

**THE CANADIAN BANK
OF COMMERCE**

ANNUAL REPORT

30th NOVEMBER, 1923



**THE CANADIAN BANK
OF COMMERCE**



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30TH NOVEMBER, 1923



THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

CAPITAL PAID-UP - - - - -	\$20,000,000
REST - - - - -	20,000,000

DIRECTORS

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L.	PRESIDENT
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A. V. YOUNG, Esq.	

SHERBROOKE COMMITTEE

JAMES MACKINNON, Esq., Chairman.	F. N. McCREA, Esq., M.P.
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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO

GENERAL MANAGER	Sir John Aird
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER	H. V. F. Jones
GENERAL SUPERVISOR	R. A. Rumsey
ASSISTANT GENERAL SUPERVISOR	A. E. Tayler
SECRETARY	A. St. L. Trigge
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES	{ F. C. Biggar D. P. Wagner
SUPERVISOR OF BANK PREMISES	Duncan Donald

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

SUPERVISOR	H. P. van Gelder
ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR	R. B. Buckerfield

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

PACIFIC COAST	H. H. Morris, Vancouver
ALBERTA	{ J. B. Corbet, Calgary C. W. Rowley, Winnipeg
MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN	{ F. E. Kilvert, Asst.Supt. Winnipeg.
ONTARIO	Wm. Hogg, Toronto
EASTERN TOWNSHIPS	E. L. Stewart Patterson, Sherbrooke
MARITIME PROVINCES AND NEWFOUNDLAND	D. Macgillivray, Halifax

BANK OF HAMILTON DIVISION

J. P. Bell, Manager-in-Chief.

INSPECTION DEPARTMENT

CHIEF INSPECTOR	J. A. C. Kemp
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INSPECTORS

W. Alexander, B. P. Alley, L. P. Bishop, J. C. Brown, C. L. Foster,
M. D. Hamilton, E. E. Henderson, H. G. Hurlburt, P. H. Nowers,
W. Spier, A. P. Taylor, W. G. Weatherston, L. E. Wedd.

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS

W. T. Alexander, Hugh Baillie, A. F. Garland, Wm. Lennie,
C. G. Lewis, L. G. T. Lynch, W. H. Martin, R. K. McCarthy,
A. McKenzie, J. W. McMartin, A. Milligan, A. G. Mordy, J. Moreton,
J. C. Munro, W. W. Orr, E. M. Paynter, G. A. Taylor, J. H. Taylor,
A. H. Templeton, T. B. Weatherbee.

AUDITOR

N. J. H. Hodgson.

AUDIT OFFICERS

R. C. Blundell, A. W. Campbell, V. Curran, V. E. Deseve, C. G. Dowsley,
G. A. English, T. C. Floyd, H. D. MacKenzie, H. L. Sadleir.

BRANCHES

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON—

ANYOX	J. D. LEWIS	Act. Mgr.
ARMSTRONG	B. HAYES	Manager
CHILLIWACK	W. MURRAY	"
COLLINGWOOD EAST	W. M. FRASER	"
COURTENAY	F. C. BROCK	"
CRANBROOK	J. H. McQUAID	"
CRESTON	C. G. BENNETT	"
CUMBERLAND	A. J. HEYLAND	Act. Mgr.
DAWSON, YUKON	D. C. THOMSON	Manager
DUNCAN	E. G. SANFORD	"
FERNIE	E. H. WOOD	"
GOLDEN	G. GEDDIE	"
GRAND FORKS	GEO. KYLE	"
GREENWOOD	JAMES MUIR	"
KAMLOOPS	G. S. HOLT	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	W. SMITH	"
KELOWNA	N. M. FOULKES	"
KEREMEOS	E. F. CORBET	"
LADNER	W. F. CRANGER	"
LADYSMITH	A. G. VERCHERE	"
MARPOLE	F. C. O. EDWARDS	Act. Mgr.
MISSION CITY	W. H. MATHEWSON	Manager
NAKUSP	F. N. GIBBORNE	Act. Mgr.
NANAIMO	E. H. BIRD	Manager
NELSON	F. C. WHITEHOUSE	"
NEW WESTMINSTER	ARCH. J. MARLOW	"
NORTH VANCOUVER	C. R. MYERS	"
OLIVER	J. D. SMITH	Act. Mgr.
PARKSVILLE	H. T. NEWMARCH	Manager
PENTICTON	THOMAS ANDREWS	"
PORT HAMMOND	E. S. HOPPER	"
POUCE COUPE	A. J. DUTHIE	"
POWELL RIVER	H. McILWAIN	"
PRINCE GEORGE	T. OGG	"
PRINCE RUPERT	S. K. CAMPBELL	"
PRINCETON	H. C. B. LUCAS	"
REVELSTOKE	A. B. MORKILL	Act. Mgr.
SALMON ARM	F. PEARSON	Manager
SOUTH HILL	P. S. WOOD	"
TRAIL	J. R. McLENNAN	"
VANCOUVER	{ G. V. HOLT	"
	{ P. B. FOWLER	Asst. Mgr.
Do. CEDAR COTTAGE	A. M. WEBB	Manager
Do. COMMERCIAL DRIVE	HENRY S. OATS	"
Do. EAST	C. W. DURRANT	"
Do. FAIRVIEW	W. H. JAMES	"
Do. HASTINGS AND CAMBIE	F. L. CRAWFORD	"
Do. HASTINGS AND HAMILTON	M. W. MORTON	"
Do. KITSILANO	P. GOMERY	"
Do. MOUNT PLEASANT	HUBERT HAINES	"
Do. POWELL ST.	A. A. WILSON	"
Do. ROBSON DISTRICT	G. A. BONNALLIE	"

BRANCHES—Continued

VANCOUVER, VICTORIA ROAD	D. T. SCRIMGEOUR	Act. Mgr.
VANCOUVER HEIGHTS	G. J. WATT	"
VANDERHOOF	W. M. BLACKSTOCK	Manager
VERNON	Wm. G. FERRIS	"
VICTORIA	{ W. H. HARGRAVE	"
	{ F. A. WYLIE	Asst. Mgr.
Do. DOUGLAS & CORMORANT	K. V. MUNRO	Manager
Do. NORTH	H. R. BEAVEN	"
Do. OAK BAY AVE.	H. T. WINSBY	Act. Mgr.
WHITE HORSE, YUKON	J. C. NEWMARCH	Manager
WILLIAMS LAKE	F. G. EXSHAW	Act. Mgr.

SUB-AGENCIES

	Sub-Agency to	Open for business
CHEMAINUS	Duncan	Wed. Thur. and Fri.
MATSQUI	Mission City	Daily.

ALBERTA—

BASSANO	A. F. MACCALLUM	Manager
BAWLF	G. C. PROCTOR	"
BRANT	J. R. MCLEOD	"
BEAVER LODGE	A. V. MCLEAN	"
CADOGAN	D. T. MUNROE	"
CALGARY	{ A. MAYBEE	"
	{ H. V. B. HILL	Asst. Mgr.
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	W. MATTHEW	Manager
Do. EAST	J. A. CLARK	"
Do. FIRST ST. WEST	H. I. MILLAR	"
CARMANGAY	W. R. HENDERSON	"
CAYLEY	M. R. MORRISON	"
CHAMPION	E. MASON	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	W. S. RYAN	"
CLARESHOLM	G. SHEARER	"
COLEMAN	W. L. RIPPON	"
CROSSFIELD	F. I. BATCHELLER	"
DELIA	D. A. STUART	"
DRUMHELLER	J. H. EAKIN	"
ECKVILLE	D. M. SINCLAIR	"
EDMONTON	{ H. C. MORRIS	"
Do. JASPER AVE. AND 102ND ST.		
Do. SOUTH	R. B. BUCHANAN	"
EMPRESS	E. L. KENNY	"
GLEICHEN	L. CUTHBERT	"
GRANDE PRAIRIE	A. W. PENTLAND	"
GRANUM	H. S. GIBSON	"
HANNA	AND. LAURIE	"
HARDISTY	ROBT. HARPUR	"
HIGH RIVER	W. D. ELLIOT	"
INNISFAIL	F. W. WEST	"
INNISFREE	J. A. CAW	"
KITSCOTY	H. WRIGHT	"
LAKE SASKATOON	F. W. YEATS	"
LETHBRIDGE	K. W. REIKIE	"

BRANCHES—Continued

LOUGHEED	A. H. MILLER	Manager
MACLEOD	C. A. MERCER	"
MANYBERRIES	G. C. SAUNDERS	"
MEDICINE HAT	C. H. NILES	"
MILK RIVER	JAMES STILL	"
MONITOR	J. C. MATHESON	"
NANTON	F. L. RHODES	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	A. W. GILL	"
NORDEGG	C. J. KIDD	Act. Mgr.
OLDS	J. W. ROBERTSON	Manager
PEACE RIVER	K. S. G. JORGENSEN	"
PINCHER CREEK	G. C. WILTON	"
PONOKA	R. C. AMES	"
PROVOST	D. B. SMITH	"
RED DEER	H. B. MAUNSELL	"
RETLAW	W. B. ALLAN	"
ROCKYFORD	JAMES BLACK	"
ROSEBUD	A. C. SCOTT	"
ST. PAUL DE METIS	J. J. MACMAHON	"
STAVELY	K. G. NOURSE	"
STONY PLAIN	G. E. CLARKE	"
TABER	C. W. COCHLAN	"
VEGREVILLE	M. L. GORDON	"
VERMILION	J. WALKER	"
VILNA	A. N. ROOP	Act. Mgr.
VULCAN	F. J. STEWART	Manager
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	L. A. WRIGHT	"
WARNER	C. L. WHITBY	"
WETASKIWIN	W. BARRY	"
YOUNGSTOWN	J. POLLOCK	"

SUB-AGENCIES

	Sub-Agency to	Open for business
PARKLAND	Stavely	Mon., Wed. and Fri.

SASKATCHEWAN—

ABERDEEN	H. SUTHERLAND	Manager
ABERNETHY	A. W. BRERETON	"
ADMIRAL	J. F. BERRY	"
BATTLEFORD	T. O. SEWELL	"
BEATY	G. L. NASH	"
BIGGAR	S. H. CURRAN	"
BIRCH HILLS	W. E. G. NICHOLS	"
BLAINE LAKE	WM. ROWLAND	"
BRIERCREST	J. H. WHEELER	"
BRODERICK	F. P. BOYCE	"
BROOKSBY	W. N. MAYNARD	"
BROWNLEE	G. J. GIBSON	"
BUCHANAN	GEO. S. NUNNS	"
CANORA	D. S. DUNN	"
CARIEVALE	A. T. TAYLOR	"
CARON	A. D. GILLAN	"
CENTRAL BUTTE	R. J. FORBES	"

BRANCHES—Continued

CUDWORTH	C. E. D. KENNEDY	Manager
DELISLE	JOHN D. SIM	"
DRINKWATER	J. V. DODDS	"
EDAM	H. D. AITKEN	"
ELBOW	F. L. WATTERS	"
ELDERSLEY	W. J. GRAY	"
ELFROS	E. P. CHARLES	"
ELSTOW	D. P. PYKE	"
ESTEVAN	A. E. SHANNON	Act. Mgr.
FISKE	T. L. PREST	Manager
FRANCIS	R. F. HEUSER	"
HAFFORD	A. M. SCRIMGEOUR	"
HAWARDEN	WM. BULLOCK	"
HERBERT	J. B. SMITH	"
HUMBOLDT	A. F. MCCONKEY	"
ITUNA	C. HESS	"
KAMSACK	J. D. ANDRAS	"
KEELER	C. A. STUART	"
KELVINGTON	A. H. WELTIN	"
KERROBERT	F. A. STUART	"
KINCAID	ANDREW SMITH	"
KINDERSLEY	G. H. WINSTANLEY	"
LANGHAM	R. GEDDES	"
LASHBURN	J. A. McDONALD	"
LESLIE	P. S. COBB	"
LLOYDMINSTER	H. S. BRUCE	"
LOREBURN	E. A. MORRISON	"
LUCKY LAKE	D. MUNRO	"
MARCELIN	W. L. WATSON	"
MARSHALL	H. G. T. MANN	"
MAWER	G. E. RAMSAY	"
MELFORT	G. L. NASH	"
MELVILLE	C. B. NARRAWAY	"
MEOTA	J. C. MACDONALD	"
MILESTONE	A. HALL MUNROE	"
MOOSEJAW	J. CAMERON	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	F. C. GRANT	"
MOOSOMIN	B. L. BROWN	"
MORTLACH	E. G. WRIGHT	"
NAICAM	A. D. GUN	"
NIPAWIN	H. W. MAHLER	"
NOKOMIS	M. ST. C. McLEAN	"
NORQUAY	H. E. LEWIS	"
NORTH BATTLEFORD	A. HAMILTON	"
NUTANA	G. C. B. BAILLIE	"
PATHLOW	L. W. NEWSOM	"
PLEASANTDALE	N. BROUGHTON	"
PRINCE ALBERT	A. J. REYNOLDS	"
RADISSON	L. M. PERKINS	"
RADVILLE	J. D. MCKENZIE	"
REDVERS	S. C. CRAWFORD	Act. Mgr.
REGINA	D. H. GORDON	Manager
RICHARD	J. C. MACPHERSON	"

BRANCHES—Continued

RIDGEDALE	L. DE ROO	Manager
RIVERHURST	R. G. McLELLAN	"
ROULEAU	J. W. PAUL	"
ST. BRIEUX	CLEM. J. MOREAU	"
ST. WALBURG	M. D. SMITH	"
SASKATOON	W. J. SAVAGE	"
SEMANS	REG'D. W. WINFIELD	"
SHAUNAVON	WILLIAM KIDD	"
SHELLBROOK	H. K. BAIRD	"
STAR CITY	J. F. FRASER	"
STONY BEACH	R. E. WOODWARD	"
SWIFT CURRENT	R. M. McCAUL	"
TRAMPING LAKE	G. RENNISON	"
TRUAX	T. C. LUSTED	"
TUGASKE	L. V. RAY	"
TURTLEFORD	C. BOSSONS	"
TUXFORD	J. A. JACKSON	"
VONDA	R. B. MACKAY	"
WADENA	S. DUNBAR	"
WATROUS	A. H. MARCON	"
WATSON	J. W. OLIVER	"
WELDON	T. A. BOWE	Act. Mgr.
WEYBURN	H. J. NEALE	Manager
WILCOX	H. R. MAIN	"
WILLOW BROOK	J. R. RICHES	"
WILLOW BUNCH	E. J. FENTON	Act. Mgr.
WISETON	W. R. DAVIES	Manager
YELLOWGRASS	E. G. OGLVIE	"
YORKTON	W. G. HAMILTON	"

MANITOBA---

ALTONA	G. A. HURST	Manager
ARBORG	N. H. STOUT	"
BASSWOOD	A. R. GRAHAM	"
BRADWARDINE	C. E. McLAREN	"
BRANDON	J. C. RIDDELL	"
CARBERRY	C. R. ALLEN	"
CARMAN	V. M. DUNLEVIE	"
DAUPHIN	CHAS. PADLEY	"
DUNREA	H. R. LAJOIE	"
ELGIN	H. H. LOWE	"
ELKHORN	R. H. BROTHERHOOD	"
ELM CREEK	J. C. WRIGHT	"
FOXWARREN	C. E. BECKETT	"
GILBERT PLAINS	T. S. JACKSON	"
GLADSTONE	R. M. ECCLESTONE	"
GRANDVIEW	A. W. CHAMBERS	"
GRETNA	L. C. BITZER	"
HAMIOTA	J. E. HOOD	"
HEADINGLY	F. B. HORNIBROOK	Act. Mgr.
KENTON	W. K. ANDERSON	Manager
KILLARNEY	H. L. ROGERS	"
LENORE	H. C. PAULI	"

BRANCHES—Continued

MANITOU	J. E. MASON	Manager
MIAMI	W. N. CAMERON	"
MINNEDOSA	S. WILSON	"
NEEPAWA	H. L. WETHEY	"
OCHRE RIVER	J. DUNCAN	"
PLUM COULEE	B. LUYENDYK	"
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	A. J. MAYNARD	"
RIVERS	R. M. TUCKER	"
ROLAND	W. H. R. SAVAGE	"
ST. JAMES	W. L. HOUSTON	Act. Mgr.
ST. NORBERT	P. L. DROUIN	Manager
SIFTON	THOS. WINSBY	"
SNOWFLAKE	W. P. PUGH	"
STONEWALL	W. C. SOOLE	"
SWAN LAKE	W. KING	"
SWAN RIVER	S. H. BRAY	"
TEULON	G. H. WATSON	"
THE PAS	C. R. NEELY	"
TRANSCONA	R. C. HAYWARD	"
TREHERNE	R. P. MORRISON	"
VIRDEN	D. M. KYDD	"
WINKLER	W. G. GRAEFER	"
WINNIPEG	{ C. G. K. NOURSE	"
	{ W. V. GORDON	Asst. Mgr.
Do. ALEXANDER AVE.	E. E. W. RHODES	Manager
Do. BLAKE STREET	C. MACMILLAN	"
Do. ELMWOOD	D. H. TOLMIE	"
Do. FORT ROUGE	W. M. MCKIE	"
Do. KELVIN STREET	F. G. MATKIN	"
	{ F. E. KILVERT	"
Do. MAIN AND McDERMOT	{ G. V. PEARCE	Asst. Mgr.
	{ H. J. STERLING	"
Do. NORTH	D. FITZGERALD	Manager
Do. NORWOOD	W. H. LECK	"
Do. NOTRE DAME	J. McL. MCGOWN	"
Do. PORTAGE AVE.	J. T. BEATTIE	"
Do. PORTAGE AND CARLTON	D. LITTLEJOHN	"
Do. PORTAGE AND GARRY	H. L. PAYNTER	"
Do. PRINCESS STREET	C. G. HEAVEN	"
Do. SELKIRK & MCGREGOR	G. G. SUTHERLAND	"
Do. STAFFORD & GROSVENOR	A. S. SWINFORD	"

ONTARIO—

AMHERSTBURG	S. M. JOHNSTON	Manager
ANCASTER	E. R. COLQUHOUN	"
ATWOOD	A. M. ROBINSON	"
AYR	F. W. WILSON	"
BADEN	J. H. SMITH	"
BARRIE	H. M. LAY	"
BEAMSVILLE	A. D. HENDERSON	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	G. L. HAZELL	"
BELLEVILLE	A. Y. SNIDER	"
BIRCH CLIFF	A. H. BURLAND	"

BRANCHES—Continued

BLLENHEIM	O. F. ANDERSON	Manager
BLYTH	M. W. TELFER	"
BRANTFORD	H. W. FITTON	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	} C. L. LAING	"
Do. EAST END		
Do. WEST END		
BRIGHTON	R. J. W. HEPBURN	"
BROCKVILLE	W. C. JAMES	"
BURLINGTON	GEO. IRWIN	"
CALEDONIA	G. S. SMYTH	"
CAPREOL	W. C. FRITZ	Act. Mgr.
CARLETON PLACE	G. E. SCROGGIE	Manager
CAYUGA	F. S. KENT	"
CHATHAM	J. SIMON	"
CHESLEY	F. M. HAINES	"
COBALT	I. A. MCPHAIL	"
COLLINGWOOD	J. MCE. MURRAY	"
CONISTON	H. DUNCAN	"
CORBETTON*	A. M. CARTHEW	"
CORNWALL	A. E. CURRIE	"
CREDITON	} G. G. MAYNARD	"
DASHWOOD		
DELHI	W. L. SUTHERLAND	"
DRESDEN	A. A. GIBSON	Act. Mgr.
DUNDALK	A. M. CARTHEW	Manager
DUNDAS	H. G. MATHEWSON	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	F. M. ROBINSON	"
DUNNVILLE	G. E. PARKES	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	A. W. HAUN	"
EMO	F. A. MATHESON	"
EXETER	M. R. COMPLIN	"
FORD	W. J. MCHUGH	"
FORDWICH	R. B. HEARD	"
FOREST	D. RYMER	"
FORT FRANCES	A. F. TURNER	"
FORT WILLIAM	GEO. E. EWING	"
GALT	C. E. A. DOWLER	"
GEORGETOWN	J. L. THOMPSON	"
GODERICH	G. WILLIAMS	"
GORRIE	H. V. HOLMES	"
GRIMSBY	A. C. TURNER	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	J. A. CAMPBELL	"
GUELPH	W. HILBORN	"
HAGERSVILLE	J. E. GREER	"
HAMILTON	} G. G. LAIRD	"
Do. BARTON AND CHEEVER	A. W. CULP	Asst. Mgr.
Do. DELTA (KING AND MAIN E.)	J. W. RATTENBURY	Manager
Do. JAMES AND BARTON	R. B. DAVIS	"
Do. JAMES AND MERRICK	W. P. TINSLEY	"
Do. KING AND JAMES (Bank of Hamilton Branch.)	} B. O. HOOPER	"
	J. C. DOW	Asst. Mgr.

*Open Tues., Wed., Thurs. and Sat.

BRANCHES—Continued

HAMILTON

Do. KING AND SANFORD	H. W. RODGERS	Manager.
Do. KING AND WELLINGTON	B. FORSAYETH	"
Do. LOCKE AND HERKIMER	C. F. GIBSON	"
Do. OTTAWA ST AND CAMPBELL AVE.	C. D. NEVILL	"
Do. QUEEN AND YORK	F. W. POTTENGER	"
Do. SHERMAN AND BARTON	CHAS. McDONALD	"
INGERSOLL	H. J. WHITE	"
IROQUOIS	J. F. GILLESPIE	"
JARVIS	J. H. BROWN	"
KINGSTON	F. E. DENCH	"
Do. PRINCESS AND CLERGY STS.	F. E. DENCH	"
KITCHENER	W. H. COLLINS	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	J. H. DOBBIE	"
LINDSAY	E. M. LOCKIE	"
LISTOWEL	H. P. WANZER	"
LONDON	R. T. BRYMNER	"
Do. HAMILTON ROAD	W. J. F. ROSS	"
LUCKNOW	J. A. GLENNIE	"
MADOC	C. L. JEWELL	"
MIDLAND	P. J. FASKEN	"
MILTON	C. H. STUART	"
MILVERTON	R. S. FLEMING	"
MITCHELL	N. G. SCHAFER	"
MOOREFIELD	R. J. SCOTT	"
NEUSTADT	B. H. BLOODSWORTH	"
NEW HAMBURG	G. H. MEYERS	"
NEW TORONTO	W. D. LAWSON	"
NIAGARA FALLS	C. BALLARD	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	A. J. SLOANE	"
NIAGARA FALLS CENTRE	H. S. HARRISON	"
NIAGARA FALLS SOUTH	A. R. LAND	"
OAKVILLE	W. S. DAVIS	"
ORANGEVILLE	T. S. LITTLE	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	C. A. LAMON	"
OSHAWA	H. E. TYLOR	"
OTTAWA	{ P. C. STEVENSON	"
	{ R. J. HOLMES	Asst. Mgr.
Do. BANK STREET	T. B. PHILIPS	Manager
Do. BY WARD MARKET	H. A. L'ABBE	"
OWEN SOUND	R. P. FINDLAY	"
PAINCOURT	J. SIMON	"
PALMERSTON	L. MATTHEWS	"
PARIS	S. N. MOFFAT	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	C. K. SMITH	"
PARKHILL	H. C. CAMPBELL	"
PARRY SOUND	J. H. DENT	"
PEMBROKE	R. H. STINSON	"
PETERBORO	W. H. DUNSFORD	"
PORT ARTHUR	C. F. A. GREGORY	"
PORT COLBORNE	W. H. PAGET	"
PORT ELGIN	L. FOSTER	"

BRANCHES—Continued

PORT PERRY	E. B. WALKER	Manager
PORT ROWAN	A. A. LAMONBY	"
PRINCETON	R. R. TELFORD	"
RAINY RIVER	G. BROWN	"
ST. CATHARINES	E. A. FOX	"
Do. PAGE AND QUEENSTON	H. D. PARSONS	Act. Mgr.
ST. THOMAS	W. G. WHITESIDE	Manager
SARNIA	J. L. BUCHAN	"
SAULT STE. MARIE	} D. G. KENNEDY	"
Do. WEST END		"
SCHUMACHER	J. P. TAILLON	"
SEAFORTH	J. G. MULLEN	"
SELKIRK	R. L. MITCHELL	"
SIMCOE	C. C. PARSONS	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	H. L. SELBY	"
SMITH'S FALLS	J. H. ROBERTSON	"
SOUTHAMPTON	J. B. CLARK	"
STRATFORD	G. W. HARRISON	"
STRATHROY	J. G. MILLS	"
SUDBURY	H. DUNCAN	"
TEESWATER	G. C. WEBSTER	"
THEDFORD	M. E. HARRINGTON	"
THOROLD	S. H. FALKNER	"
TILLSONBURG	L. R. BLACKWOOD	"
TIMMINS	J. P. TAILLON	"
TORONTO	} D. A. CAMERON	Manager
	E. P. GOWER	Asst. Mgr.
	A. E. ARSCOTT	"
Do. BALMY BEACH	R. B. GIBSON	Manager
Do. BLOOR AND DUFFERIN	H. CHALLENGER	"
Do. BLOOR AND LIPPINCOTT	W. C. JOHNSTON	"
Do. BLOOR AND RUNNYMEDE	H. S. RENWICK	"
Do. BLOOR AND YONGE	D. B. FALKNER	"
Do. CITY HALL	J. A. FORSTER	"
Do. COLLEGE AND DOVERCOURT	E. C. PRINGLE	"
Do. COLLEGE AND OSSINGTON	E. A. WARREN	"
Do. DANFORTH AND BROADVIEW	E. R. JARVIS	"
Do. DANFORTH AND COXWELL	F. M. MATHIAS	"
Do. DANFORTH AND DAWES	F. M. MATHIAS	"
Do. DANFORTH AND GREENWOOD	H. E. ROSE	"
Do. DANFORTH AND WOODBINE	F. M. MATHIAS	"
Do. DUNDAS AND GLADSTONE	J. C. SMYTHE	"
Do. EARLSCOURT	C. E. JOHNSON	"
Do. GERRARD AND PAPE	N. ST. B. YOUNG	"
Do. KINGSTON ROAD AND PICKER- ING ST.	G. A. BURTON	"
Do. LANSDOWNE AND WALLACE	W. F. RONALD	"
Do. MARKET	} T. A. CHISHOLM	"
	J. B. MCCUAIG	Asst. Mgr.
Do. OAKWOOD AND VAUGHAN	J. WALTON	Act. Mgr.
Do. PARKDALE	B. STAGE	Manager
Do. PARLIAMENT STREET	R. W. H. KING	Act. Mgr.
Do. QUEEN AND BATHURST	D. H. DOWNIE	Manager

BRANCHES—Continued

TORONTO

Do. QUEEN EAST	D. DAVIES	Manager
Do. QUEEN AND SPADINA	A. H. SKEY	"
Do. QUEEN AND UNIVERSITY	L. A. S. DACK	"
Do. RONCESVALLES AND WRIGHT	D. C. GREAVES	"
Do. ST. CLAIR AND LANSDOWNE	C. MURRAY STEWART	"
Do. SPADINA AND COLLEGE	H. F. D. SEWELL	"
Do. WEST TORONTO	R. Y. BUGLASS	"
Do. Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	J. W. McCABE	"
Do. WYCHWOOD	G. B. MUNRO	"
Do. YONGE AND COLBORNE	M. C. HART	"
Do. YONGE AND COLLEGE	F. H. McVITY	Asst. Mgr.
Do. YONGE AND GOULD	G. C. T. PEMBERTON	Manager
Do. YONGE AND DELISLE	B. A. THOMSON	"
Do. YONGE AND QUEEN	G. S. BOWERBANK	"
Do. YONGE AND QUEEN	D. CLARKSON	"
WALKERTON	L. G. CROZIER	"
WALKERVILLE	H. B. PARSONS	"
Do. OTTAWA STREET	J. G. CLANCY	"
WALLACEBURG	A. E. STRINGER	"
WALTON	A. SOHIER	Act. Mgr.
WATERLOO	R. H. EDMONDS	Manager
WESTON	F. E. JEFFREY	"
WIITBY	S. A. SEXSMITH	"
WIARTON	S. B. NICOLL	"
WINDSOR	W. G. LYNCH	"
Do. BANK OF HAMILTON BRANCH	C. W. NIBLETT	"
Do. WYANDOTTE ST., EAST	R. O. COX	"
WINGHAM	C. P. SMITH	"
WOODSTOCK	W. T. WHITE	"
WROXETER	W. F. CONNOR	"

SUB-AGENCIES

	Sub-Agency to	Open for business
BARWICK	Emo	Tues. and Fri.
BELGRAVE	Wingham	Tues. and Fri.
CAMLACHIE	Forest	Tues. and Thurs.
CORNWALL, EAST END	Cornwall	Daily
ETHEL	Atwood	Wed.
NANTICOKE	Jarvis	Tue. and Fri.
NELLES CORNERS	Cayuga	Mon. and Thurs.
PROTON	Corbetton	Mon. and Fri.
STRATTON	Rainy River	Sat.
VITTORIA	Simcoe	Mon., Thur. and Sat.
WEST HAMILTON	Locke and Herkimer	Tues. and Fri.

QUEBEC—

ACTON VALE	J. R. BOIVIN	Manager
ASBESTOS	J. O. BUREAU	"
AYER'S CLIFF	F. A. JOHNSTON	"
BEDFORD	A. S. McCAW	"
BEEBE	H. G. KIRWIN	"

BRANCHES--Continued

BERTHIERVILLE	J. L. ROUSSEAU	Manager
BISHOP'S CROSSING	H. H. MOE	"
BURY	E. A. BAILEY	"
CHAMBLY	L. A. L'HEUREUX	"
CLARENCEVILLE	F. L. NUNNS	"
COATICOOK	} L. M. THOMAS	"
COMPTON		
COOKSHIRE	F. E. KERRIDGE	"
COWANSVILLE	J. H. DOAK	"
DANVILLE	G. L. DOAK	"
DRUMMONDVILLE	E. R. TANNER	"
DUNHAM	WM. HETHERINGTON	"
EAST ANGUS	C. S. POWERS	"
FARNHAM	A. B. ASTLE	"
FRELIGHSBURG	M. R. WHITCOMB	"
GRANBY	A. C. SMITH	"
HEMMINGFORD	P. H. M. SOMERVILLE	"
HOWICK	A. E. WARD	"
HUNTINGDON	C. W. THOMAS	"
JOLIETTE	L. P. DALLAIRE	"
KNOWLTON	F. A. MORGAN	"
LACOLLE	E. A. CHADSEY	"
LENNOXVILLE	N. H. SLACK	"
MAGOG	C. E. SOLES	"
MANSONVILLE	S. MACLOUGHLIN	"
MARBLETON	W. CLOUTIER	"
MARIEVILLE	L. P. BOURGOING	"
MEGANTIC	G. M. THOMPSON	"
MONTREAL	} H. B. WALKER	"
Do. CRESCENT AND ST. CATHERINE	M.A. MACFARLANE	Asst. Mgr.
Do. MAISONNEUVE	P. R. HAMEL	Manager
Do. PRINCE ARTHUR AND PARK	J. H. CARNEGIE	Act. Mgr.
Do. ST. CATHERINE AND CITY HALL	W. E. MOREHOUSE	Manager
Do. ST. CATHERINE AND METCALFE	D. McLENNAN	"
NORTH HATLEY	A. R. VIRGIN	"
ORMSTOWN	C. W. HAWLEY	"
POINTE AUX TREMBLES	H. E. TEMPLE	Act. Mgr.
QUEBEC	J. MACLOUGHLIN	Manager
Do. UPPER TOWN	J. MACLOUGHLIN	"
RICHMOND	J. M. O'HALLORAN	"
RIMOUSKI	A. L. DESSERT	"
ROCK ISLAND	W. E. LEARNED	"
ST. CHRYSOSTOME	J. A. HEROUX	"
ST. FELIX DE VALOIS	J. A. PARENT	"
ST. FERDINAND D'HALIFAX	E. DUMOULIN	"
ST. GABRIEL DE BRANDON	CY. COUET	"
ST. GEORGE, BEAUCE	J. LEMAY	"
ST. HYACINTHE	J. LAFRAMBOISE	"
ST. JOHNS	G. C. BORIGHT	"
SCOTSTOWN	K. R. TURNER	"
SHAWINIGAN FALLS	D. R. WILSON	"

BRANCHES—Continued

SHERBROOKE	{ E. W. FARWELL	Manager
	{ S. M. WEDD	Asst. Mgr.
Do. UPPER TOWN	N. F. DINNING	Manager
Do. WELLINGTON ST.	F. A. BRIGGS	"
STANBRIDGE EAST	G. D. HARVEY	"
SUTTON	T. W. JUDD	"
THETFORD MINES	H. E. GREEN	"
THETFORD MINES WEST	U. A. VAUDRY	"
THREE RIVERS	H. H. MCKEE	"
VALCOURT	J. M. RENÉ DE COTRET	"
WATERLOO	J. E. THOMPSON	"
WATERVILLE	C. A. TUCKER	"
WEEDON	J. C. R. MARCHAND	"
WESTMOUNT	F. C. AUSTIN	"
WEST SHEFFORD	J. T. THOMAS	"
WINDSOR	J. I. McCABE	"

SUB-AGENCIES

	Sub-Agency to	Open for business
BROME	Knowlton	Tues. and Fri.
CHAMBLY CANTON	Chambly	Daily
DIXVILLE	Coaticook	Tues. and Fri.
EASTMAN	Magog	Mon., Wed. and Fri.
FRANKLIN CENTRE	Orms town	Tues.
GLEN SUTTON	Mansonville	Wednesday.
IBERVILLE	St. Johns	Daily.
PHILIPSBURG	Bedford	Mon. and Thurs.
ST. ARMAND STATION	Bedford	Mon. and Thurs.
STANSTEAD	Rock Island	Daily

MARITIME PROVINCES—

ALBERTON, P.E.I.	W. C. LAWSON	Manager
AMHERST, N.S.	L. F. CROSS	"
ANTIGONISH, N.S.	W. P. REYNOLDS	"
BARRINGTON, N.S.	W. ANDERSON	"
BASS RIVER, N.S.	C. E. BAKER	"
BRIDGEWATER, N.S.	C. N. ROOP	"
CAMPBELLTON, N.B.	A. H. RUSSELL	"
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.	C. LOMER MILES	"
DARTMOUTH, N.S.	A. G. SHATFORD	"
DEVON, N.B.	E. W. SPURR	"
FREDERICTON, N.B.	W. T. GERALD	"
GLACE BAY, N.S.	W. D. MORTON	"
HALIFAX, N.S.	{ E. C. GRUNDY	"
	{ H. C. MALES	Asst. Mgr.
Do. GOTTINGEN ST.	A. W. LAING	Act. Mgr.
Do. SOUTH BARRINGTON ST.	G. S. MCKNIGHT	Manager
KINGSTON, N.S.	D. A. SANDILANDS	Act. Mgr.
LA HAVE, N.S.	E. B. TRUEMAN	"
LUNENBURG, N.S.	R. G. ADAMS	Manager
MIDDLETON, N.S.	T. W. MAGEE	"
MONCTON, N.B.	W. H. LUGSDIN	"
Do. ST. GEORGE ST.	R. H. MORRIS	"
MONTAGUE, P.E.I.	L. H. COFFIN	"

BRANCHES—Continued

MORELL, P.E.I.	A. G. MACGREGOR	Act. Mgr.
MURRAY HARBOR, P.E.I.	F. C. BENNETT	Manager
NEW GLASGOW, N.S.	F. I. TANNER	"
NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.	E. P. STAVERT	"
PARSBORO, N.S.	P. H. HAMON	"
ST. JOHN, N.B.	A. K. HARVIE	"
SHELBURNE, N.S.	J. L. CLAXTON	"
SOURIS, P.E.I.	S. DRAKE	"
SPRINGHILL, N.S.	H. W. GRAHAM	"
STANLEY, N.B.	C. J. LOUGHLIN	"
SUMMERSIDE, P.E.I.	C. HENSLEY	"
SYDNEY, N.S.	G. T. PURDY	"
TRURO, N.S.	G. L. WAUGH	"
WINDSOR, N.S.	J. R. HARRISON	"
YARMOUTH, N.S.	H. A. C. SCARTH	"

SUB-AGENCY

HANTSPORT, N.S.	Sub-Agency to Windsor, N.S.	Open for business Mon., Wed. and Fri.
NEWFOUNDLAND—		
BELLEORAM	H. S. OAKLEY	Act. Mgr.
BURIN	M. C. WEST	"
ST. JOHN'S	{ H. M. STEWART	Manager
	{ W. J. CHURCH	Asst. Mgr.
ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON—		
ST. PIERRE	R. B. STURGEON	Manager
UNITED STATES—		
NEW YORK, N.Y.	{ S. H. LOGAN	} Agents
	{ C. J. STEPHENSON	
	{ J. MORTON	
PORTLAND, OREGON	F. C. MALPAS	Manager
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.	{ G. W. B. HEATHCOTE	"
	{ W. J. COULTHARD	Asst. Mgr.
SEATTLE, WASH.	A. C. STEVEN	Manager.
WEST INDIES—		
BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS	{ R. M. WATSON	Manager
	{ C. B. F. JONES	Asst. Mgr.
HAVANA, CUBA	F. M. GIBSON	Manager
	H. F. LIGGINS	Asst. Mgr.
KINGSTON, JAMAICA	C. GORDON	Manager
	J. M. DUFF	Asst. Mgr.
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD	T. P. MACKENZIE	Manager
	JAMES CROMARTY	Asst. Mgr.
SAN FERNANDO, TRINIDAD	J. E. GRASETT	Manager
MEXICO—		
MEXICO CITY	{ J. E. W. STEPHENSON	Manager
	{ B. J. MCLEAN	Asst. Mgr.
GREAT BRITAIN—		
LONDON, 2 Lombard Street, E.C.	{ C. CAMBIE	Manager
	{ A. R. PHIPPS	Asst. Mgr.
BRAZIL—		
RIO DE JANEIRO	{ E. B. IRELAND	Manager
	{ O. H. WILMOT	Asst. Mgr.

GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH NOVEMBER, 1923

LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 24,926,956 33	
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$ 87,903,328 35	
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date.....	243,669,665 59	
	331,572,993 94	
Advances under the Finance Act.....	8,000,000 00	
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	1,058,213 10	
Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents in the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.....	16,857,255 77	
Bills Payable.....	1,840,161 47	
Letters of Credit outstanding.....	10,333,455 99	
	\$394,589,036 60	
Dividends Unpaid.....	4,681 12	
Dividend No. 147 and bonus, payable 1st December..	600,000 00	
Capital Paid up.....	\$ 15,000,000 00	
Rest Account.....	15,000,000 00	
Balance of Profits as per Profit and Loss Account.....	2,185,634 93	
	32,185,634 93	
	\$427,379,352 65	

ASSETS

Gold and Silver Coin		
Current on hand....	\$12,255,298 69	
Gold deposited in Central Gold Reserves..	5,500,000 00	
	\$17,755,298 69	
Dominion Notes on hand.....	\$25,763,446 00	
Dominion Notes deposited in Central Gold Reserves.....	4,800,000 00	
	30,563,446 00	
	\$48,318,744 69	
Notes of other Banks.....	\$ 1,491,348 00	
United States and other Foreign Currencies.....	1,371,813 50	
Cheques on other Banks.....	19,911,743 69	
Balances due by other Banks in Canada	523 52	
Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada.....	11,771,391 99	
	34,546,820 70	
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities, not exceeding market value.....	38,096,575 09	
Canadian Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities, not exceeding market value.....	13,187,500 36	
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks, not exceeding market value.....	7,176,261 45	
	\$141,325,902 2 9	
Carried forward.....		

GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH NOVEMBER, 1923

ASSETS—Continued

Brought forward.....	\$141,325,902 29
Call and Short Loans (not exceeding 30 days) in Canada on Stocks, Debentures and Bonds and other Securities of a sufficient marketable value to cover.....	23,990,625 23
Call and Short Loans (not exceeding 30 days) elsewhere than in Canada on Stocks, Debentures and Bonds and other Securities of a sufficient marketable value to cover.....	25,796,166 20
Deposit with the Minister of Finance for the purposes of the Circulation Fund.....	750,000 00
	\$191,862,693 72
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest) after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts.....	184,030,020 60
Other Current Loans and Discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest) after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts.....	30,385,994 02
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit, as per contra.....	10,333,455 99
Non-current Loans (estimated loss provided for).....	1,251,000 56
Real Estate other than Bank Premises.....	969,676 35
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	173,357 23
Bank Premises at not more than cost, less amounts written off.....	7,423,712 20
Shares of and loans to controlled companies.....	825,002 00
Other Assets not included in the foregoing.....	124,439 98
	\$427,379,352 65

B. E. WALKER, President.

JOHN AIRD, General Manager.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

We have audited the above Balance Sheet and compared it with the books and vouchers at Head Office and with the certified returns from the branches. We have obtained all the information and explanations that we have required, and are of the opinion that the transactions of the Bank which have come under our notice have been within the powers of the Bank.

We have checked the cash, and verified the securities representing the investments of the Bank, at its chief office and principal branches at a date other than that of the verification at the chief office on the 30th November, 1923, and found that they were in agreement with the entries in the books of the Bank relating thereto.

In our opinion the Balance Sheet discloses the true condition of the Bank, and is as shown by the books.

T. HARRY WEBB, C.A.
of George A. Touche & Co.

D. DEWAR, C.A.,
of Marwick, Mitchell & Co.

} *Auditors.*

Toronto, 21st December, 1923.

STATEMENTS OF CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS

THE DOMINION REALTY COMPANY, LIMITED, TORONTO

ASSETS

Cash and Accounts Receivable.....	\$	116,692 69
Balances Due under Agreements.....		15,073 78
Land and Buildings under lease or to be leased to The C. B. of C.....		14,514,231 04
		\$ 14,645,997 51

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Mortgages Assumed.....	\$	625,529 38
First Mortgage Gold Bonds.....		4,398,198 66
Capital.....		* 4,542,000 00
Surplus and Reserves.....		5,080,269 47
*Carried in Bank's books at \$1.00		\$14,645,997 51

THE DOMINION PROPERTIES COMPANY, INC., NEW YORK

ASSETS

Cash in Bank.....	\$	21,830 95
Rents Receivable.....		521 01
Office Premises leased to The C.B. of C.....		650,000 00
		\$ 672,351 96

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable.....	\$	15,533 84
Mortgage Assumed on Purchase.....		300,000 00
Capital Stock.....		*350,000 00
Surplus.....		6,818 12
*Carried in Bank's books at \$1.00.		\$ 672,351 96

ALLOWAY & CHAMPION, LIMITED, WINNIPEG

ASSETS

Cash.....	\$	60,352 19
Bonds, Debentures and Stocks at Book Value.....		121,287 00
Loans, Mortgages and Property Agreements.....		1,475,559 83
Real Estate (at cost).....		237,583 80
Office Premises.....		206,062 98
		\$2,100,845 80

LIABILITIES

Deposits		
On Call.....	\$	175,883 59
After Notice.....		722,111 49
		\$ 897,995 08
Accounts Payable.....		1,809 86
Capital.....		* 1,025,000 00
Surplus and Reserves.....		176,040 86
*Carried in Bank's books at \$825,000.		\$ 2,100,845 80

CERTIFICATE OF AUDITORS

We have audited the Balance Sheets of the above controlled companies, with the books and accounts, and certify that, in our opinion, they are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the affairs of the companies at 30th November, 1923, and are as shown by their books.

T. HARRY WEBB, C.A., of George A. Touche & Co. D. DEWAR, C.A., of Marwick, Mitchell & Co.	}	Auditors.
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PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH NOVEMBER, 1923

(For the convenience of Shareholders on the London Register, the Profit and Loss Account, and the Balance Sheet are here given in Sterling, at the par of Exchange).

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year	£ 430,993 11 7
Net profits for the year ending 30th November, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts	598,647 15 5
	£1,029,641 7 0

This has been appropriated as follows:

Dividends Nos. 144, 145, 146 and 147, at twelve per cent. per annum	£ 369,863 0 3
Bonus of one per cent., payable 1st December	30,821 18 4
Dominion and Provincial Government taxes and tax on bank-note circulation	71,917 16 2
Written off Bank Premises	71,917 16 2
Transferred to Pension Fund	36,017 14 9
Balance carried forward	449,103 1 4
	£1,029,641 7 0

GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH NOVEMBER, 1923

LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation	£ 5,121,977 6 7
Deposits not bearing interest	£18,062,327 14 10
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date	50,069,109 7 4
	68,131,437 2 2
Advances under the Finance Act	1,643,835 12 4
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	217,441 1 0
Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents in the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries	3,463,810 13 7
Bills Payable	378,115 7 5
Letters of Credit outstanding	2,123,312 17 6
	£81,079,939 0 7
Dividends Unpaid	961 17 5
Dividend No. 147 and bonus, payable 1st December	123,287 13 5
Capital Paid up	£ 3,082,191 15 8
Rest Account	3,082,191 15 8
Balance of Profits as per Profit and Loss Account	449,103 1 4
	6,613,486 12 8
	£87,817,675 4 1

GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH NOVEMBER, 1923

Gold and Silver		ASSETS			
Coin Current on hand	£2,518,212	1	2		
Gold deposited in Central Gold Reserves	1,130,136	19	9		
	£3,648,349	0	11		
Dominion Notes on hand	5,293,858	15	4		
Dominion Notes deposited in Central Gold Reserves	986,301	7	5		
	£ 9,928,509	3	8		
Notes of other Banks	£ 306,441	7	5		
United States and other Foreign Currencies	281,879	9	9		
Cheques on other Banks	4,091,454	3	8		
Balances due by other Banks in Canada	107	11	5		
Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada	2,418,779	3	6		
	7,098,661	15	9		
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities, not exceeding market value	7,828,063	7	6		
Canadian Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities, not exceeding market value	2,709,760	7	0		
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks, not exceeding market value	1,474,574	5	5		
Call and Short Loans (not exceeding 30 days) in Canada on Stocks, Debentures and Bonds and other Securities of a sufficient marketable value to cover	4,929,580	10	6		
Call and Short Loans (not exceeding 30 days) elsewhere than in Canada on Stocks, Debentures and Bonds and other Securities of a sufficient marketable value to cover	5,300,582	1	11		
Deposit with the Minister of Finance for the purposes of the Circulation Fund	154,109	11	9		
	£39,423,841	3	6		
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest) after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts	37,814,387	15	11		
Other Current Loans and Discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest) after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts	6,243,697	8	0		
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit, as per contra	2,123,312	17	6		
Non-current Loans (estimated loss provided for)	257,054	18	2		
Real Estate other than Bank Premises	199,248	11	4		
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank	35,621	7	0		
Bank Premises at not more than cost, less amounts written off	1,525,420	6	4		
Shares of and loans to controlled companies	169,520	19	2		
Other Assets not included in the foregoing	25,569	17	2		
	£87,817,675	4	1		

BANKERS AND CHIEF CORRESPONDENTS

GREAT BRITAIN—

Bank of England; Bank of Liverpool & Martins, Ltd.; Bank of Scotland; Barclays Bank Ltd.; Lloyds Bank Limited; Manchester & County Bank, Ltd.; Manchester & Liverpool District Banking Company, Ltd.; National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.; Westminster Bank, Ltd.

IRELAND—

Belfast Banking Company, Ltd.; Hibernian Bank, Ltd.; Northern Banking Company, Ltd.; Provincial Bank of Ireland, Ltd.

BELGIUM—

Banque d'Anvers, Antwerp; Crédit Anverso, Antwerp; Société Générale de Belgique, Brussels.

DENMARK—

Den Danske Landmandsbank, Copenhagen.

FRANCE—

Barclays Bank (Overseas) Ltd. Paris; Crédit Lyonnais, Paris; Lazard Frères & Cie., Paris; Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank, Ltd., Paris; Société Générale, Paris.

HOLLAND—

Amsterdamsche Bank, Amsterdam; Disconto-Maatschappij, Rotterdam; Rotterdamsche Bankvereniging, Rotterdam; De Twentsche Bank, Amsterdam.

ITALY—

Banca Commerciale Italiana, Naples; Banco di Roma, Rome; Credito Italiano, Milan.

NORWAY—

Bergens Privatbank, Bergen and Christiania.

SPAIN—

Banco Espanol del Rio de la Plata, Madrid.

SWEDEN—

Skandinaviska Kreditaktiebolaget, Stockholm.

SWITZERLAND—

Banque Fédérale, Zurich; Crédit Suisse, Zurich; Swiss Bank Corporation, Zurich.

SOUTH AMERICA—

Anglo-South American Bank, Ltd.; Bank of London and South America, Ltd.; British Bank of South America, Ltd.

INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—

Bank of Chosen; Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China; Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation; National Bank of India, Ltd.; Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.

SOUTH AFRICA—

National Bank of South Africa, Ltd.; Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—

Australian Bank of Commerce, Ltd.; Bank of Australasia; Bank of New Zealand; Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, Ltd.; Commonwealth Bank of Australia; English, Scottish & Australian Bank, Ltd.; National Bank of Australasia, Ltd.; National Bank of New Zealand, Ltd.; Royal Bank of Australia, Ltd.; Union Bank of Australia, Ltd.

HONOLULU—

Bank of Bishop & Co., Ltd. First National Bank of Hawaii.

FIJI—

Bank of New Zealand.

UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK—American Exchange National Bank; Bankers Trust Company; Chase National Bank; Chatham and Phenix National Bank; Corn Exchange Bank; Irving Bank—Columbia Trust Company; Mechanics & Metals National Bank; National Bank of Commerce; National City Bank; New York Trust Company.

CHICAGO—First National Bank; National Bank of the Republic; National City Bank; Northern Trust Company; Union Trust Company.

ALBANY—New York State National Bank.

BALTIMORE—Citizens National Bank.

BOSTON—First National Bank; Merchants National Bank; National Shawmut Bank; Second National Bank.

BUFFALO—Manufacturers & Traders National Bank; Marine Trust Company.

CLEVELAND—Union Trust Company.

DETROIT—First National Bank.

INDIANAPOLIS—Fletcher-American National Bank.

MILWAUKEE—First Wisconsin National Bank.

MINNEAPOLIS—First National Bank; Midland National Bank; Northwestern National Bank.

NEW ORLEANS—Canal-Commercial Trust and Savings Bank.

PHILADELPHIA—Franklin National Bank; Girard National Bank; Philadelphia National Bank.

PITTSBURG—Mellon National Bank.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, 8TH JANUARY, 1924

The fifty-seventh Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in the banking house at Toronto, on Tuesday, 8th January, 1924, at noon.

Among those present were:

Chester D. Massey, A. H. Skey, A. J. Glazebrook, William Davidson, K.C., J. G. Scott, D. J. Macdonald, A. E. Ferrie, James E. Baillie, Sir Edmund Walker, C.V.O., John S. Galbraith, Col. J. F. Michie, Walter Gow, K.C., R. T. Black, C. N. Candee, A. E. Ames, A. J. Mitchell, E. H. Gurney, T. A. Brown, W. Crocker, J. G. Langton, G. Campbell, Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas White, K.C.M.G., J. A. McLeod, J. E. L. Pangman, Joseph Harris, M.P., J. W. McCabe, G. W. Gouinlock, Hon. T. W. McGarry, A. F. White, Robert Fulton, Æ. Jarvis, W. N. West, W. M. Douglas, S. Samuel, Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart., R. Laidlaw, D. B. Hanna, M. H. Irish, Gordon Taylor, C. L. Burton, W. C. Laidlaw, R. J. Fleming, J. Westren, John Appleton, Col. Noel Marshall, Sir Edward Kemp, William Craig, S. R. Wickett, M. A. Frind, A. O. Hogg,

L. J. Moore, E. A. Warren, R. Cassels, Alfred A. Walker, Hugh Aird, Dr. J. H. Carrique, H. C. Cox, H. D. Warren, G. A. Morrow, J. O. Thorn, John Aird, Jr., H. C. Walker, B. A. Thomson, John D. Miller, William A. M. Jones, F. G. Inwood, P. W. Ellis, A. M. Ivey, F. H. Gooch, Vincent Massey, E. B. Walker, A. B. Fisher, J. T. Parker, Miller Lash, K.C., Col. W. G. MacKendrick, J. Jennings, J. C. MacFarlane, P. J. Mulqueen, J. L. Watt, H. T. Ross, J. A. Fraser, T. W. Paterson, J. E. Goldring, E. R. Wood, C. Q. Ellis, K. J. Dunstan, R. B. Morley, Dr. R. M. Bateman, E. G. Staunton, F. C. L. Jones, Leslie H. Magor, H. Vigeon, T. A. Russell, J. E. Riddell, G. Osler, K.C., C. A. Bogert, Sir John Aird, W. A. McKague, H. W. Mickle, G. H. Muntz, Robert Ross, L. B. Churchill, George H. Ross, Toronto; C. M. Gripton, Niagara-on-the-Lake, W. E. Phin, Hamilton; R. Crawford, Kingston; William Cook, Richmond Hill; Robert Stuart, Chicago; Geo. W. Allan, K.C., Winnipeg; W. A. Wood, Hamilton; W. H. Wardrope, Hamilton; Geo. F. Galt, Winnipeg; H. C. Thompson, Winnipeg; W. P. Riley, Winnipeg; A. C. Flumerfelt, Victoria; J. A. Yates, Montreal; Stanley Mills, Hamilton; G. C. Edwards, Ottawa; Dr. Chas. Colby, Montreal; I. Pitblado, K.C., Winnipeg; W. J. Aitchison, Hamilton; W. H. Cooper, Hamilton; John M. Eastwood, Hamilton; J. Beaumont, Glen Williams; E. W. Bruce, Hamilton; W. T. Gray, Port Credit, Walter Balfour, Hamilton; H. J. Fuller, New York; Jas. A. Richardson, Winnipeg; F. P. Jones, Montreal; Thomas Hobson, K.C., Hamilton; B. O. Hooper, Hamilton; E. G. Payne, Hamilton; A. Kingman, Montreal; W. W. Hutchison, Montreal; Fred. Taylor, Hamilton; W. G. Morrow, Peterboro; Miss Bidwell, Colborne; A. V. Young, Hamilton; F. Beemer, Vittoria; Robert Hobson, Hamilton; C. A. Birge, Oakville; W. S. Davis, Oakville; H. S. Ambrose, Hamilton; Lieut.-Col. William A. Hamilton, Fergus; F. Perry, Montreal; P. Burns, Calgary.

The President, Sir Edmund Walker, having taken the chair, Mr. A. St. L. Trigge was appointed to act as Secretary, and Messrs. A. J. Glazebrook and J. E. L. Pangman were appointed scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors, and the Report of the Auditors. The Report of the Directors follows:

REPORT

The Directors have pleasure in submitting to the Shareholders the fifty-seventh Annual Report of the Bank for the twelve months ending 30th November, 1923:

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year, was.....	\$ 2,097,502 08
The net profits for the year ending 30th November, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, were.....	2,913,419 15
	<hr/>
	<u>\$ 5,010,921 23</u>

This has been appropriated as follows:

Dividends Nos. 144, 145, 146 and 147, at twelve per cent. per annum.....	\$ 1,800,000 00
Bonus of one per cent., payable 1st December.....	150,000 00
Dominion and Provincial Government taxes and tax on bank-note circulation.....	350,000 00
Written off Bank Premises.....	350,000 00
Transferred to Pension Fund.....	175,286 30
Balance carried forward.....	2,185,634 93
	<hr/>
	<u>\$ 5,010,921 23</u>

The usual statement of assets and liabilities, to which is attached the report of the auditors appointed under

section 56 of the Bank Act, and statements showing the assets and liabilities of the companies controlled by the Bank, and the value placed upon its interests in each, are also submitted herewith. The assets of the Bank have been as usual carefully revalued, and full provision has been made for all items considered bad or doubtful.

The following branches have been opened in Ontario during the year: Danforth and Dawes (Toronto) and Pembroke. The following branches have been closed: In British Columbia, Esquimault, Quesnel and West Summerland; in Alberta, Gibbons, Sedgewick and Viking; in Saskatchewan, Speers; in Ontario, Gananoque, Leamington, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and the sub-agency at Attercliffe; in Quebec, Beloeil, Hull, Roxton Falls and St. Joseph de Beauce; in Prince Edward Island, Georgetown, Kensington and Vernon Bridge, and in Newfoundland, Grand Bank. In almost all these cases the closing has been accompanied by an exchange of business with another Bank on favourable terms.

In addition to the audit prescribed by section 56 of the Bank Act, all the offices of the Bank, including the departments of the Head Office, have undergone the usual inspection by officers of our own Inspection Department.

Your Directors desire again to record their appreciation of the services of the officers of the Bank during the past year.

JOHN AIRD,
General Manager.

B. E. WALKER,
President.

Toronto, 26th December, 1923.

Before moving the adoption of the Report, the President called on the General Manager to address the shareholders:

GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

The history of the past year in the financial world can by no stretch of the imagination be termed a happy one. The after effects of the Great War, with its enormous destruction of real wealth, have at length reached the financial world of Canada. People became alarmed because they understood not, and when one small bank foundered, and others prudently shortened sail, disturbing rumours impaired the confidence of many people. Yet in the midst of it all, Canada has reaped the largest crop of wheat in her history and become the largest exporter of wheat in the world, and despite low prices for some of her agricultural products has put many millions of dollars into the pockets of her farmer citizens. She has increased her exports, invested several hundred millions of dollars in her own securities, reduced the deficit on her National Railways, seen little unemployment and bids fair, in spite of all, to win her way back to prosperity. Indeed much progress, even though slow, has already been made in that direction, and I think that this is the lesson we may learn from the balance sheet we have the honour to submit to you to-day.

The profits of the year differ but slightly from those of a year ago, but are about \$89,000 less. There has not been continuous full employment for our funds, and losses in many directions have been disappointingly numerous, but towards the end of the year an increased demand for money made itself felt, and we believe that the volume of business is slowly but steadily growing, and that we can look forward to a gradual improvement in conditions generally.

There is little change in the disposition which we have made of the profits earned. We have paid the usual dividends and bonus, set aside \$25,000 more than a year ago

for taxes, written \$350,000 off bank premises, made the customary provision for the pension fund and carry forward a balance of \$2,185,634, or \$88,000 more than a year ago. I should like to remind the shareholders that a local financial paper recently calculated that the Canadian banks in 1922 paid taxes amounting to over 30 per cent. of their net earnings and over 40 per cent. of their dividends. In the case of this bank the figures were slightly higher than the average.

Turning to the statement of assets and liabilities of the bank the changes are found to be slight, but such as they are, as already indicated, they point to a steady if slow growth. There is some change in the classification of the items due to the requirements of the revised Bank Act, which has now been in force for some months, and these tend to swell the figures, but even after allowance for these changes is made, substantial growth is evident. Note circulation and deposits are both higher, in spite of the difficulties of the year, and the proportion of our deposits free of interest has improved. "Advances under the Finance Act" is a new heading, recognizing the transactions by way of rediscount sanctioned by the Finance Act of 1914. Introduced as a war measure, because of the disorganization of the foreign exchanges during the Great War, and of the obstacles thus raised to the usual methods of financing the requirements of the Canadian banks, which will continue to exist until the pound sterling in London is again on a gold basis, the Act has proved a measure of no small value in meeting the fluctuating seasonal requirements of Canada's trade. As the figures of the balance sheet show, we availed ourselves of its facilities, and it is our intention to continue to do so from time to time for the purpose of providing for the peak of the load of marketing the natural products of Canada, which, as you know, comes during the autumnal months. That peak is now past and our borrowings have been repaid. We deem it wise

that the banks should avail themselves of the facilities provided by this legislation, and we hope that other banks will view the matter in the same light.

Our holdings of gold are lower than a year ago, owing to the completion of some important transactions for foreign banks which were being undertaken last year, and which made our holdings at that time unusually high. Our investments in bonds, particularly in Canadian government and municipal securities, are on the other hand considerably higher, so that we show a higher ratio of readily available assets to liabilities.

On July 1st last the greater part of the new Bank Act as revised at the last session of Parliament became law, although a few of its sections, notably those affecting the monthly returns to the Government, did not come into force until October, in order to give the banks time to make the necessary changes in their book-keeping, and to gather the information now required by the law. In the case of some other sections of the Act, such as those affecting the shareholders' auditors, the practical effect will only be seen during the coming year.

While the Act contains some improvements upon its predecessor, and we believe that this is true of the more important of the changes which have been made, yet these are accompanied by an increased number of restrictions which measurably increase the cost of banking and limit the power of a bank to serve the public. The Canadian Bank Act was originally, in large measure, the embodiment in the statute law of the best banking practices adopted up to that time by experienced Canadian bankers. It will be a great misfortune if, by the introduction of a number of unnecessary minor regulations, the full effect of which is not understood by those who propose them, the usefulness of the banks should be materially curtailed. I believe the time has come for the creation of a body of informed public opinion on the subject, both among customers as well as

shareholders. It is to Great Britain that we look for sound guidance in the matter of banking, and there we find that the banks are unusually free from legislative restrictions.

The failure of the Home Bank of Canada has made the efficacy of the system of audit to which the Canadian banks are subject a matter of much discussion in the press and elsewhere. Again it must be emphasized, and perhaps at the present moment the point cannot be stressed too much, that no system of audit or of government inspection can render a business institution, such as a bank, proof against failure consequent upon mismanagement, and no legislation can make bank managers infallible. All that is humanly possible is to lessen the number of errors that are made, and to minimize the effect of them. Not even the excellence of the British system of banking has been found to be proof against failures, and some of them, in their sphere, at least as disastrous as that of the Home Bank. If we turn to the United States, which is usually held up as a model of excellence by critics of our Canadian system, and where outside audit and inspection, both by Government officials and otherwise, have been developed beyond anything ever known in other countries, the only conclusion to which we can come from an examination of the records is that bank failures are so numerous that they are taken as matters of course. I know that this statement will be challenged and that figures have been produced purporting to show the opposite. As a rule such figures consist merely of the statistics regarding National banks. A commercial banking business, such as is transacted by the Canadian chartered banks, is carried on in the United States, not only by banks belonging to the National banking system, but by others chartered by the various States for the purpose, and by trust companies which enjoy even wider powers than the regular banks. I submit then that it is unfair to compare the results of our Canadian banking system with that of only a part of the corresponding

institutions in the United States. It had been my intention to submit to you a comparison of the statistics of failures in the United States during the past ten years of the classes of banks I have mentioned, with the corresponding figures of Canadian banks. The period is one which covers the Great War, with all its destructive influence, and the operations of the present Federal Reserve System in the United States. Unfortunately the only source from which the statistics for the United States can be obtained, the annual reports of the Comptroller of the Currency, do not bring the figures down later than June, 1922, and were I to take the nine years thus covered and compare them with the same period in Canada, I should have a result more strongly in favour of my argument. All I can do is to set down the figures as I find them for the nine years in the United States alongside those for 10½ years in Canada, and leave them to speak for themselves. They are:

CANADA		
(10½ years ending December, 1923)		
No. of failures	No. of branches	Liabilities
2	89	\$ 25,615,000
UNITED STATES		
(9 years ending June, 1922)		
Class of Banks	No. of failures	Liabilities
National.....	124	\$ 73,216,000
State Commercial.....	796	141,341,000
Loan & Trust Co's.....	95	103,424,000
	<u>1015</u>	<u>\$317,981,000</u>

Lest someone with a mathematical turn of mind and a high regard for averages should add one-sixth to the latter figures to equalize them, I would point out that the number of United States banks failing has shown a large increase in recent years, and that his figures will be considerably under the truth. It will be observed that the failures in the United States average slightly over two a week.

In the light of the experience of the two great English-speaking nations of the world, our record in Canada does not appear unfavourable. I hold no brief for outside audit

of any description, or for the auditors themselves, but I would remind all concerned that at all events until recently auditors were supposed to be concerned with the accuracy of book-keeping rather than with the values of assets. They are not trained bankers, and it is perhaps not generally realized that losses on bank loans do not become evident until real endeavours are made to collect the amount owing.

It is rather a curious fact that those desirous of reviving the system of small independent banks in Canada never make any reference to the experiment of this kind which has already been tried. Such a system was provided for by an Act passed by the old Province of Canada in 1850, and the Act itself remained on the statute books for thirty years, not being repealed until 1880. It is true that the existence of the banks established under it was short, the last of them going out of existence, or obtaining a regular charter, within five or six years, but the fact that no advantage was taken of its provisions over so long a period seems to the ordinary mind to prove fairly conclusively that nothing was to be gained by the establishment of such institutions. The fact was that the system could not be worked on the scale of profits which supported a chartered bank, and the public was not willing to pay higher rates for the privilege of doing business with them. Undoubtedly this is as true to-day as it was then.

There are two remedies which have met with the approval of a small section of the public for such a situation as that produced by the Home Bank disaster. They are government inspection and the guaranty of deposits by some sort of an insurance plan. Frankly, our contact with government inspection in those foreign countries where we come closest to it does not impress us favourably. In the United States where it has had its fullest development it has become a factor imperilling the successful future of the National banking system, because of its

inherent tendency to develop only a restrictive policy. The President of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company pointed out in a recent address that corporations only succeed when they embody the eager spirit of the pioneer; that the moment they become static, they decay. Were this not so, a code of rules could be framed to meet every emergency, and the good judgment of an experienced manager would cease to command a premium in the world of business. If the spirit of good citizenship be absent in the conduct of any business the Government may well step in and regulate, but the work of that business is best done in the spirit of the individual and with all the self-reliance and initiative that this implies. The past history of Canadian banking includes many a crisis avoided by courage and initiative, of which Canadian bankers are justly proud, when all precedents were waived aside, and the situation faced in a manner that might not have been possible under government inspection.

Nor has government inspection in the United States proved a preventive of fraudulent failures. Mr. Kane, the veteran Deputy Comptroller of the Currency, recently published an account of his experiences which shows that under the regime of every Comptroller of the Currency, save one, since 1863, when the bureau was organized and the National Banking System founded, failures due to fraud and wrong-doing have taken place. Another illustration of the dangers involved is found in the statement of a leading New York financial journal, edited by a prominent economist, who stated only a few days ago that it would be a great advance over prevailing conditions in the office of the Comptroller of the Currency if public officers would, particularly as relates to banking and financial affairs, keep out of politics.

Nor is the history of plans for providing a legal guarantee of the safety of bank deposits more encouraging. Various plans of the kind have been tried in a number of

the States of the Union, but even their advocates are forced to admit that they have failed to fulfil the expectations formed of them. In most cases the systems have completely broken down, the State of Oklahoma providing one of the worst examples. In only one State has such a plan managed up to the present time to avoid failure. A recent commentator states: "In general, the system has not prevented failures; the failures in adjoining States which have not the guaranty system have been fewer in proportion, and so with the failures of National banks in the States concerned." National banks are not chartered under State laws and therefore do not share in such guarantees. The record shows that under such plans a premium is placed on bad banking. The incentive to watch over the security of loans is taken away when the safety of deposits is supposed to be beyond question. As has been well said by a recent Comptroller of the Currency, the most practical approach to an effective and safe guarantee of bank deposits would be found in such a system as would come nearest to eliminating the danger of bad loans; in other words, if some plan of insurance against losses could be devised that would not operate as an incentive to carelessness in lending.

Parliament has shown signs of opposition to inside reserves, but it is certain that some provision for setting aside a certain percentage of earnings as a protection against prospective losses, in addition to providing for losses actually ascertained, is only a prudent step. It would, however, be a difficult matter to regulate by legislation, as the losses sustained by individual institutions must vary because of dissimilar policies and management.

At the last annual meeting of the Canadian Bankers' Association my fellow-bankers did me the honour of electing me President of the Association for the ensuing year. So many wrong impressions are abroad, and so many false statements are made by many who ought to

know better, as to the aims and purposes of this Association and as to the field of its activities, that I feel it my duty to endeavour to correct them. It has often been referred to as a giant trust or combine with immense powers employed solely for its own selfish purposes. Nothing could be further from the truth. Its activities as a voluntary association were originally almost entirely educational. When the note-circulation redemption fund was founded, the Association was incorporated by Parliament because of the joint liability of all its members to this fund. It was also called upon to name a curator to take charge of a bank which suspends payment, for the purpose of preserving the rights of all creditors intact until a liquidator can be appointed under the slower judicial processes. Beyond these functions it exercises no powers over its members, disciplinary or otherwise, and possesses none. It has undoubtedly performed its duties in respect of the note circulation in the most unexceptionable manner, and no irregularities in the exercise of this most important function of the banks have ever occurred under its jurisdiction. During the war and since it has proved a convenient channel of communication between the Minister of Finance and all the banks, rendering him valuable services in connection with his financing, the flotation of war loans and other matters. These services have been publicly recognized by more than one Minister. In recent years its educational activities, which had fallen almost into desuetude, have been resumed, and it is now actively engaged in the work of providing facilities for the technical education of the staffs of the various banks in their profession. Perhaps its relative unimportance and inactivity for a number of years endowed it with an air of mystery which has served to invest it in the public mind with immense unknown powers. I shall hope, as its President, to dispel this impression as much as possible by acquainting the public with its real aims and activities.

The dark cloud of pessimism which has enveloped so many in Western Canada in recent years seems at length to be lifting in a measure. Bountiful crops in Alberta and Saskatchewan, the former having suffered most in recent years, have aided in this. Unfortunately the price of wheat continues low, but it has shown strength in face of the heavy crop, and prices of dairy products and poultry, which are of more importance in Eastern Canada, have also improved. The Province of Saskatchewan has scored a notable success this year with her butter in the British markets, and has established an excellent reputation there in a comparatively short time. What she has done, others may be encouraged to do, and we hope that this will be the case. In the opinion of agricultural experts one of the things which requires attention on the part of our farmers is the weeding out of poor cows from their dairy herds, to the end that profits may be increased. Another cheering item is that the loss from rust, which cost the Manitoba farmer so many millions this year, may prove before long to be preventable, at least in great measure.

It will be news to many farmers in the West to learn that, according to evidence recently submitted to the tariff commission of the United States Senate, representatives of the wheat commission of the United States succeeded in proving that the Canadian western farmer has many advantages over his confrères in the United States. Among these were mentioned lower taxation, cheaper freight rates, and a better yield per acre, in addition to a better quality of wheat. The cost of wheat production in Canada is claimed to average \$15 per acre less than in the United States. Whatever element of truth there may be in these statements they afford no basis for unreasoning pessimism, and it will be at least interesting to our farmers to see themselves as others see them.

The discussion of the problem of financing the operations of Canadian farmers, especially in the West, occupied much

of the time of the last session of Parliament, much evidence was submitted, but as yet no practical scheme seems to have been evolved. Unquestionably, in an ordinary industry, if the capital already invested cannot be profitably employed it is useless to look for more. But the importance of agriculture as a basic industry and the plight of so many farmers during recent years force the problem to be approached from no ordinary angle. During the discussion in Parliament this bank suggested that a possible solution might be found in money borrowed by way of the issue of long term securities, the marginal risk to be carried by the issue of stock of a corporation to be formed for the purpose, the money for which would be found in such proportion as might be agreed upon by the Dominion Government, the Governments of the various provinces interested, the banks and other large corporate interests who share in financing the farmers. The details might prove difficult to work out, but the plan of financing such requirements by long term securities, rather than from monies repayable on demand, is unquestionably sound from the economic point of view.

This leads us to the question of the operations of the existing Provincial Government Savings Offices. As may be inferred from what has just been said, the financing of long term loans for agricultural, or any other purposes, by accepting deposits repayable on demand is economically unsound, and the financing of part of the general expenses of Government by such means is surely unconstitutional, taking out of the power of Parliament control over the expenditures of the Government. As bankers we are well aware that money borrowed on long term bonds at 5 or 5½ per cent. is cheaper than money borrowed at 4 per cent. on deposits repayable on demand. It is a well-known fact that in borrowing the risk rules the rate, and why the Governments concerned should voluntarily put themselves in the second class in this respect is incomprehensible. We should also be lacking in our duty as bankers if we failed

to point out that the supply of money obtainable on deposit in Canada is not inexhaustible, that it does not, in ordinary times, furnish a surplus over the requirements of the trade and industry of the country, and that the sums needed for marketing the agricultural produce of this country have always placed a great strain on this supply. If, as a result of the entry of the Provincial Governments into this field and the locking up of a considerable part of such monies in long term loans and other Government expenditures, not necessarily of a productive character, the banks find it necessary to enter into more active competition for the balance of the available supply, the outcome must in the nature of things be higher rates for money, which will in its turn react on the farmer as well as lay a heavy tax on the whole of the trade and industry of Canada. Canadians have become accustomed to a supply of money for all business purposes at rates as stable and as low as can be found in any country of the world in the same stage of development, but this delicate balance of supply and demand may easily be interfered with. In no spirit of hostility to the Government institutions, or to the Governments themselves, do we point out these considerations. We feel, however, that the competition of the Provincial Savings offices is unfair and unjust, for three reasons at least; First, they are not required to pay the heavy taxes imposed upon the chartered banks by the Provincial Governments; second, some of their offices carry on business in Government buildings free of rent and taxes; third, as already pointed out, the cost of the deposits is greater than that of money secured by the issue of long-dated Government securities. In conclusion, we would say that if it is the intention of the Provincial Governments to seek deposits from the public, they should at least in all fairness abolish the Provincial taxes imposed upon the banks.

Before leaving the subject of agricultural credit it will not be out of place to refer to the very voluminous legislation

enacted in the United States with regard to it. Some parts of it are functioning with more or less success, but others are not, and the opinion recently expressed by a prominent economist in that country, in a review of the situation, is that the course of agricultural credit legislation in the United States during the past decade holds out nothing but a warning to other countries which contemplate similar action.

As you are doubtless aware the consent of the Governor-General in Council to the taking over of the business of the Bank of Hamilton by this bank was given on 31st ultimo, and its branches opened on 2nd instant as branches of this bank. The purchase has added great strength to our position in the City of Hamilton and the territory lying to the south as far as the shores of Lake Erie, as well as in the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. We are asking most of the directors of the Bank of Hamilton to accept seats on the Board of this bank, and extend a hearty welcome to the former members of the staff of that bank to the wider field of opportunity now open to them. The Bank of Hamilton has added 50 millions of deposits and 70 millions of assets to our figures. The combined figures of the two banks will be approximately as follows: Paid-up Capital, \$20,000,000; Reserve Fund, \$20,000,000; Deposits \$385,000,000; with Total Assets of over \$500,000,000. The number of our branches is now 623.

The pressure on the staff has tended to increase with the greater activity and volume of business, and it has been necessary again to slightly increase its number. Our service continues to attract young men of good educational and personal qualifications, and it is interesting to contrast the increased number of applications now received at branches in the Central Western Provinces with conditions some years ago, when it was necessary to send the entire staff of these branches from the older provinces. Opportunities for advancement of the older officers have not

been as many as we could wish, but we are confident that the loyalty and satisfactory service of deserving officers will meet with fitting reward in good time.

We feel confident that the addition of the officers of the Bank of Hamilton to our official family will prove a happy one. We have already assured them that the door of opportunity in our service is equally wide open to all. The merging of branches caused by the amalgamation will require an adjustment in the positions of a few managers and other senior officers, but a satisfactory solution of these cases is only a matter of a short time.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The President then said:

Another year has passed, during which hope pointed repeatedly to the probability of a settlement of Europe's greatest problem and as frequently left us in despair. Most important changes took place as the kaleidoscope shifted, some for the better, some for the worse. The reparations to be made by Germany are still unsettled, and the fate of that important empire lies in the lap of the gods with a fair chance that it may be broken into several parts, its main industrial area having already been seized by France. The paralysis in this great workshop of Europe caused by the seizure has deeply affected the trade of Great Britain, and it is not strange that the relations between France and England often reached a point of strain during the year. Several times we have thought that the United States, Great Britain, Italy, France, Belgium and Germany were about to come together to study the question of German reparations and German power to pay, and just as often our hopes were found unwarranted. At the moment we may indulge the hope once more. And yet, as we have said before, certain curative processes are steadily at work in most parts of Europe. France clearly needs reparations from Germany, especially if she is to pay her own debts abroad. but her farmers are among the

most prosperous in the world, in sharp contrast to those elsewhere, and she has been able to spend vast sums on her army and other warlike precautions, and to lend money to smaller European powers, apparently in the hope of gaining *their friendship and possible support*. Throughout southern Europe, except in Greece, there is much to reassure us, and Russia is already making rapid strides, not hoping to reach her former greatness in the near future, but towards a new position of great relative importance to the rest of the world. Holland and the Scandinavian countries are suffering in common with Great Britain, largely because of the condition of Germany, the collapse of which seems to be complete. The fact that fortunes can still be made by exploiting her people, and by the very complications of her currency, does not affect the general truth of this statement. When Austria was at her greatest moment of despair she called in the League of Nations, allowed them to plan her future, submitted to international control of her income and expenditure, and is now prospering so well that Hungary seems to desire the same treatment. Is it not evident that this moment of extreme humiliation, with the complete collapse of the mark and the equally complete political and social confusion, offers the best opportunity which has yet arisen of a settlement with Germany, provided that her willingness to accede to much that was intolerable to her a year ago is met by a *more generous spirit on our part*, a spirit generous enough to make loans to Germany before there is any possibility of payments by her?

Naturally our minds consider these conditions in Europe largely in their relation to Great Britain and America, and especially to Canada. We see Great Britain struggling with problems of currency and credit, related on the one hand to her eventual return to a gold basis and on the other to her grave need of a larger volume of trade. Her burden of taxation is almost unbearable. The harshest features of it are the speedy exhaustion of individual

savings and the huge annual foreign payments which must mean the diversion from her own people of part of the proceeds of her sales of merchandise, of the return for services rendered by her citizens abroad and of her income from foreign investments, every shilling of which would have been enjoyed by her people at home but for the aid rendered to her allies in the Great War. While these conditions have greatly lessened the purchasing power of the Continent and have thereby seriously diminished British trade, the depreciation of paper money in most Continental countries has resulted in labour in those countries being paid much less than normal wages as measured by the gold standard. At the same time labour in Great Britain, as in North America, despite the large number of unemployed, has succeeded in obtaining higher pay relatively than is enjoyed in other forms of employment, making competition with Continental manufacturers for foreign trade very difficult indeed. But as the political and financial troubles of France, or of any other Continental nation, do not tell the entire story of that country's progress, neither do these serious troubles in Great Britain tell the whole story. In many branches of business and finance some profits are being made, whether large or small, and the vast amount of building taking place shows clearly that there is plenty of money for investment, the owners of which have perfect confidence in the future of Great Britain. Apart from national finance, the feature which bulks largest in the public eye is unemployment. The dole, with its system of registration of the fit and the unfit, and of women and boys, may leave a wrong impression of numbers, when compared with estimates of unemployment in previous times of dullness. One would fear that very many of those registered are unemployable and will both accept and need doles as long as a benevolent Government is willing to afford them. How far, therefore, the existing amount of unemployment varies from normal conditions

in Great Britain, we do not seem able to learn. In any event, it is well to remember that the conditions of national finance, taxation and unemployment convey only a one-sided impression of the situation in Great Britain.

The prosperity of the United States is so obviously in contrast with that of the rest of the world that we are as curious to account for it as for the lack of it in other countries. A country containing over a hundred million of people, whose intercommunication is as complete as could be imagined, whose needs can almost entirely be supplied at home, and whose people are the most liberal spenders in the world, is bound to possess a large measure of prosperity even when as a nation much may be far from well. The building boom created by the several war years in which the quantity of building was totally inadequate, continues, to our surprise, and apparently the need is not yet filled. The railroads, not merely because of the same reasons but also because a measure of prosperity seems to have returned to them, are still spending largely on equipment, extensions, and general repairs. The building of motor cars seems to be carried on as if further increase is still possible, but as to this there seems to be an element of doubt. Money is easy to obtain, and gold still comes to increase a supply already far too large. On the other hand, the American farmer is apparently worse off than the Canadian farmer; the production of coal, one of the most important of national products, is as usual threatened by strikes; and the vast industry of cotton, on which the South depends, is threatened not merely by the destroying boll-weevil, but also by the scarcity of labour and the high cost of such labour as can be obtained, both caused by the present immigration laws. The general result has caused some Americans to think that they can afford to be indifferent to the woes of Europe, but steadily, we think, the opinion gains among thoughtful Americans, that the United States cannot be sure of its future without peace

and prosperity in Europe, although it can clearly bear the unhappy situation more readily than we can. Those who study its foreign trade and the foreign exchanges begin to realise the meaning of Great Britain's pre-war trade experience; that those who sell abroad must for the most part also buy abroad. A nation cannot obtain gold in exchange for its exports in unlimited quantities, nor would it desire to do so, if it could; and it cannot indefinitely afford to exchange its exports for evidences of debt, whether in the form of unpaid balances or of foreign securities. Even in this comparatively prosperous country the tax burdens are the greatest hamper business has to bear, and the sentiment against tax-free securities grows, largely because of the realization that taxation released from one investment is doubly imposed upon another, the latter being perhaps an industrial venture on the financing of which our future prosperity in part depends.

Canada has during the year been so much more fortunate than most countries, and yet in many features so much less fortunate than the United States, that the year with us will be classed as one of only fair prosperity. Over wide areas, our western farmers, with those of the western United States, have enjoyed the best grain crops on record, but in both countries the farmer has been deprived of the natural return from his capital and labour by the high cost of transportation, of farm labour and, in fact, of everything he buys. When this high price of labour is absorbed in the cost of commodities the selling price of which is fixed in North America, the producer may succeed in recouping himself for the unusual cost of labour in the selling price, but when the high price of labour in North America is absorbed in the cost of commodities, such as wheat, which have a world price, fixed, say, in Liverpool, there is no certainty that it can be so absorbed, and at the same time give a profitable return to the producer. While therefore our great crops have enabled a certain amount of the debt

created by several years of unprofitable farming to be paid, the buying power of the western farmer is still enormously curtailed, and every other business in the west and many manufacturers in the east are suffering as a result. The agriculturist in eastern Canada also, while not in the same unfair relation to the cost of production and to his market, suffers from the same causes in less degree. However, the productive wealth of Canada derived from field, forest, mine and fisheries is so great that we have had evidence in many directions of the existence of very large savings for investment and of widespread, if not universal, prosperity.

The foreign trade of Canada for the fiscal year, March, 1922, to March, 1923, amounted in value to \$1,747,760,000, an increase over the previous year of \$246,029,000. For the year ending September 1923, the total was \$1,913,861,000, the excess of exports in the fiscal year being \$142,830,000 and in the year ending September, \$107,872,000. During the fiscal year our trade with Great Britain amounted to \$521,206,000, the excess in exports being \$238,630,000, and our trade with the United States amounted to \$921,265,000, the excess in imports being \$160,569,000. The proportion between our imports from and our exports to the United States is the most favourable to Canada of which we have any record, despite the high tariff imposed by the United States. The excess of our exports to Great Britain is much larger than in any year except 1916 to 1920, both inclusive. In our exports, wheat and flour gave us an increase over the previous year of 78 millions of dollars, while the losses and gains in other items coming under the head of agricultural and vegetable products (except chemicals, fibres and wood) brought this up to 90 millions. The many important items included in the Government returns under the heading, animals and animal products, etc., almost precisely balance each other in gains and losses, which having regard to our packing, dairy and

live stock industries is disappointing. In wood, wood products and paper we show a gain of 49 millions, about 30 millions of this being due to products of the sawmill and 19 millions to pulp, paper and other wood products; in iron and its products we have a gain in nearly every item, totalling about 23 millions, of which 20 millions is due to the export of motor cars; in non-ferrous metals and their products there is a gain of 16 millions; in non-metallic minerals and their products (except chemicals) a gain of 5 millions; and in chemical and allied products a gain of nearly 5 millions. In our imports there are decreases in sugar and other vegetable foods, alcoholic beverages and tobacco, amounting to a total of over 15 millions, and in coal and its products a decrease of nearly 3 millions. The increases are; rubber, over 2 millions; fibres and textiles, 30 millions; iron and its products, 28 millions, of which over 6 millions is for motor cars; non-ferrous metals, nearly 8 millions.

The value of the principal field crops of Canada for 1923 is estimated at \$892,572,000, as compared with \$962,293,000 in 1922 and \$1,537,170,000 in 1919, our best year. The actual result for 1922 fell short of the estimate by about 22 million dollars. The estimated results for 1923 are again disappointing. The total value of all the field crops of Alberta is shown as 140 millions, against 95 millions in 1922, while Ontario and Nova Scotia show small gains, and Manitoba shows a large loss—67 millions as against 98 millions in 1922. The Saskatchewan totals are 242 millions, against 296 millions in the previous year, Quebec 143 millions against 165 millions, and New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia also show losses. The total value of root and fodder crops, including potatoes, is estimated at 293 millions of dollars, as compared with 310 millions in 1922. We have produced a wheat crop so large as to excite the attention of the world, but much of it is not yet marketed and the price, as we

know, is unsatisfactory to the farmer. The estimate of the Institute of Agriculture in Rome of the world's production of wheat is 3,461,000,000 bushels, 351,000,000 bushels more than a year ago and 558,000,000 bushels in excess of the five-year average. With this enormous production, and the low purchasing power of Europe, it is no wonder that those of our farmers who have depended mainly on wheat-growing should be forced to find more varied uses for their land. The live stock industry still suffers from the causes which have depressed it in recent years. The number of horses, cattle and sheep has declined somewhat, while swine and poultry have increased. The development of dairying in the prairie provinces is encouraging, and the realization that cattle for the market must be developed from better breeds, and must be better finished, is growing, even if slowly. We still suffer from the high tariff imposed by the United States and from the high cost of transportation to Great Britain. The export of live stock to Great Britain from April to November, 1923, amounted to 44,000 animals, worth \$4,672,000, against 14,755, worth \$1,701,000, in 1922. These figures are still very small as compared with the average of over 100,000 head annually from 1891-1911. The embargo is removed, but the landing of our cattle in Great Britain is still surrounded with various difficulties, some of which are not likely to be removed at present. The view is still frankly held there, that the primary duty is to safeguard the interests of British agriculturists. The Canadian Ministers dealing with the matter, while in Great Britain, have, however, improved the conditions of landing in some respects.

We have another matter of port regulations under discussion at the moment, in which we are not seeking generous treatment for ourselves, but after granting such treatment to the United States for many years, have withdrawn it, because *our generosity has not resulted in*

any reciprocity on their part. The announcement has been made that Canada has advised the United States of her intention to discontinue *modus vivendi* licenses to United States fishing vessels to buy bait, ice, lines and other supplies at Canadian ports, to tranship their fish and to ship crews in such ports. As long ago as 1906, when Newfoundland began to enforce her Bait Act in the case of United States fishing vessels, we spoke as follows regarding the *modus vivendi* licenses granted by Canada:—

“Why should we give United States fishing vessels the very privileges which enable them to undersell us in their markets? We realize that this is a matter which must be viewed broadly if any breadth of view is shown by our neighbours, but we have as yet seen little evidence of that. Canada and Newfoundland together own magnificent fishing areas, large enough to influence greatly the fish markets of the world. As the various countries of the world increase in wealth and purchasing power, the demand for fish, cured in one form or another, must steadily increase. The prosperity of our Atlantic and Pacific provinces depends virtually on the permanence and increased volume of our fisheries. Why should we hesitate to take every step necessary to protect and develop such a national asset?”

The revised figures of our mineral production for 1922 are \$184,297,000, as compared with the estimate of 180 millions. The estimate for 1923 is \$214,102,000, the highest figure ever reached except that for 1920.

The mining industry shows distinct recovery as compared with recent years, although in certain branches of mining the world's markets are still unfavourable to production. The production for 1923 shows improvement in almost every direction, new records having been made in the output of coal, lead, zinc, asbestos and in the value of cobalt. The production of copper, while far from the highest total reached in the past, was double that of 1922. Nickel reached a total of 61 million pounds, as compared

with 17 millions in 1922. Taking metals alone, there was an increase of nearly 32 per cent. in the total value. Coal reached a new record, both as to quantity and value. As a whole, the increase in all minerals over 1922 was 12 per cent. in value, and, while the money value of our total product was greater in 1920, the volume of production was doubtless higher in 1923 than in any previous year. The development of electric power in connection with mining in Northern Ontario has been proceeding at a rapid pace, but through lack of sufficient power there was a falling off in production in some mines. The interest in gold mining referred to a year ago continues unabated, on behalf both of Canadian and of British, United States and South African interests. An estimate made in the Mining Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa states that the sources of the capital invested in Canadian mining are about as follows: Canada 54 per cent., United States 31 per cent., Great Britain 13 per cent., other countries 2 per cent. The annual production of minerals has risen in thirty-five years from \$2.23 to \$26.40 per head of population.

We are apt to think that we have only to find minerals in sufficient quantity to render their profitable working possible, but apart from gold they are as dependent on markets and market price as any other products, witness copper, nickel, asbestos, etc., at the moment. It must be evident, therefore, that every industry that can be established in Canada which needs as a raw material any product of our mines should be encouraged. Indeed, this is so evident that it seems quite unnecessary to draw attention to the fact. And yet the trade records for the present year, 1923, show that we imported under the head of iron and its products, non-ferrous metals, and non-metallic metals, 190 millions of dollars in value more than we exported under the same headings. Among imports of non-metallic minerals we of course have coal and coke costing 76 millions, and petroleum oil and products costing

36 millions. How far better transportation can lessen the heavy national bill for the first of these, and how far oil discoveries can lessen the bill for the second remains to be seen, but that no energy should be spared which will ease such a burden is clear. We buy iron and its products to the extent of 138 millions, of which 32 millions covers motor cars and parts, including engines. We also buy machinery and iron in various forms, for use as the raw material of objects manufactured in Canada, to the value of about 100 millions. To ease this burden is also a national necessity.

Of the total increase in our imports during the last twenty years, the three metal groups account for over 38 per cent., with an increase of over 7 per cent. in exports in the same groups. In fibres and textiles the increase is over 20 per cent., with practically no gain in exports. For these articles which others have supplied to us, and for the increase in our annual interest charge, we have paid mainly with wheat and with the products arising from the destruction of our forests, except to the extent to which we have increased the principal of our debt. It must, therefore, be evident that we cannot give too much encouragement to the general development of mining, to the marketing and transportation of coal, to the discovery of oil-bearing areas, and to the manufacture of articles produced mainly from metals mined in this country.

In connection with the vitally important matters of saving our forest industries and of making a satisfactory profit from the use of forest products, we are again discussing the relative advisability of manufacturing the product in Canada, or of allowing it to leave the country as raw material, with the aid of which foreign countries can compete with us or even undersell us. When this question arose in Ontario over the export of saw-logs from Ontario to Michigan, the speaker took an active part in the discussion and in the measures adopted to prevent such use of our

raw material. There can be no reasonable doubt that to sell pulp logs to a foreign country, when we are ourselves highly expert in the art of paper-making, is a national folly of which our neighbours would certainly not be guilty if the case were reversed. We recognize that in Ontario the saw-logs were being cut from Crown lands, and that this principle is already in force in Quebec so far as pulpwood is concerned. Whether it is right to interfere with private ownership in order to accomplish what is so desirable in the public welfare is a matter for legislators to decide, but that we should protect our forests, our paper manufacturers and our country generally by such a restriction is surely clear, if it is fairly possible. As an eminent Canadian said recently, "We must either manufacture the raw material of Canada within the country..... or the sons of Canada will follow these raw materials out of the country." The destruction of our forests by fire, insects, fungi and other forces, caused mainly by contact with man and his carelessness, goes on, scarcely affected by the few remedial efforts and words of warning of those who understand, and who regard the indifference of the public as a national crime. Loss by fire has cost Canada an average of nearly 15 million dollars yearly during the last five years. Experts in forestry say that ninety per cent. of all forest fires are due to human agency and can therefore be prevented. In addition to our great lumber industry, we have nearly 400 millions of capital invested in the manufacture of pulp and paper. In the nature of things a large annual cut for an indefinite time to come will be necessary. If we will not replant on any adequate scale, and if we remain only slightly disturbed, but doing nothing adequate to lessen the various forms of destruction, what can we expect in the future?

Much as we rely on the products of the field and the mine, we are more than ever dependent on the products of the forest. Were it not for our exports of pulp and

paper, it is hard to see how our foreign trade and financing could be maintained. In the last fiscal year we settled debts abroad, for imports or interest on our foreign debt, by the export of lumber, pulpwood and paper, etc., to the extent of 228 millions, as compared with 180 millions in 1922 and 284 millions in the great year, 1921. Our foreign trade in pulpwood and paper is in a better condition than in 1922, so far as production and markets are concerned.

There is marked activity in the lumber trade of British Columbia, except in shingles. This is mainly the result of greatly increased exports, particularly to Japan, California and the Atlantic Coast, and not of domestic trade with the prairie and other provinces. The development of the California and Atlantic coast markets is very striking, and has lowered the average holding carried by fir mills. Douglas fir seems to be replacing southern yellow pine to a considerable degree on the Atlantic coast, while it is losing ground in the Mississippi valley. High authorities seem to think that the demand from the Atlantic Coast will be much greater in 1924. Our trade with Great Britain is not satisfactory. Ship-building and other industries depending upon forest products are not busy, and competition in pine from Sweden and Siberia is worse than at any time since 1914, although it is still very difficult to complete transactions with these countries. Conditions for Canadian lumber improved, however, considerably during the past year, but our export trade in lumber to Great Britain has decreased about 50 per cent. since pre-war days.

While, as usual, details regarding the prosperity or otherwise of the various provinces will be found in our Year Book of Business Conditions, we wish to draw special attention to the growth of Vancouver as our most important Pacific port. It must surprise many to learn that forty regular lines of vessels, besides numerous tramp freighters, are now sailing from this harbour. The revenue of the harbour commission, which amounted in 1915 to the merely nominal

sum of \$23,000, was in 1922 \$425,000. In the season of 1920-1 half a million bushels of grain left Vancouver, while in 1922-3 the shipments were 19 million bushels. The lack of elevator capacity and of shipping facilities generally is being remedied, and while the hope that in a few years as much as 200 million bushels will pass through this port to the outside world may be too sanguine, the importance of Vancouver for the shipment of grain and of lumber, whether across the Pacific, to eastern American ports or to Europe, is now determined. Shipments of lumber to the Atlantic seaboard of the United States exceeded by six times those of 1922.

The sale of Canadian securities for 1923 slightly exceeds that of 1922, but the sales in Canada were nearly 84 per cent. of the whole. The figures are as follows:

Issue	Amount	In Canada	In United States	In Great Britain
Government.....	281,339,500	259,462,000	21,677,500	200,000
Municipal.....	83,819,847	59,466,847	24,353,000	nil
Railway.....	27,500,000	22,500,000	5,000,000	nil
Public Service Corp.	34,130,000	25,355,000	6,365,000	2,410,000
Miscellaneous.....	66,354,320	46,138,070	19,716,250	500,000
Total.....	493,143,667	412,921,917	77,111,750	3,110,000

The figures include a Dominion Government loan of 200 millions, of which 172 millions was a conversion. It was, however, so quickly subscribed by the general public that many holders of maturing bonds failed to secure the new issue. At the same moment an issue of 40 millions was made by the Ontario Government, which was also immediately taken by the public. This was for us an extraordinary event, indeed, before the war, almost any country would have been proud of such an accomplishment. The change in our power to absorb our own securities is very striking, and we give the figures of three years for comparison:

Total Issues	Canada	United States	Great Britain
1913—373 millions..	12.20	13.56	74.24
1918—764 millions..	94.87	4.70	.43
1923—493 millions..	83.73	15.64	.63

In only one year, 1918, has Canada stood higher than in the past year. Only once since 1913, namely, in 1918, has the percentage of purchases by the United States been so low. Great Britain has practically disappeared as a buyer since 1914, but when the pound sterling is on a gold basis she will again be a very large factor in setting the price of our bond issues.

The public debt of the Dominion on 31st March, 1923, was \$2,453,766,000, as compared with \$2,422,135,000 at the same date in 1922. On 30th November, 1923, it was \$2,414,641,000. The debt due by Great Britain was at 30th November \$66,851,000 as compared with \$75,000,000 a year before, and that due by foreign governments is practically still \$40,000,000. War expenditure has now fallen to \$2,420,000 for the year ending 30th November. The income arising from the special war taxes—inland revenue, income, business profits and taxes on trust, loan and insurance companies, and banks—for the fiscal year ending March, 1923, was \$181,634,000.

In the year ending 31st March, 1923, there was paid for pensions arising out of the Great War, disregarding the few earlier pensions, the sum of \$32,025,000. In this is included \$12,166,000 paid on behalf of 19,900 deceased soldiers to 34,403 individuals—widows, children and other dependents of these soldiers. There were also paid 43,240 pensions to disabled soldiers, amounting to \$18,571,000. These 43,240 pensions provide allowances to pensioners and relatives numbering in all 102,868 souls. We have thus paid pensions on behalf of 63,140 soldiers and have afforded assistance to 137,271 individuals. Since the Great War, and down to 31st March, 1923, we have paid in pensions the sum of \$151,751,000.

We referred a year ago to immigration conditions in Canada and the United States, and to the policy of both countries as opposed to what to us seemed to be their true interest. That we ought to exclude all subnormal as

well as other clearly objectionable types is evident, and that those who do not belong to the so-called white races will be excluded or limited is presumed, but apart from these restrictions we should let down the bars if we expect to equalize the rewards of labour in the cities and towns as compared with agriculture, the striking inequality in which is in our opinion the most serious feature of the business conditions of North America.

In the United States there is almost more evidence of a desire to further restrict immigration than to aid it. In Canada there has been a re-awakening, the result of which became apparent in the last half of the past year, but the figures at the close of the fiscal year, March, were very discouraging. From 1910 to 1914, inclusive, the total number of immigrants coming into Canada was 1,661,000. From 1915 to 1919, inclusive, the total fell to 405,000, the lowest year being 1916, with only 48,500 immigrants. During the last four years the figures have been as follows: 1920, 117,000; 1921, 148,000; 1922, 90,000; 1923, 73,000. For the six months ending in September, however, the number was 94,000, an increase of over 100 per cent. as compared with the same half year in 1922. That a great many Canadians and others claiming to be such should enter the United States from Canada is natural under present conditions. Immigration from other countries than Canada is so restricted that labour in manufacturing centres is paid more highly than almost ever before, and this naturally attracts many from Canada at the moment, but already some have returned. Many think that this is not the time to urge immigrants to go on the land, but this is one of the forms in which aid has always come to overcrowded Europe; and many men and women, who have grown up during the last ten years in Europe, would welcome what to our farmers would be a very narrow standard of comfort, in order to have the chance to make a start in life. We need not expect that any land settlement that is possible under

existing circumstances will go very far in numbers, but if settled in due relation to the areas already supplied with railways, a comparatively small amount of settlement would have a very beneficial effect. That we must watch the fate of almost every new settler on the land and aid him as we have not done heretofore, except in the case of our soldier settlers, has repeatedly been made clear. Down to date a little over 16 per cent. of the soldiers who undertook farming under the Soldier Settlement Scheme have left their farms. This covers deaths, recurring disability, unsuitable lands, unsuitable settlers, etc. Having regard to the fact that they were not selected as agricultural workers, were not always in normal health and have experienced such trying times, the result seems far from unsatisfactory. About 30,000 ex-service men have been placed on farms, of whom about 6,300 were given no assistance by way of loans. Last year the repayments made on government loans to settlers amounted approximately to 60 per cent. of what was due, a good record as compared with similar payments to loan companies. We need not pretend that the settlement of immigrants on the land is an easy task, or one in which large results can be quickly obtained. On the contrary it is a difficult task, needing most careful study and unflagging patience, but the result of every new farm created is so important to our future that no pains should be spared, or legislation omitted, which will help this great national work.

We have spoken at some length for several years on the unwise and unfair incidence of our Dominion taxation. As we look back at these statements, we see no reason for changing the views thus set forth. We must manage to balance our budget, and this cannot be effected without severe taxation, taxation, indeed, that will weigh heavily for a generation or more. We shall continue doubtless to levy Dominion taxes on two quite different theories, one, that the tax to be levied shall be related to the

object taxed and not to the particular taxpayer, and the other, that in the case of incomes and accumulated savings generally, the tax shall be so graded in favour of small incomes and small savings as to punish those who have been the more successful ones; and, as the principle is developed, to punish those who have been the most successful of all, by what is perilously like confiscation. When we marshal the reasons why our national prosperity is retarded at the moment, we should not fail to put the system by which we gather our national revenue in front of all deterrents. Once more we urge the creation of a turnover tax of one per cent., with such provisions to avoid double taxation on brokerage transactions on the public exchanges as may be necessary, the removal of the sales tax, and the lowering of the super-taxes on incomes and other unfair taxes, which are preventing the creation of new enterprises for profit, and drying up the sources from which religion, education, charity and other forces in our civilization were largely supported and enabled to enlarge their usefulness. The small number who pay any income tax to the Dominion Government is the best evidence that so far from asking the Canadian people to join in paying for the cost of the war, the overwhelming bulk of our people are escaping at the expense of this very small number, at least so far as this, the most burdensome of all the new war taxes, is concerned. We do not believe, much as we all naturally dislike taxation, that the overwhelming bulk of our people desire these few to pay so heavily, while the rest escape altogether. We doubt also if they understand that, by preventing those who pay unfair taxes from helping new enterprises, they are causing much more loss to themselves eventually than any thing they may have saved by not paying their share of the cost of the war. Taxation settled by the mere power of votes is described by Dean Inge as a state where "one class levies taxes and another class pays them." Apart from this, we cannot tax savings in Canada

more heavily than they are taxed in the United States without driving a great deal of capital out of Canada and into the United States, and unless the Dominion income tax is adjusted in Canada to meet the reductions being made in the United States, we shall surely suffer in this respect. It is also to be hoped that we shall soon adjust the tax-levying conditions so as to put an end to the payment of death duties in several provinces of Canada on the same item of property. One of the worst features about our many new forms of taxation is the difficulty of understanding the application and precise working of laws which have no principle as a basis, but merely the intention to exact payment without regard to what is just and fair. A system of lending money by way of mortgage on real property, say to the extent of one half of its value, has existed so long in the modern world, and is so necessary to the welfare of every community, that it seems impossible that governments or municipalities would knowingly do what might cause such a system to be no longer workable. That municipal taxes on such mortgaged land must be paid as a first charge is understood by everybody. There are places of public registry where such prior claims can always be ascertained, and such taxes usually bear a minor relation to the rental value of the mortgaged property. But this power to create claims prior to the mortgage lender, by new and peculiar forms of taxation, has been carried in some of our provinces to a degree which has greatly limited the willingness to lend on real security in such provinces. We are now confronted with a new form of prior lien which at least adds most seriously to the difficulty of lending on real property in any part of Canada. A recent amendment to the Dominion Income Tax Act makes federal income taxes after a certain date a lien on real and personal property with priority over any mortgage or covenant. As the security of the lender depends largely upon the report of his solicitor as to the

existence or otherwise of any prior liens, the latter must ascertain whether all claims for Dominion Income Tax have been paid before he can certify as to these. This, however, will not alter the fact that if the borrower fails to pay his income tax in subsequent years it will become a prior lien, and may be for an amount greater than the entire value of the mortgaged property. A lien may also arise from the unpaid income tax of an owner of land subsequent to the original owner who executed the mortgage. It is not too much to say that the business of lending money by way of mortgage on land in Canada cannot be carried on under such conditions. One can imagine what all this means in trouble and in cost to every borrower, but particularly to the countless borrowers of relatively small sums on farms and city dwellings.

Surely the time has arrived when a commission should be appointed to study the questions arising in connection with taxation—how can the necessary revenue be raised with the least injustice, the least irritation to the citizen, the least detriment to production and business generally, and to the finding of capital for the enlargement of existing or the creation of new enterprises?

The General Manager has referred to the amalgamation of the Bank of Hamilton with this bank. This brings to my mind a bit of bank history which I think may be interesting. From 1836 to 1869 the bank which peculiarly represented the City of Hamilton and the surrounding country was the Gore Bank, taking its name from the so-called Gore District. Early in 1869 the Gore Bank obtained power to change its name to the "Bank of Hamilton," but as before the year elapsed the shareholders voted to accept an offer for their business made by The Canadian Bank of Commerce, which was confirmed by Parliament in 1870, this title was never assumed. The Canadian Bank of Commerce hoped that by this amalgamation they were securing the premier banking

position in Hamilton, but in 1872 an actual Bank of Hamilton was created, which has successfully held this premier position for fifty years, and only now consents to a marriage, in which as usual the bride assumes a new name.

In closing we again express the hope that our shareholders and customers will read the reports of our Superintendents and other officers in the various districts or countries in which this institution possesses branches. The Canadian reports will throw light on every phase of business activity in this country, and the conclusions reached from reading them will, we are sure, not afford reason for anything but thankfulness that in a much troubled world we have done so well.

We need the conviction that we should not wait for fortune to turn the wheel for us, but that we should turn it ourselves. We still possess the greatest land of opportunity in the world. Our need is to recover the spirit of enterprise, and to secure for the agricultural producer a fairer margin of profit. Immigration is a prime essential to both; but a more reasonable system of taxation, which will lead those who have saved or made a surplus to use it in helping sound ventures for our development, instead of feeling that they are being punished by the income tax for every successful venture they have made, is still more necessary. With the impetus which such changes would give, the natural energy of Canada will turn to the countless opportunities for development which our country affords, and we shall soon enjoy a new era of prosperity based upon a longer and wider experience, and in due proportion to our status among those nations who, great or small, contribute to the progress of the world.

The Report was then adopted upon motion of the President, seconded by the Vice-President, the Right Hon. Sir Thomas White.

Mr. G. W. Allan then moved, seconded by Mr. Vincent Massey: That Messrs. T. Harry Webb, C.A., and C. S.

Scott, F.C.A., be and they are hereby appointed to audit the affairs of this Bank until the next annual general meeting, and that their remuneration be \$25,000.

The Chairman: The auditors of the Bank heretofore have been Mr. T. Harry Webb, of George A. Touche & Company, and Mr. D. Dewar, of Marwick, Mitchell & Company. The new Bank Act requires that the auditors shall be changed from time to time and that the same two auditors shall not act together beyond a certain number of years.

The Chairman: Sir Thomas White, seconded by Mr. Miller Lash, the solicitor of the Bank, will move a resolution amending our by-laws. Our Board has heretofore varied from twenty-five to thirty, that seeming to be a suitable number of directors for such an important bank as The Canadian Bank of Commerce. In all previous amalgamations we have requested directors of the bank taken over to join our Board, in order that we might continue to enjoy their friendship and influence, and we are hoping to add to our Board to-day the following gentlemen, formerly directors of the Bank of Hamilton:

C. A. Birge, Hamilton.
H. S. Ambrose, Hamilton.
W. E. Phin, Hamilton.
W. A. Wood, Hamilton.
Robert Hobson, Hamilton.
A. V. Young, Hamilton.
I. Pitblado, K.C., Winnipeg.
W. P. Riley, Winnipeg.

This requires authority from you to make the Board larger than thirty for the moment. It is intended, however, that the number shall automatically drop back to thirty, as that becomes possible by death or by resignation.

At the same time I may add that Senator George G. Foster, K.C. has intimated that the pressure of public duties makes it difficult for him to continue as a director,

and the Board with regret accepts his resignation. The Senator came to us at the time of the amalgamation with the Eastern Townships Bank, eleven years ago, and we are glad that we shall still be able to make use of his wide knowledge in matters relating to that district.

Sir Thomas White then moved, seconded by Mr. Miller Lash: That the following by-law be adopted:

BY-LAW No. 12.

The shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce in Annual General Meeting assembled on the eighth day of January, A.D. One thousand nine hundred and twenty-four, hereby enact as follows:

1. Consolidated By-law No. 1, as enacted by the said shareholders on the 14th day of January, 1919, and amended on the thirteenth day of January, 1920, and on the tenth day of January, 1922, is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted therefor, and enacted as By-law No. 1 by the said shareholders:

"The Board of Directors of the bank shall be thirty-two in number until reduced as hereinafter provided. The number of Directors shall be reduced from time to time by vacancies in the Board as they occur, until it reaches thirty. Thereafter the Board of Directors of the bank shall be thirty in number. Three Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Directors. The qualifications of Directors shall be such as are provided by the Bank Act. In case a Director makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or his estate is placed in bankruptcy or liquidation under the provisions of any statute relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, such Director shall forthwith cease to be a member of the Board."

2. Consolidated By-law No. 5, as enacted by the said shareholders on the 14th day of January, 1919, is hereby

repealed, and the following is substituted therefor, and enacted as By-law No. 5 by the said shareholders:

"In each fiscal year, any sum not exceeding \$45,000 may be taken by the Board of Directors from the funds of the bank as a remuneration for the services of the Directors; and the Directors may from time to time apportion the same among themselves in such manner as they shall think fit. For each fiscal year the Board may also provide for payment to the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Standing Committee of the Board, of such remuneration for their services as such as the Board may from time to time determine."

The Chairman: It is not necessary for me to put the resolution to you, because you will vote on it at the time the voting for the new Board of Directors takes place.

Mr. A. Kingman then moved, seconded by Mr. G. C. Edwards:

That Sir John Aird, General Manager of the Bank, be and he is hereby appointed to act as proxy for the Bank at any and all meetings of each and every corporation controlled by the Bank, including the Dominion Realty Company, Limited, Toronto; Dominion Properties Company, Incorporated, New York, and Alloway & Champion, Limited, Winnipeg.

The Chairman: This is one of the many requirements of the new Bank Act. Carried.

Mr. G. Campbell: We have been living in troublous times, and as shareholders feel a great deal of satisfaction in knowing that we have a President and Board of Directors looking after the interests of this Bank in whom we have the utmost confidence. I beg to move:

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, the Vice-Presidents and the other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past twelve months.

Mr. C. D. Massey: I have great pleasure, Mr. Chairman, in seconding the resolution. Carried.

The Chairman: I have to thank you very much for the resolution, and to say to you that I do not believe a more enthusiastic or hard-working Board of Directors exists. Our Board has been planned, heretofore, upon a different theory altogether from that of some other banks. Our idea has been that we should have directors scattered throughout Canada and elsewhere who represent the Bank in that particular district, and who are a powerful aid to our managers, as well as a source of information and advice. We have directors as far away as Rio, who, in the nature of things, cannot attend many meetings, but whose able advice we can count upon in connection with transactions that may come up. We have others in the Central West, in British Columbia and in the Maritime Provinces. To manage four or five hundred millions of assets in a vast territory like this, thirty directors do not strike me as a large number.

This is the only amalgamation that the Bank of Commerce ever consummated in which the directors of the bank coming into the Bank of Commerce made no conditions whatever, or any suggestion of any kind that they should become members of the Board. We have expressly requested each one individually of those mentioned to become a member of the Board of Directors. There is no abler set of directors than the men who looked after the affairs of the Bank of Hamilton.

We have gone through a very difficult year, and I do not know what we may have to face again, but I can say that it is our belief that hampering restrictions which make it difficult for well-managed banks to do the best they can for their customers are really not in the interests of the country. If we turn, as Sir John has said, to Great Britain, there are no regulations at all—banking is the result of the common sense and experience that

bankers have acquired in the course of time. That is also what our Act used to be. You cannot prevent the weakness of some individual institution by a restrictive regulation, without making it more difficult for the great banks to take care of the requirements of this country.

Dr. Colby: I beg to move that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, the Assistant General Manager and the other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the last twelve months.

Mr. Ames: If justice is to be done to the subject of this resolution about an hour and a half should be devoted to it, but at this late hour, without any further delay, but with the greatest heartiness and appreciation, I second the motion. Carried.

Mr. H. V. F. Jones: It gives me very great pleasure to respond to the resolution which has been moved by Dr. Colby and seconded by Mr. Ames, and to thank you for it on behalf of the staff.

A bank, probably more than any other institution is dependent for its success upon the faithfulness, wisdom and energy of the members of its staff, and the results which have been presented to you to-day are evidence of how they have done their duty.

Our staff, which numbered 4322 last year, has increased to 4463, consisting of 3390 men and 1073 women. Since the 31st of December there have been added 708 men and 190 women, comprising the staff of the Bank of Hamilton. Our staff, accordingly, totals 5361 to-day, a small army in fact, and they are rendering service in 623 branches of the Bank, extending from Dawson and Victoria in the west to Halifax in the east, as well as in the United States, Mexico, the West Indies, Brazil and London.

We welcome the staff of the Bank of Hamilton, and as the General Manager has said, a wider field of service is now open to them; and they are assured of equal treatment

with our own staff, with the increased opportunities which the amalgamated institution will afford.

The staff is a united body of loyal, efficient, highly trained men and women, who are devoted to the service of the Bank. They are rendering to-day great service in all the branches, in many cases under rather trying conditions. I wish, in conclusion, to say that, in the opinion of the Executive, the staff well deserve the generous recognition which you have given them this morning, and for which, on their behalf, I thank you.

Mr. D. A. Cameron: On behalf of the managers and staff of the Bank, I beg to add a word of appreciation to what Mr. Jones has said in respect of the resolution which you have just passed.

While it is appreciated by all of us, those in the centre of things as well as those in the far-flung battle line, of which Mr. Jones has just spoken, extending from Dawson on the north to Rio on the south, Victoria and San Francisco on the west to London on the east, it is, I think, taken more to heart by those who are serving on the outskirts of civilization than by those who are more advantageously situated, and who know what is going on in the Bank.

I can assure you that you have a very loyal staff, and I feel that in another year the same thing can be said of those coming to us from the Bank of Hamilton. We are all extremely proud of the Bank, and we work for it not just because of the pay, but because we feel that it is a part of ourselves, a part of our life; in fact I think most of the staff regard the Bank as their own bank more than do the shareholders. On behalf of the staff, I take great pleasure in saying how much we appreciate the vote of thanks which you have given us.

Mr. W. W. Hutchison then moved, seconded by Mr. Flumerfelt: That the meeting do now proceed to elect directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the

ballot box be opened and remain open until three o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered; the result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the General Manager. Carried.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the result of the voting to be that Messrs. T. Harry Webb, C.A., and C. S. Scott, F.C.A., had been duly elected auditors of the Bank to serve until the next annual general meeting, that By-law No. 12, enacting new By-laws Nos. 1 and 5, had been duly passed, and that the directors elected to serve during the following year were: Sir Edmund Walker, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., Sir John Aird, The Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas White, K.C.M.G., Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart., A. Kingman, E. R. Wood, Sir John Morison Gibson, K.C.M.G., K.C., LL.D., Robert Stuart, George F. Galt, A. C. Flumerfelt, Chas. Colby, Ph.D., LL.D., George W. Allan, K.C., H. J. Fuller, F. P. Jones, H. C. Cox, Charles N. Candee, W. W. Hutchison, H. R. Silver, Jas. A. Richardson, T. A. Russell, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, K.B.E., Miller Lash, Vincent Massey, G. C. Edwards, H. S. Ambrose, C. A. Birge, Robert Hobson, W. E. Phin, I. Pitblado, K.C., W. P. Riley, W. A. Wood and A. V. Young.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held later, Sir Edmund Walker, C.V.O., was re-elected President, and Sir John Aird and The Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas White, K.C.M.G., Vice-Presidents.

