



IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

FIFTY~SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT
PRESENTED TO THE
SHAREHOLDERS
NOVEMBER 24th
1926

Imperial Bank of Canada

Head Office: Toronto

Established 1875

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	.	\$10,000,000.00
CAPITAL PAID UP	. .	7,000,000.00
RESERVE FUND	. .	7,500,000.00

Fifty-Second Annual Report
1926

Imperial Bank of Canada

ESTABLISHED 1875

CAPITAL (AUTHORIZED)	- - - - -	\$10,000,000.00
CAPITAL (PAID UP)	- - - - -	7,000,000.00
RESERVE FUND	- - - - -	7,500,000.00

DIRECTORS

PHILEAS HOWLAND	PRESIDENT
SIR JAMES WOODS	VICE-PRESIDENT
	SIR JAMES AIKINS, K.C. (Winnipeg)	
J. F. MICHIE	FRANK A. ROLPH	R. S. WALDIE
G. C. HEINTZMAN	J. W. HOBBS	WALTER C. LAIDLAW
	JOHN A. NORTHWAY	

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

A. E. PHIPPS, GENERAL MANAGER
G. D. BOULTON, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
H. T. JAFFRAY, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (Winnipeg)
R. S. CLARK, GENERAL SUPERVISOR
W. G. MORE, SECRETARY AND SUPERINTENDENT OF BRANCHES

SUPERVISORS

E. K. BOULTBEE	H. C. HOUSTON
B. E. HOWARD	W. G. LAIRD

INSPECTORS

A. L. OGDEN	W. BOURKE
J. F. SCARTH	J. MacLENNAN

BRANCHES

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AMHERSTBURG	C. A. CUDDY	Manager
AURORA	R. R. BROWN	"
BELWOOD	G. McNEE	"
BOLTON	J. F. WARBRICK	"
BRANTFORD	I. K. JOHNSTON	"
CALEDON EAST	(Sub Branch to Bolton)	"
COBALT	A. H. SEGUIN	"
COCHRANE	A. W. BARLOW	"
CONNAUGHT STATION	(Sub Branch to Timmins)	"
COTTAM	W. J. GOLDEN	"
CRAMPTON	(Sub Branch to Ingersoll)	"
CRYSTAL BEACH	(Sub Branch to Ridgeway)	"
ENGLEHART	C. H. HAZLETT	"
ELK LAKE	G. C. DUNLOP	"
ESSEX	H. M. McKENZIE	"
FERGUS	F. T. KYLE	"
FONTHILL	G. L. GORDON	"
FORT WILLIAM	W. K. WICKENS	"
GALT	H. ROBERTS	"
GORMLEY	(Sub Branch to Aurora)	"
GRAND VALLEY	S. R. WAY	"
HAMILTON	F. S. GLASSCO	"
HARROW	P. T. CLARK	"
HEARST	T. TREMBLAY	"
HUMBERSTONE	J. M. HOUSTON	"
INGERSOLL	A. O. MURRAY	"
JORDAN	(Sub Branch to Vineland)	"

KAPUSKASING	J. D. PATTERSON	Manager
KENORA	C. G. ROYDS	
KETTLEBY	(Sub Branch to Schomberg)	
KITCHENER	T. R. RICHARDSON	
KIRKLAND LAKE	S. B. MOORE	
LISTOWEL	M. R. HAY	
LONDON	A. J. GOODALL	
MATHESON	R. E. TRACEY	
NASHVILLE	(Sub Branch to Bolton)	
NEW Liskeard	J. H. McCAW	
NEWMARKET	F. H. HEWSON	
NIAGARA FALLS	J. D. HOOD	
NIAGARA FALLS, QUEEN ST.	D. HUGHES, JR.	
NIAGARA FALLS, SOUTH	J. H. ARKELL	
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE	L. A. RUSSELL	
NOBLETON	(Sub Branch to Bolton)	
NORTH BAY	L. T. CHARLTON	
OTTAWA	E. S. HOUSTON	
PALGRAVE	(Sub Branch to Bolton)	
PORT ARTHUR	C. G. T. HARCOURT	
PORT COLBORNE	E. J. BAKER	
PRESTON	BLAIN CHERRY	
QUEENSTON	(Sub Branch to St. David's)	
RICHARDS LANDING	(Sub Branch to Sault Ste. Marie)	
RICHMOND HILL	A. T. MINNIS	
RIDGEWAY	C. A. HAMILTON	
ST. CATHARINES	J. A. FORSTER	
ST. CATHARINES, EAST END	D. P. G. FORBES	
ST. CATHARINES, MARKET	A. F. ROBERTSON	
SANDWICH	E. B. RYNNOLDS	
ST. DAVIDS	J. B. THOMPSON	
ST. THOMAS, EAST END	H. W. SCARFF	
ST. THOMAS, WEST END	M. A. RICHARDSON	
SAULT STE. MARIE	JAS. WALKER	
SAULT STE. MARIE, GORE & QUEEN STS.	F. C. TROTT	
SAULT STE. MARIE, JAMES ST.	C. A. KEHOE	
SCHOMBERG	W. R. RODGER	
SIoux LOOKOUT	J. A. HODDER	
SOUTH PORCUPINE	J. P. MICHAUD	
SOUTH WOODSLEE	C. W. CORNWALL, Acct.-in-charge	
SPARTA	(Sub Branch to E. E. St. Thomas)	
STAMFORD	C. H. SEAMAN	
THESSALON	W. MCGUIRE	
THOROLD	G. R. NELLES	
TIMMINS	D. SUTHERLAND	
TORONTO—		
WELLINGTON & LEADER LANE	A. R. MARTIN	Manager
(HEAD OFFICE)	E. N. BATE	Assistant
ADELAIDE & VICTORIA STS.	R. G. WILKINSON	
BATHURST & DUPONT STS.	G. R. MURTON	
BAY ST.	W. M. SELLENS	
BLOOR & BATHURST	I. C. WEDD	
BLOOR ST. & LANSLOWNE AVE.	J. W. WILLIS	
CHURCH ST.	W. WALLACE	
DANFORTH & CARLAW	D. N. WRIGHT	
DAVISVILLE	A. H. WILSON	
DUNDAS & BLOOR STS.	W. H. COGHILL	
KING & MARKET STS.	H. A. INGLIS	
KING & SHERBOURNE STS.	W. H. SWAN	
KING ST. & SPADINA AVE.	J. B. PRIESTMAN	
KING & YORK STS.	E. H. ANDERSON	
KINGSTON ROAD & BALSAH	J. B. ATKINS	
MONARCH PARK & DANFORTH	H. T. BEATY	
QUEEN & BATHURST	H. F. WESTERN	
QUEEN ST. & CARLAW AVE.	M. R. MCKEE	
QUEEN ST. & KINGSTON RD.	E. F. H. BADKE	
QUEEN ST. & RONCESVALLES AVE.	R. ARKELL	
RUNNYMEDE & ANNETTE	S. S. JONES	
ST. CLAIR & BOON AVE.	H. F. RICE	
WEST TORONTO	W. E. CUSLER	
WELLESLEY & SHERBOURNE STS.	G. L. BONYUN	
YONGE & ANN STS.	B. E. YOUNG	
YONGE & BLOOR STS.	O. D. ROBINSON	
YONGE & QUEEN STS.	G. D. RITCHIE	
VINELAND	E. H. COLEMAN	

WALKERVILLE	W. T. CARTHEW	Manager
WELLAND	J. H. ROLPH	
WINDSOR	G. J. LACKNER	
WOODSTOCK	L. R. LLOYD	

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MONTREAL	A. R. B. HEARN	Manager
QUEBEC	G. F. C. LOVE	

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

BRANDON	J. A. WETMORE	Manager
GILL	(Sub Branch to Riverton)	
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	C. W. READE	
RIVERTON	H. M. SAMPSON	
WINNIPEG	A. D. DUNCAN	
	R. CARSON	Assistant
	J. MacGREGOR	Acting
WARRINGTON & WESTMINSTER	W. M. PORTER	
NORTH END	R. MAVOR	
ST. VITAL		

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BALGONIE	J. CURRIE	Manager
BROADVIEW	V. J. MANN	
CANWOOD	P. R. CARTER	
DAFOE	L. F. A. JOHNSTONE	
DENHOLM	(Sub Branch to North Battleford)	
FIELDING	A. MacMILLAN	
FORT QU'APPELLE	J. F. MacKAY	
HAGUE	(Sub Branch to Rosthern)	
HANDEL	R. S. McCLAY	
HEPBURN	N. B. CUMMINS	
LAIRD	A. FRIESEN	
LEBRET	(Sub Branch to Fort Qu'Appelle)	
MAYMONT	(Sub Branch to Fielding)	
McLEAN	(Sub Branch to Balgonie)	
MOOSE JAW	JOHN THOMSON	
NORTH BATTLEFORD	F. R. MUIR	
PIAPOT	C. C. FAWCETT	
PRINCE ALBERT	S. N. DAVIDSON	
REGINA	W. L. GILLILAND	
ROSTHERN	G. S. REMPEL	
RUELLE	E. REBURN	
SASKATOON	F. W. SCRIMES	
SPRINGWATER	S. T. SKENE	
WALDHEIM	(Sub Branch to Hephburn)	
WILKIE	C. C. ANNETT	
WYNYARD	H. J. MORGAN	

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

ATHABASCA	J. F. PERCIVAL	Manager
BANFF	W. V. GODDARD	
BIG VALLEY	L. R. ANDERSON	
CALGARY	A. H. WEAVER	
CALGARY EAST END	G. I. B. BELL	
DAYSLAND	C. C. CASE	
EDBERG	(Sub Branch to Ferintosh)	
EDMONTON	G. R. F. KIRKPATRICK	
	P. B. REEVE	Assistant
NORWOOD BOULEVARD	W. P. GRAHAM	
SOUTH	W. A. PATTERSON	
WEST	H. W. HARRISON	
EDSON	J. G. DEACON	
FERINTOSH	A. S. ROSENROLL	
GRANDE PRAIRIE	J. A. C. CLOKIE	
JASPER	J. M. KINNEAR	
MILLET	J. A. ENGLISH	
NEW NORWAY	J. BURGOYNE	
REDCLIFF	A. MCKENZIE	

RED DEER.....	H. WILLSON.....	Manager
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE.....	P. C. ROUTLEDGE.....	"
SANGUDO.....	J. BALLANTYNE.....	"
SYLVAN LAKE.....	P. L. APPLETON.....	"
TROCHU.....	J. D. MacGILLIVRAY.....	"
WETASKIWIN.....	H. W. WRIGHT.....	"

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

CHASE.....	H. J. HAYLOCK.....	Manager
CRANBROOK.....	W. R. GRUBBE.....	"
CRESTON.....	C. W. ALLEN.....	"
FERNIE.....	A. M. OWEN.....	"
FIELD.....	(Sub Branch to Golden)	"
GOLDEN.....	F. L. GRABAN.....	"
INVERMERE.....	(Sub Branch to Golden)	"
MICHEL.....	(Sub Branch to Natal)	"
NATAL.....	H. L. REID.....	"
NELSON.....	J. H. D. BENSON.....	"
REVELSTOKE.....	T. R. JONES.....	"
VANCOUVER.....	J. M. LAY.....	"
FAIRVIEW.....	K. ANDERSON.....	"
HASTINGS & ABBOTT STS.....	F. B. THOMSON.....	"
VICTORIA.....	A. R. GREEN.....	"

Imperial Bank of Canada

Agents and Correspondents

CANADA.....	Bank of Montreal
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND	Lloyds Bank Limited District Bank Limited The Commercial Bank of Scotland Limited Northern Banking Co. Limited Lloyds & National Provincial Foreign Bank Limited
FRANCE.....	Credit Lyonnais
GERMANY.....	Deutsche Bank
NORWAY.....	Bergens Privatbank
ITALY.....	Banca Commerciale Italiana
BELGIUM AND SWITZERLAND..	Lloyds & National Provincial Foreign Bank Limited
UNITED STATES..	NEW YORK—Bank of the Manhattan Company Bank of America Bankers Trust Co. Guaranty Trust Co. Irving Bank & Trust Co. National Bank of Commerce National City Bank Hanover National Bank BOSTON—National Shawmut Bank BUFFALO—Marine Trust Co. CHICAGO—First National Bank Illinois Merchants Trust Co. CLEVELAND—Union Trust Co. DETROIT—First National Bank DULUTH—First National Bank LOS ANGELES—Citizens' National Bank MINNEAPOLIS—First National Bank PHILADELPHIA—Franklin Fourth Street National Bank Philadelphia-Girard National Bank First National Bank PITTSBURGH—Bank of Pittsburgh PORTLAND, ORE.—United States National Bank SAN FRANCISCO—Wells Fargo Bank and Union Trust Co. SEATTLE, WASH.—Seattle National Bank SPOKANE—Exchange National Bank ST. PAUL—First National Bank
CHINA AND JAPAN.	Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND..	Bank of New South Wales Union Bank of Australia
SANDWICH ISLANDS.....	Yokohama Specie Bank Bank of Hawaii Limited
SOUTH AFRICA...	Standard Bank of South Africa Limited
INDIA.....	Lloyds Bank Limited National Bank of India Limited

Imperial Bank of Canada

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
SHAREHOLDERS

*Held at the Banking House of the Institution in Toronto,
on Wednesday, 24th November, 1926.*

The Fifty-Second Annual General Meeting of the Imperial Bank of Canada was held at the Head Office of the Bank in Toronto, on Wednesday, 24th November, 1926, the Chair being taken by the President, Mr. Peleg Howland.

Amongst those present were:—Ven. Archdeacon Doherty (London), A. Rankin, W. A. Medland, John J. Cook, W. J. Fleury (Aurora), F. H. Gooch, W. H. Knowlton, G. G. LeMesurier, James E. Baillie, W. J. Equi, Major G. H. Aikins (Winnipeg), F. G. Osler, Egbert A. Smith, F. G. Inwood, G. W. Blaikie, E. C. F. Wood, H. T. Jaffray, Rev. T. W. Paterson, D. S. Cassels, C. S. McDonald, A. McPherson (Orillia), Wm. Stone, T. L. Walker, G. M. Gardener, A. R. Capreol, J. W. Bain, K.C., Prof. McLennan, A. E. Ferrie, W. J. Aitchison (Hamilton), C. M. Gipton (Niagara-on-the-Lake), H. A. Jones, Alfred Bicknell, Dr. Brefney O'Reilly, A. E. Phipps, Peleg Howland, W. G. More, R. S. Clark, E. J. Case, A. C. Rome, J. Hadden, H. C. Houston, H. P. Taylor, E. N. Bate, Sir James Woods, Lt.-Col. J. F. Michie, R. S. Waldie, F. A. Rolph, G. C. Heintzman, J. W. Hobbs, Walter C. Laidlaw, John A. Northway, J. Watt, A. S. Chapin, J. K. Fiskien, T. H. Wood,

Imperial Bank of Canada

A. M. M. Kirkpatrick, H. Vigeon, Dr. F. LeM. Grasett, Jas. Scott, W. C. Crowther, A. S. Knowlton, W. H. Lamont, W. Cecil Lee, W. B. Taylor, Dr. Frank King, C. A. Case (St. Catharines), Edmund B. Leroy, J. G. Ramsey, J. F. Duncan, John Duncan, G. C. Foster, H. B. Patton, F. E. Luke, F. W. Christie, Col. W. A. Hamilton, G. R. F. Kirkpatrick.

The President read the Notice calling the Meeting. Mr. W. G. More, Secretary of the Bank, was appointed Secretary of the Meeting, and Messrs. D. S. Cassels and G. W. Blaikie were appointed Scrutineers.

Imperial Bank of Canada

The Secretary then read the Directors' Report and Annual Statement as follows:—

REPORT

The Directors have pleasure in presenting to the Shareholders the Fifty-Second Annual Report and Balance Sheet of the affairs of the Bank as on 30th October, 1926, together with Statement of Profit and Loss Account, showing the result of the operations for the year.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account brought forward from last year was. \$1,098,871.92

Profits for the year ended 30th October, 1926, after deducting charges of management, auditors' fees and interest due depositors and after making full provision for bad and doubtful debts and for rebate on bills under discount were..... 1,265,776.31

Making a total at credit of Profit and Loss Account of..... \$2,364,648.23

This amount has been appropriated as follows:—

Dividends at the rate of 12% per annum....	\$ 840,000.00
Bonus of 1% for the year.....	70,000.00
Annual contribution to Officers' and Employees' Pension and Guarantee Funds....	42,500.00
Dominion Government Taxes Paid and Reserved.....	160,000.00
Balance of Account Carried Forward.....	1,252,148.23

\$2,364,648.23

During the year Branches of the Bank were opened at Kitchener and Elk Lake, Ontario. Branches were also operated during the summer season at Hudson and Pine Ridge, Ontario, in the Red Lake Gold area.

It is with deep regret that your Directors have to record the death on 6th November, 1926, of Mr. John Northway, who was a customer and Shareholder of the Bank for many years and became a Director in 1915. The vacancy in the

Board has been filled by the appointment of his son, Mr. John A. Northway.

The Head Office and Branches have as usual been carefully inspected during the year and the Auditors appointed by you have also made their examination as required by law. Their report and certificate is attached to the Balance Sheet. In common with other Banks, the annual investigation of the affairs of the Bank has also been made by the Inspector General of Banks appointed by the Dominion Government for the purpose.

The Directors have again much pleasure in bearing testimony to the satisfactory manner in which the various officers of the Bank have discharged their respective duties during the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PELEG HOWLAND,

President.

Toronto, 23rd November, 1926.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

30th OCTOBER, 1926

Dividends Nos. 142, 143, 144 and 145, at the rate of 12% per annum.....\$840,000	Balance at credit of account Oct. 31st, 1925, brought forward.....\$1,098,871.92
Bonus of 1% payable November 1st, 1926 70,000	Profits for the year ended 30th October, 1926, after deducting charges of man- agement, auditors' fees and interest due deposi- tors, and after making provision for bad and doubtful debts and for rebate on bills under dis- count.....1,265,776.31
Contribution to Officers' Guarantee Fund..... 2,500.00	
Contribution to Officers' Pen- sion Fund as per By-Law No. 33..... 40,000.00	
DOMINION GOVERNMENT TAXES, including tax paid on Circulation and Re- serve for Income Tax..... 160,000.00	
Balance of Account carried forward.....1,252,148.23	
<u>\$2,364,648.23</u>	<u>\$2,364,648.23</u>

RESERVE FUND

Balance at Credit of Account October 30th, 1926. \$7,500,000.00

PELEG HOWLAND,

President.

A. E. PHIPPS,

General Manager.

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL

30th OCTOBER

LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$10,692,633.00	
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$18,409,936.35	
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date of State- ment.....	82,377,078.56	100,787,014.91
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	\$ 3,460,665.34	
Due to Banks and Banking Correspon- dents in the United Kingdom.....	21,072.71	
Due to Banks elsewhere than in Canada and the United Kingdom.....	273,626.32	
Letters of Credit Outstanding.....	564,397.39	
		4,319,761.76
Total Liabilities to the Public.....	\$115,799,409.67	
Capital Stock paid in.....	\$7,000,000.00	
Reserve Fund Account.....	7,500,000.00	
Dividend No. 145 (payable 1st Novem- ber, 1926) for three months at the rate of 12% per annum.....	210,000.00	
Bonus of 1% payable 1st November, 1926.....	70,000.00	
Unclaimed Dividends.....	751.75	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward.....	1,252,148.23	16,032,899.98

AUDITORS' REPORT TO SHARE-
HOLDERS.

We report to the Shareholders of the Imperial Bank of Canada:—

That we have audited the above Balance Sheet as at October 30th, 1926, 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 in our opinion the transactions of the Bank which have come under our notice have been within the powers of the Bank.

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

The above Balance Sheet does not include money which has been set aside by the Shareholders from time to time for the purpose of a Pension Fund, a portion of which is invested in shares of the Bank.

A. B. SHEPHERD, C.A.
of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.

D. McK. McCELLAND, F.C.A.
of Price, Waterhouse & Co.

Toronto, November 19th, 1926.

\$131,832,309.65

BALANCE SHEET

1926

ASSETS

Current Coin held by the Bank.....	\$ 963,103.07	
Dominion Government Notes.....	10,473,959.25	
United States and other Foreign Currencies.....	167,223.22	\$11,604,285.54
Deposit in the Central Gold Reserves.....		4,004,466.66
Deposit with the Minister for the purposes of the Cir- culation Fund.....		332,730.45
Notes of other Banks.....		685,017.00
Cheques on other Banks.....		5,845,343.35
Balances due by other Banks in Canada.....		507,653.35
Due from Banks and Banking Correspondents in the United Kingdom.....		228,567.39
Due from Banks and Banking Correspondents, else- where than in Canada and the United Kingdom....		4,007,239.35
		\$27,215,303.09
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities not exceeding market value.....	\$15,846,622.77	
Canadian Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian, not exceeding market value.....	5,695,434.67	
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks, not exceeding market value.....	64,832.26	21,606,889.70
Loans to Provincial Governments.....	\$1,209,878.35	
Loans to Cities, Towns, Municipalities and School Districts.....	5,912,981.79	
Call and Short (not exceeding thirty days) Loans in Canada on Stocks, Debentures and Bonds, and other Securities of a sufficient marketable value to cover.....	8,427,522.09	
Call and Short (not exceeding thirty days) Loans elsewhere than in Canada on Stocks, Debentures and Bonds, and other Securities of a suffi- cient marketable value to cover.....	5,000,000.00	20,550,382.23
		\$69,372,575.02
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest), after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts.....		55,186,970.88
Non Current Loans estimated loss provided for.....		251,874.18
Real Estate other than Bank premises.....		634,523.84
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....		550,944.67
Bank Premises, at not more than cost, less amounts written off.....		4,921,660.21
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit as per contra.....		564,397.39
Other Assets not included in the foregoing.....		349,363.46
		<u>\$131,832,309.65</u>

PELEG HOWLAND,
President.

A. E. PHIPPS,
General Manager.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

It is with satisfaction that your Directors lay before you to-day, the result of the Bank's business for the past fiscal year. The management has been able to show a considerable increase in the profits, which have permitted the payment of the usual dividend and the bonus of one per cent and the carrying forward of a sum substantially in excess of last year. The results have been obtained by care and reasonable economy, favored by some expansion in business, and a ready market on call for surplus funds, abroad and at home, offsetting the somewhat lower returns from other sources.

Once more I have to yield to custom and repeat to you my impression of conditions as conveyed to me from the various sources available.

The country has again been blessed with abundant field crops though not equal to those of last year. They have been harvested under very unfavorable weather conditions, particularly in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario. The wheat crop in the West is estimated to be nearly as great as last year's, but it has suffered in grade and has not yet all been threshed. Coarse grains are short but the information obtainable would lead to the belief that the returns to the western farmer will be good, and that owing to the reduction in his debts from the proceeds of the previous crop he will have more money to spare than for some time past.

In this Province roots have suffered from excessive rains, potatoes markedly being a short crop, as against which pasturage has benefited and cattle have been able to run later than usual.

On the prairies there is an unusual amount of moisture in the soil for the spring growth, but fall work both west and east has been retarded. Definite figures are not yet obtainable but I believe there has been during the year an increase in the number of live stock, and in the products of the dairy.

The prices of butter and cheese are lower. Hog raising has again been profitable. The production of poultry and eggs has increased, adding in the Northwest particularly a very gratifying new source of income to many whose grain crops were not of the best. The present price of fresh eggs

would indicate room for further expansion in this branch of farming.

Fruit yields, in this province at least, have not been as abundant as last year; apples are short as were some of the smaller fruits but the results to the grower I understand have been good. Altogether while the returns to the farmer are somewhat out of balance with the prices of his needs, he is, the country over, and speaking generally, getting on top of his difficulties.

The Fisheries have yielded well, the salmon canners in British Columbia having had another successful year. The fishing industry is of much importance to Canada, but especially to the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia.

Mining in both British Columbia and Ontario has had further development, though the production has not increased quite as much as I think was expected. The development in the Rouyn District in the Province of Quebec is going on but has not yet reached the point where there has been actual production. An extension of the T. & N.O. Railway into that region would give this Province a better chance to benefit from the work going on there. Mining with smelting and refining which follow in its wake is of growing importance to Canada, and as it grows must attract in an increasing degree attention to this country both from the investing and speculating public.

The output of pulp and newsprint has increased largely and is now considerably in excess of that of the United States, and the expansion still goes on. The output bids fair to double that of 1925 in a short time. The year has been a profitable one to this industry. It is to be hoped that capacity will not soon be brought to the point where it will be in excess of requirements, but the consumption of these products seems to grow constantly, so perhaps there is no occasion for apprehension.

Lumbering, speaking generally, has not been profitable though there has been quite a large cut.

The Farm, the Forest, the Mine, and the Fisheries, are the four bases upon which the prosperity of this country rests. When it is understood that in the twelve months ending on

September 30th last this country's exports of agricultural and vegetable products and animal and animal products, amounted in value to 788 millions of dollars, and wood, wood products, and paper, to 284 millions, in all one billion and seventy-two millions out of total exports of one billion, three hundred and seven millions of dollars, the importance of these two industries to the country can be realized and also perhaps the wisdom of a fiscal policy which by reducing their costs of operation will encourage their expansion together with that of mining and of fishing.

In this connection, it is rather shocking to find with all the vacant arable land there is available that according to the figures supplied by the Department of Trade and Commerce, the number of acres under field crops were less in 1926 than in 1925.

While the indices such as car loadings, building permits, construction contracts, merchandise shipments, savings deposits, bank loans and so forth, all indicate the existence of better business and the activities surrounding our enormous Exports and Imports must result in good returns to many, my observation would lead to the belief that there is not the general prosperity in the industrial and distributing business of the country that is desirable, the cost of carrying on being still out of proportion to profit; but some progress has been made and it is not unreasonable to expect further improvement, for we have had in the ten months of the calendar year some reduction in our National debt other than that incurred on behalf of the publicly owned Railways, a reduction in Dominion taxation with the promise of more, a return of the country to a gold basis without dislocation of business and some increase in immigration, all of which must be helpful to our well-being.

It is gratifying also to see a genuine effort on the part of the North West Provinces and the Municipalities there to curtail Capital Expenditure; it is to be feared though that the necessity for this has not yet been appreciated to the full extent by those controlling affairs in the East; it is to be hoped that it will come to them soon for such expenditures lead to additional taxation.

May I venture to say here that it is strongly borne in upon me that if we are to readily attract capital for our

development and immigrants to carry on the work, the efforts of our Governments should be directed towards making this an economical country to live in; let us hope, with this end in view, they will conduct their affairs with such economy that we may look for a progressive easing of the burdens imposed by all three, Dominion, Provincial, and Municipal, and that it will be their endeavor to eliminate as soon as possible all forms of double taxation and those that hamper business or are of an inquisitorial character and which encourage misrepresentation and dishonesty.

Our great neighbors to the south have been enjoying, broadly speaking, great prosperity which has increased the demand for such of our products as they could economically consume or would permit to enter and we have derived much benefit from the ever increasing number of motorists who visit us.

Elsewhere abroad there are many disturbances and the world is far from having settled down to steady industry.

Great Britain is still our best customer. Unfortunately the coal strike has affected her ability to produce and thus to consume, of which we are feeling to some extent the effect. The sole apparent benefit to us is an increased demand for coal in Nova Scotia, but this is offset by large advances in Ocean freights, a reduction in the number of ships available for the carriage of grain, with congestion at terminals and consequent delay in returns from the crop. It would look now as if the strike would never be settled but the miners would gradually go back to work as necessity compelled, though it is difficult to see if the coal is to be produced at a cost to enable industries to thrive how some mines will continue to operate. Under any circumstances there will be many workers who must find other means of livelihood or be supported by the community.

Continental Europe has taken a further step towards stability in admitting Germany to the League of Nations. I am still of the opinion though that there must be freer interchange of goods among the European nations before the prosperity which is so desirable in all our interests is realized. There are indications that affairs are moving in that direction but naturally progress is slow.

To come back to the Bank's affairs it is with much regret that I have to report the passing of our Director, Mr. John Northway. Though he had been in failing health for some years past his death on November 6th was unexpected. Mr. Northway endeared himself to those with whom he came in contact and was highly esteemed by us all. He was very faithful in his attendance at Board Meetings when his health permitted. His business judgment was very sound. He will be very much missed. The vacancy on the Board has been filled by the appointment of Mr. John A. Northway, who it is felt will prove a worthy successor to his father.

Once more I would like to refer to the intelligent and comprehensive letters on general conditions sent in as is the annual custom by the Branch Managers, and to bear testimony to, and to thank the Staff generally for their faithfulness and zeal on behalf of the Bank.

Both your auditors are permitted by the Bank Act to offer themselves for re-election and accordingly do so.

I would like to say further that I feel that the Bank has made a distinct step forward during the past year and that we are looking to the coming year with confidence. Undoubtedly banking conditions have improved as will no doubt be shown by the results accomplished by the other Institutions which will be placing their affairs before their Shareholders within the next couple of months.

I beg to move the adoption of this Report. (Applause.)

VICE-PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The Canadian economic position improved materially in 1925, and general conditions to-day are better than at any time since 1920. An increase in the value of agricultural products in 1925 to approximately \$1,700,000,000 was, more than anything else, responsible for the improved situation.

Not many realize the impetus War gave to agriculture. In 1913, Canada had under cultivation 33,500,000 acres. In 1925, 53,800,000, or an increase of about 60%. Large and profitable field crops enabled the farmers of the West to pay, or greatly reduce, their debts; and this year's crop has put them in funds for replenishing personal and household requirements, creating commercial activity in the West, which was immediately reflected in the East. This general prosperity again is reflected in the banking situation, and your Bank, in common with others, has just closed a very satisfactory year; and all signs point to a continuance of, and I believe an increase in, this prosperity.

A point that may qualify this optimistic forecast is the recent marked decline in our favorable trade balance, which may be spasmodic and of no great significance. For the last three months, August, September and October, our excess of exports over imports amounted to \$50,000,000, as against \$122,000,000 for the same three months of the preceding year.

I regard railway earnings as a dependable trade barometer. The combined gross earnings, C.P.R. and C.N.R., were, for twelve months ending September:

1924.....	\$296,211,514
1925.....	289,530,060
1926.....	322,364,661

Or an increase this year over last year of 10%.

The two items in a Bank's Balance Sheet, which serve as an index, are deposits bearing interest and current loans and discounts. The former show, in our Balance Sheets, an increase this year over last of 7½%, the latter an increase of 10%.

While the gross agricultural revenue of the Dominion in 1925 reached the gigantic total of \$1,700,000,000, its diversity

is surprising and carries with it an assurance of security. Following are its main items, in order of importance:

Field crops.....	\$1,150,000,000
Dairy products.....	250,000,000
Farm animals.....	150,000,000
Poultry and Eggs.....	70,000,000
Fruits and Vegetables.....	52,000,000
Tobacco.....	7,000,000
Maple products.....	5,000,000
Honey.....	4,000,000
Wool.....	4,000,000
Clover and Grass Seed.....	3,500,000

Fur farming must have yielded a substantial revenue and is of growing importance. The hothouse industry is making healthy strides. The last Dominion census, that of 1921, shows a revenue for that year of over \$4,000,000 from flowers, fruit and vegetables grown under glass.

The Annual Report of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association discloses the progress which is being made in the growing of pure seed in Canada. The value of seed exported this past year was \$16,500,000. Clover seed and flax seed accounted for nearly Ten Million of this total; but wheat, oats, barley, corn, peas, beans, rye and Swede turnip seed are all gaining in favor; and demand for Canadian pure seeds comes not only from the United Kingdom and the United States, but from Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands and Argentina, while enquiries have come for seed barley from Mexico, seed wheat from New Zealand and oats from the Swiss Co-Operative Society of Zurich. The improvement in the seed grown is continuous. The work is comprehensively supervised by six Seed Boards which blanket the Dominion.

Two farmers a short distance from Toronto, customers of our Bank, each received this year over Three Thousand Dollars for their clover seed.

I have in mind two things which inevitably mean expansion for Canada.

First, her water powers. Installations already operating and others nearing completion or under way will have a

generating capacity of over five million horse-power. Canada leads the world in her generation of electric power per capita, and is the second country in the world in the total amount of power developed.

If one lets imagination have a free rein, we see through our water powers a picture of industrial activity, particularly in the central provinces, which opens a new chapter in Canadian history.

Second, trade with the Orient. There was in 1925 a marked development in the volume and value of trade between this country and China and Japan. Our exports to Japan in 1925-26 increased 40% over the previous twelve months, and to China 87%. Ten years ago not a bushel of Canadian wheat went to these countries. In the past twelve months they took approximately 20,000,000 bushels.

The population of China is said to have increased 70,000,000 in the past twenty-five years. In fact, we have in the East prospective customers to the number of 600,000,000. The transformation going on in China is not well understood. She has cities electric-lighted, with complete telephone systems and efficient police protection. Her roads are being improved. The rickshaw and ox-wagon will one day give place to the motor car.

And what about Japan? Japan came into the modern world half a century ago and has made tremendous strides. In that time she has doubled her possessions, built up a powerful navy and has become the Great Britain of the East.

These are our customers at the opposite gateway of the Pacific, and as they adopt Western methods and acquire Western tastes, their trade with us will reach vast proportions.

The day was when the water-borne commerce of the world was on the Mediterranean. The development of the United States made the Atlantic the great water highway, and China and Japan will make the Pacific the rival of the Atlantic and Vancouver Canada's outstanding seaport.

I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the Report. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Before putting the motion, I will ask the General Manager, Mr. Phipps, to make his comments on the statement.

GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

The Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement which is in your hands to-day will, I trust, meet with your approval. It indicates that your Bank has enjoyed a reasonable measure of prosperity, in fact the year just closed has probably been the best for the Bank since I became General Manager in 1921. The total assets, the deposits, and the profits all show a substantial increase.

The total assets at \$131,832,309.65 are the largest ever shown by the Bank as also are the deposits, in fact it is the first time that the deposits of the Bank have ever exceeded one hundred millions of dollars.

The profits have been distributed in the usual manner, the only change being an additional \$10,000 set aside to provide for additional income tax. They have been computed, of course, after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts and contingencies, but before setting aside contributions to the Pension and Guaranty Fund and of \$160,000 for the Dominion Government taxation. These taxes are in addition to Provincial Government taxes and licenses amounting in round figures to \$65,000, which have been paid and deducted at the Head Office and Branches before making up their profits. Altogether the taxes paid and reserved (leaving out of the question real property and similar taxes) amounted to \$225,000, or over 3% of the capital of the Bank. I doubt very much if any other class of business is so burdened with direct taxation.

It is satisfactory to note, therefore, that through increased business and other causes we were able to show net earnings of \$1,265,776.31 which are \$103,627.58 greater than a year ago and enable us to carry forward \$1,252,148.23 or \$153,276.21 more than last year. After allowing the \$160,000 for Dominion taxes the ratio of profits works out at 15.9% on the capital, but it must be remembered that the capital employed by the Bank embraces the Rest Account and undivided profits as well. If these be included the calculation is just about $6\frac{3}{4}\%$, a very modest amount considering the labour and risk involved.

The circulation at \$10,792,633 is practically the same as a year ago. We feel that it would have been greater had

it not been that the marketing of the western crops has been retarded by unseasonable weather.

The deposits \$100,787,014.91 show a growth of over \$5,000,000, and a very gratifying feature is that while there has been a slight shrinkage in the deposits not bearing interest or current accounts of \$1,000,000, there has been an increase in round figures of \$6,000,000 in interest bearing deposits which include the Savings Bank accounts of the Bank.

The other liabilities to the public consist merely of balances due to other Banks and Correspondents in Canada and elsewhere, which might really be classed as deposits of other Banks with us, and liabilities under Letters of Credit outstanding as per contra.

Coming to the assets—The cash on hand consisting of specie, Government notes and foreign currencies amounts to \$11,604,285.54. This is about \$700,000 less than last year, a normal fluctuation in the course of business.

The deposit in the Central Gold Reserve, Notes of other Banks, Cheques on other Banks, Balances due by other Banks in Canada and elsewhere bring the total of cash up to \$27,215,303.09 compared with \$26,338,271.38 a year ago and equals 23.50% of our liabilities to the public.

Dominion, Provincial, and Government and other readily realizable securities amount to \$21,606,889.70 to which may be added our Call Loans in New York, \$5,000,000, Call Loans in Canada \$8,427,522.09 and Loans to Provincial Governments and Municipalities \$7,122,860.14, a total of \$20,550,382.23, all securities of a most liquid character. These items together with the cash on hand give a grand total of \$69,372,575.02 of cash and readily convertible assets which is equal to 60% of the Bank's liabilities to the public.

Our current loans in Canada stand at \$55,186,970.88 compared with \$50,225,800.94 last year, an increase in round figures of \$5,000,000. The current loans of the Chartered Banks are among the most important assets. They reflect the activity of the Bank's commercial business and of course are the class of investment which brings the

best returns. I would like to repeat my annual assurance that we believe the quality of our current loans is exceedingly high and that full provision has been made for anything which could be considered doubtful.

The other important asset is the Bank Premises Account, which stands at \$4,921,660.21 as against \$5,056,813.14 last year. The expenditures on bank premises were very light during the year and were more than offset by the collection of the proceeds of the sale of a property in Vancouver. The Bank owns its own premises at one hundred and thirty-seven points.

We continued our conservative policy with regard to new branches during the year and only two were opened: at Kitchener, Ont., where we are already becoming established and at Elk Lake where the mining activities seem to require banking facilities. Branches were maintained at Hudson and at Pine Ridge, Ont., during the open months, the proximity of our branch at Sioux Lookout to the new gold discoveries at Red Lake making it particularly fitting that we should follow up the mining activities of that section. The branches will be re-established in the spring if conditions justify. There are now one hundred and seventy-nine branches of the Bank.

The Staff consists of 1,241 officers compared with 1,212 a year ago. I have much pleasure in again testifying to their loyalty and efficiency without which the good results you have before you to-day would be impossible.

The Shareholders now number 2,587 as compared with 2,517 a year ago. We always welcome new shareholders just as we welcome new customers and the growing number of the Bank's shareholders is very gratifying.

Last year I stated that there was reason to hope that bankers' difficulties would be substantially less than they had been for the past few years and this in our own case proved to be true. Other than the re-establishment of the currency of the country on a gold basis, which was brought about almost without comment, the year has been one of calmness with comparatively steady growth, there having been no outstanding incidents or disturbances in banking or commercial circles in Canada.

In our own Province of Ontario, I think the manufacturers have had a better time, the automobile industry, the textile industry, flour millers, manufacturers of electric appliances and of boots and shoes and leather have all enjoyed a moderate degree of prosperity, although at times business in all lines has shown a tendency to drag. Agriculturists have had a satisfactory year and in the north the mining industry has continued to be active but the lumbermen have not as a rule made money. In Quebec the development of waterpower and the consequent increase in production of pulp and paper and aluminum and other products goes on apace, and in Western Canada conditions have been better than for several years.

I had the opportunity of personally observing this, having visited the four Western provinces in September and early October. I will not take up your time with the details of what I saw and heard, but I can assure you that Western agriculture and Western business was on a very much better footing than I have seen it for a long time, and the development of the Port of Vancouver and the Coast of British Columbia might almost be classed as amazing. At present owing to the heavy wheat crop in the West and better conditions there is a stronger demand for money than for some time and there is no reason that I can see why the coming year should not prove as satisfactory to the Bank as the year which has just closed. The Bank was never in a better position to take advantage of improving conditions.

Since I put together the foregoing remarks, the Honourable Minister of Finance in an interview given in this City is said to have stated that a further reduction in taxation might be hoped for in the next Budget. May we venture to hope that when this comes about, my friend, Mr. Robb, will give some consideration to capital. To my mind, incentive for gain is the stimulus to all business and consequently vital to the prosperity of the country. When taxation presses too heavily on capital those who possess it may naturally be expected to be slow to risk it in business ventures which if successful will, instead of enriching them, merely bring profits which will be swept away by the tax gatherer. On the other hand if a disposition is shown to deal fairly with capital in the matter of taxes on profits and income, effort will be stimulated and millions of dollars

perhaps now invested in tax-free bonds and such like will again seek employment in other channels which seem to afford a greater opportunity for gain, and what is equally important men of business capacity and large ideas who may now be indifferent will devote themselves energetically to the promotion of business activities which cannot fail to bring about better markets for labour and the products of the agriculturist, the lumberman, the manufacturer and so on, which means greater prosperity for the whole community and which cannot in the end fail to attract desirable immigrants to our shores. It is a thought worthy of consideration.

Before sitting down I would like to associate myself with all the President has said about the late Mr. Northway. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: It is moved by myself, seconded by the Vice-President, that the Report which has been read be adopted, printed and circulated among the Shareholders. What is your pleasure, Gentlemen? (Carried.)

MR. J. E. BAILLIE: I have pleasure in moving that Mr. A. B. Shepherd, C.A., of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., and Mr. D. McK. McClelland, F.C.A., of Price, Waterhouse & Co., be appointed Auditors of the Bank for the ensuing year at a remuneration not to exceed \$10,000.

MR. A. RANKIN: I have pleasure in seconding the motion.

The President put the motion, which was declared carried.

MR. W. H. KNOWLTON: Mr. President, after a very long association in a business sense with the Directors and Officers of this Bank, I assure you it gives me increasing pleasure to have the privilege of making a motion of thanks and appreciation to you, Sir, and your associates, in the administration of affairs. When I look around the meeting here and at the beautiful row of Directors before us, I cannot help recalling a meeting that I attended of a large corporation in New York. This corporation has a capitalization of about \$50,000,000 and its Directors are composed of Knights, Lords and Barons. As to the President I never saw him. He was not at the meeting. I went there at the appointed hour of twelve o'clock and I was met at the door

by a young man. I saw no signs of anyone else around. He asked me what I wanted and I told him I came to attend a meeting that was called for to-day. Yes, he said, yes, what is your name? I told him. Where do you live? I told him that. Well, he said, I will see. So he went back into the room and he came out in a few minutes and he said, You can come in. So I went in, and at that meeting, the meeting of that enormously capitalized corporation, there were sitting around a table three gentlemen and a stenographer at the end of the table. The man in the centre, who I supposed was the Chairman, said, Well, what can we do for you? I said I came here to see what kind of business you were carrying on; is this a meeting of shareholders? Yes, he said. I said, Where are they all? Oh, he said, they don't bother coming. I said, Where are your Directors? He said, They leave it to us. I said, You are not Mr. McKay? That was the Telegraph man, Clarence McKay. No, he said, I am Mr. Walton. I said, I suppose you hope to be President some day? He said, I do, but I am afraid it will be a long time, for Mr. McKay is a younger man than I. He said, Will you come out and have lunch with me? I was very sorry that I could not accept his invitation.

However, that is the kind of meeting that was being held and that is the kind of thing they have over there, but when we see here this gathering of shareholders who come to show their appreciation and give you their support and countenance in your work, and when we see all these aspiring Presidents sitting around (laughter) one cannot but think that this Bank will be well managed and that it is in safe hands. I have very much pleasure indeed in moving the resolution, that the thanks of the Shareholders are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and Directors of the Bank for their services during the past year. (Applause.)

MR. F. G. INWOOD: Mr. President, Mr. Knowlton has known this Bank since it started in 1875 and I have known something about it since 1881, and I share his confidence in the stability of this Bank and the capacity of the Directorate. I share with all of you, too, regret at the passing on of our friend John Northway. I had the privilege of knowing him many years and I knew him as a capable and successful business man and a very fine citizen. I am glad to know that

he has left a son worthy to succeed him in this Imperial Bank. I am sure he will measure up to the confidence you place in him.

Now, gentlemen, I want to say another word, and that is that I have full confidence as a shareholder in this Bank in its stability and strength. I think it is a sound Bank, well and efficiently managed. We have heard that there has been an additional amount of \$153,000 carried forward, and that, I think, is substantial evidence of the way this Bank has been managed and of its great business. We all know when an institution is not prosperous the President and Vice-President make very long remarks, but in this case the brevity of the remarks speak of the prosperity of this Bank. (Applause.) After hearing Mr. Howland and Sir James Woods, the President and Vice-President, we may take it for granted we are on sound lines and going along successfully, and that this great Bank will go on like Tennyson's Brook forever, after we have passed on. I have great pleasure in seconding this motion for a vote of thanks to the President, Vice-President and Directors of the Bank. (Applause.)

The motion was put to the meeting and declared carried.

THE PRESIDENT: I am very much gratified at the motion you have just carried. I am not going to attempt to return thanks for myself but I will ask one of our Directors, Mr. Rolph, to say something.

MR. FRANK A. ROLPH: Mr. President, Mr. Knowlton, Mr. Inwood and Gentlemen—Mr. Knowlton's remarks concerning the length of time he has been interested in the Bank, reminds me of the length of time I have known him. His remarks remind me of the days of long ago when he gave me advice which I have appreciated all my life. He probably does not remember this, but I will remind him of it later.

I accept, with pleasure, the challenge laid down by Mr. Inwood and will make my remarks brief. They will be much more brief than those of our President, Vice-President, or General Manager. As Directors, we do appreciate to the full, the kindly remarks that have been made about us to-day and we are proud to have our names associated with an institution which can place before you such an

excellent statement. As Directors, we recognize our responsibilities, also the honour conferred upon us in being elected by you to fill this position of responsibility.

I would like to do honour to our President, Mr. Howland. (Hear, hear.) His great fault, gentlemen, is his modesty. It is the only fault I know him to possess, unless it can be considered a fault that he is on the opposite side of politics to myself. This, however, we can leave aside. His modesty, gentlemen, is his greatest drawback. He is a man in whom everyone has the fullest confidence and, gentlemen, he merits it. Without exception, there is no man in the banking world to-day, in my opinion, who stands higher in the estimation of those who know him, for honesty, integrity and unrelenting zeal for the welfare of the Bank, than Mr. Howland. All honour to him.

Our Vice-President, Sir James Woods, is a man of broad vision who is giving much of his time to the interests of the Bank. His name stands high, not only in banking and industrial circles, but also in connection with the great service he rendered to the Empire during the Great War. Sir James Woods is a gentleman we feel proud to be associated with and the Board fully appreciates the service he is rendering to the Bank and we also appreciate the honour of being associated with him.

The rest of the Directors are all friends of mine and I am proud to be considered a friend of theirs. Mr. Knowlton has referred to them as a handsome lot. This, gentlemen, I leave to you. They are before you.

In regard to our General Manager, I would like to say a few words concerning our recent trip to the West. My good friend, Mr. Waldie, and I accompanied the General Manager to the Pacific Coast and back, leaving Toronto on the 15th September, returning about four weeks later. During this time we were very closely associated with our General Manager. Since Mr. Phipps was appointed to the position of General Manager of the Bank, I have been closely associated with him and I wish to pay tribute to him, as, in my opinion, he stands second to none in General Bank Managers in the Dominion of Canada. He is a sound banker and commands the respect of the staff working

with him. He also commands the admiration and respect of his Board of Directors. He is unfailing in his service to, and for, the Bank. He has our full confidence in connection with all the affairs of the Bank and he has associated with him, I am glad to say, a staff giving him the fullest co-operation.

During the Western trip Mr. Waldie and I made with Mr. Phipps, we came in daily contact with many members of the staff, from our Assistant General Manager, Mr. Jaffray, right down the line. From Fort William and Port Arthur, through to Victoria, we visited and met most of the Branch Managers and when Mr. Waldie and I got back and compared notes, we came to the conclusion that the staff of the Imperial Bank of Canada ranks very high and is fully up to the standard of any other banking institution in Canada, and that we were justified in being proud of the staff working for the Bank to-day.

Mr. Waldie and I have had many enquiries as to our opinion of the situation in the West. Weather conditions for harvesting were not good during September and October, but notwithstanding these adverse conditions, we will have a fairly good year. The farmers take adverse weather conditions much more philosophically than the bankers and loan companies, the latter being much more anxious than the farmers in regard to how much money is going to be available to liquidate the farmers' liabilities. However, on the whole, we are getting along very well. A much more stable condition prevails in the West. The farmers are gradually liquidating their liabilities and the West is gradually coming into its own, and I think we can look forward to a steady and permanent improvement in conditions throughout the West.

So far as the Bank is concerned, ample provision has been made to provide for losses resulting from loans made in the years gone by and the farmers are now working on a much more sound and substantial basis.

In regard to some remarks which have been made concerning our new Director, Mr. Northway: I would like to express to him, on behalf of the Board, how deeply we regret the death of his father, and the pleasure it is to have the

name of Northway, so long held in honour and esteem, retained on the list of Directors of the Imperial Bank of Canada. We welcome Mr. John A. Northway to the Board.

Gentlemen, the Bank is doing well, as well as anybody can reasonably expect. We feel that it is an honour to be a member of the Board of the Imperial Bank of Canada. We also recognize, however, that the success of the Bank is largely due to our capable Executive and to our Managers throughout the country who are giving such excellent service. I think, gentlemen, we can look forward with confidence, not only to the future prosperity of the Bank, but to increasing prosperity to Canada as a whole in the years to come.

I thank you. (Applause.)

MR. JAMES BAIN, K.C.: Mr. President, I think we would be very remiss if we went away to-day without thanking the General Manager, the Assistant General Managers and the Inspectors and other members of the staff for the very great services they have rendered to the shareholders during the past year. I am quite sure that the Directors and you yourself, Sir, will bear with me if I say that were it not for the efforts of Mr. Phipps and his assistants we would not have had anything like as good a showing this year as we have. They have, as I happen to know owing to my connection with the Bank, devoted, from the General Manager down, their time and attention to the affairs of the Bank. The only criticism one could make of the General Manager is that he works too hard in the interests of the shareholders. His time is given unreservedly to the interests of the shareholders, and in that respect he is followed by his Assistant General Managers, Inspectors and the others.

Now, as I said to you a moment ago, I have had the opportunity of coming into contact very closely with the Inspectors and the local Managers, and sometimes those who occupy lower positions, and I can assure you all that what Mr. Rolph has said as to the loyalty of the staff is correct. These men think only of the interests of the Bank and getting greater results for the shareholders, and that they have succeeded and that they have helped the Directors

is amply evidenced by the statement which has been given to you to-day.

Now, gentlemen, having said that, I have great pleasure in moving the following resolution, that the thanks of the shareholders be given to the General Manager, the Assistant General Managers and other officers of the Bank for their attention to the interests of the Bank and the efficient performance of their respective duties. (Applause.)

MR. F. H. GOOCH: I have much pleasure, gentlemen, in seconding the motion of Mr. Bain. I am sorry that I cannot go back farther than I can, because I remember the Bank when the Royal Exchange Building was being altered and my father told me that it was being reconstructed for the Imperial Bank, which was going to carry on its business there. Before the Bank was located here I lived within two doors of this place, when Mr. Howland as a boy was living in a residence on Sherbourne Street and his firm was in the hardware business. Had the Bank been established at an earlier date I could have extended my thanks even farther back for the advantages I received from the staff of the Imperial Bank when I was a young lad coming here to cash cheques for our firm. We have been doing business in this block since before 1860. It is with the very greatest of pleasure that I can say that during all those years I have never at any time received anything but the most friendly consideration and the greatest of courtesy from those associated with your Bank. I thank you. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: It has been moved by Mr. J. W. Bain, K.C., seconded by Mr. F. H. Gooch, that the thanks of the shareholders be given to the General Manager, the Assistant General Managers and other officers of the Bank for their attention to the interests of the Bank and to the efficient performance of their respective duties. Personally I am heartily in accord.

The President put the motion, which was declared carried.

THE PRESIDENT: I will ask Mr. Lackner of Windsor and Mr. Duncan of Winnipeg to reply to this motion of thanks.

MR. G. J. LACKNER: Mr. President and Gentlemen, on behalf of the staff of the Bank I thank you most heartily for

your kind references. The staff, Mr. President, are as greatly interested in the annual good showing of the Bank as are the Directors, the shareholders, and the public in general. The staff of this Bank are loyal and energetic, and the best of feeling prevails throughout the Bank generally, and the kindly consideration for the staff shown by the President, the General Manager and the Directors and Shareholders is indeed very much appreciated. (Applause.)

MR. A. D. DUNCAN: Mr. President and Gentlemen, it is with pleasure and a great sense of satisfaction that I acknowledge the vote of thanks to the staff. We feel possibly of late years we are more worthy of that vote of thanks because I think it has been brought home to the staffs of all the different banks of Canada that more responsibility rests upon their shoulders for the success of the banking institutions to-day, and if we have given satisfaction to the Directors and Shareholders we cannot forget that the ability to give that satisfaction is chiefly due to our President and General Manager and Executive for their ability to impart to us the loyalty, the service and the kindly attention that we must give to the public in order to secure for the Institution the results that you want. I think to-day I can say, if you exclude me from this remark, that the Imperial Bank has a staff equal to that of any bank in Canada. I am sincere in that remark because we inside of the works, you might say, hear different stories which are very gratifying and I think it helps us to carry on in our efforts to be leaders in banking service. When I say we have, in my opinion, the best staff in Canada I want the meaning of that remark to include the President and General Manager right down to the last junior who has been taken on. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: We have come to the last business on the agenda, which is the election of the Directors.

MR. G. H. AIKINS, K.C.: Mr. Chairman, I have pleasure in moving that the ballot box be now opened and remain open until two o'clock this day for the receipt of ballot papers for the election of ten Directors, the poll to be closed as soon as five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

MR. W. J. FLEURY: I have much pleasure, Sir, in seconding that motion.

The President put the motion, which was declared carried.

THE PRESIDENT: The Scrutineers will now pass around the ballot box and the papers and I hope you will wait until the result of the ballot is announced.

I would also like to say the usual scramble lunch will be provided upstairs and I hope you will all be present to take advantage of it and do the best you can to get something to eat.

The Scrutineers appointed at the Meeting reported the following Shareholders duly elected as Directors:—Messrs. Peleg Howland, Sir James Woods, Sir James Aikins, K.C., J. F. Michie, Frank A. Rolph, R. S. Waldie, G. C. Heintzman, J. W. Hobbs, Walter C. Laidlaw, John A. Northway.

The Meeting then adjourned.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE BANK

	Capital Paid Up	Reserve Fund	Deposits	Total Loans	Total Assets	Divi- dends
1876	\$ 804,883.	\$ 25,000.	\$ 1,576,713.	\$ 2,338,582.	\$ 3,129,735.	6%
1886	1,500,000.	500,000.	4,427,980.	5,657,806.	7,650,394.	8%
1896	1,963,600.	1,156,800.	9,203,409.	7,648,553.	13,736,134.	9%
1906	3,927,741.	3,927,741.	28,499,302.	26,348,132.	39,779,812.	10%
1916	7,000,000.	7,000,000.	60,218,627.	46,409,027.	81,911,757.	12%
1926	7,000,000.	7,500,000.	100,787,014.	99,130,948.	131,832,309.	12% plus Bonus 1%

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