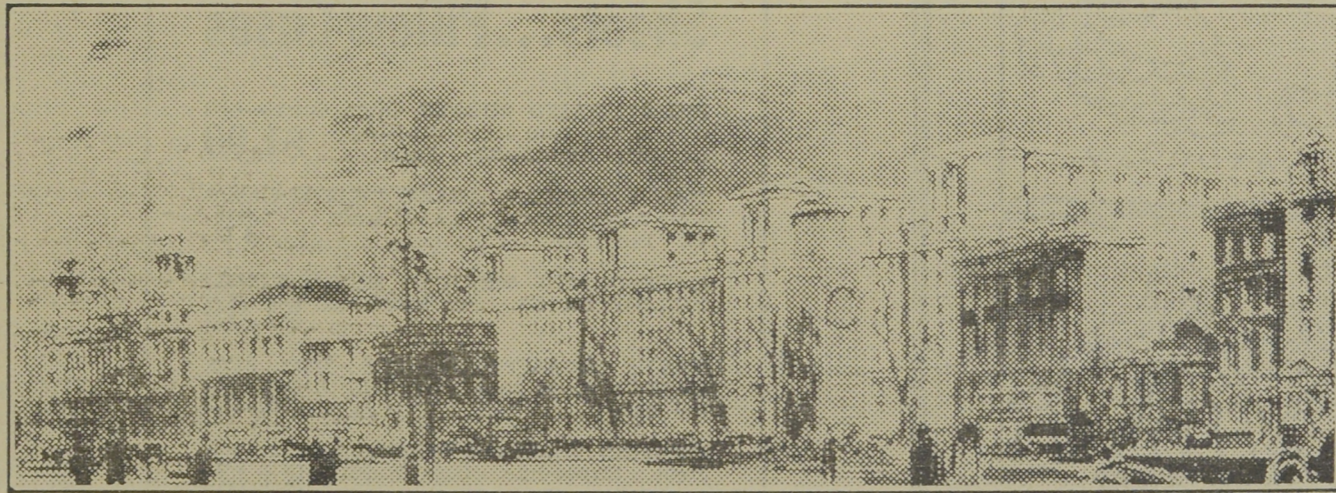
Gross liabilities of the Dominion at the close of the fiscal year amounted to \$3,432,000,000, which after deducting cash and investment assets, left a net public debt of \$3,008,000,000 which Mr. Dunning said was an increase of \$867,000,000 in the six years since he presented the last budget of the Dominion Government.

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## WHITEHALL TO CHANGE IN TEN YEARS' TIME



An artist's conception of Whitehall, London, as it will look when the proposed new block of Government offices is erected. The building (in centre of the picture) which, it is estimated, will cost \$8,750,000 and house 5,360 people, will be 550 feet long and approximately 300 feet wide. It will have eight storeys and will take about ten years to build.