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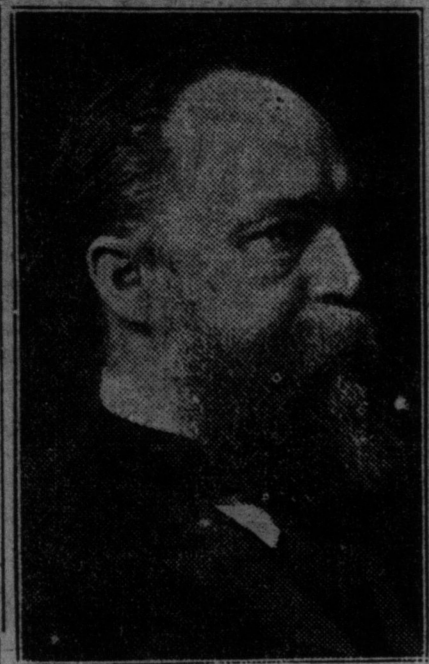
VOL. XXXI—No. 11432

BANK OF COMMERCE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK

With Aggregate Assets of \$210,000,000, \$152,000,000 in Deposits, and 330 Branches, Amalgamation is Most Important in History of Canadian Banking—No Changes in Toronto Policy.

A despatch from Montreal, announcing the amalgamation of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Eastern Townships Bank, does not come as a great surprise to the local financial world, as the sharp advance in the market quotations of each bank within the past few days forehadowed important developments. However, realization of expectations is causing more than a mere flutter, for the impact of the news is that the biggest banking merger known to Canada has been effected. Moreover, the Bank of Commerce promises to press the Bank of Eastern Townships to press the Bank of Montreal hard for the distinction of being the biggest banking institution in the country.

Senate Reading Room,
Jan 12—1412
SENATE P.O.



SIR EDMUND WALKER.

Flumervelt, Victoria, B.C.; O. A. Robertson, Minneapolis, Minn.; Geo. G. Foster, K.C. Montreal; E. C. Howard, Sherbrooke; F. N. McCrea, Sherbrooke; and Chas. W. Colby, Ph.D., Montreal. The Bank of Commerce—Sir E. Walker, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., president; Z. A. Lash, K.C., LL.D., vice-president; Hon. Geo. A. Cox, John Hoskin, K.C., LL.D., Robt. Kilgour, J. W. Flavell, LL.D., A. Kingman, Hon. L. Melvin Jones, Hon. W. C. Edwards, E. R. Wood, Hon. J. M. Gibson, K.C., LL.D., William McMaster, Robert Stuart, G. F. Galt.

DOGS OF WAR ARE LOOSED IN PERSIA

Governor's Palace Bombaraded at Tabriz and Other Clashes Are Reported—Morning Post Correspondent Says National Council Has Decided to Surrender.

TEHERAN, Persia, Dec. 21.—(Can. Press.)—That serious fighting has commenced between the Persian constitutionalists and Russian troops is evidenced in despatches from Tabriz, which state that the governor's palace was bombaraded. There were casualties on both sides, but their extent is not yet known. The Russian legat on here professes to-night to have no details of the engagement.

There has been fighting also between the Russians and the Persians at Enzeli, on the Caspian Sea, and at Resht, 16 miles northwest of Enzeli. Conflicting versions are given as to the cause of the fighting. One says that the Russians seized the police headquarters at Resht.

It is feared that the news will have a deplorable effect upon public opinion in Teheran. The special commis-

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Liberte Officers Exonerated

TOULON, Dec. 21.—(Can. Press.)—The court-martial to fix the responsibility for the explosion on the French battleship Liberte, which occurred in Toulon harbor on Sept. 25, today acquitted all the officers. Admiral Jaureguiberry presided, and at the opening of the court-martial announced that altho the officers were on trial, Captain Jaures, commander of the Liberte, was in no way responsible, as he was absent on leave, while the others had accomplished everything possible to cope with the disaster.

After the decision was announced, the president of the court called up Lieutenants Garnier and Bignon and warmly congratulated them on their splendid behavior. Lieutenant Garnier was temporarily in command of the Liberte at the time of the explosion, which resulted in the death of 235 men and the serious injury of nearly 100.

MANSSELL GUILTY OF FRAUD

Jury Disagrees on Lueshner Verdict, and Also on Joint Conspiracy Charge.

At about 12.30 last night the jury in the case of Ford A. Manssell and F. E. Lueshner, charged jointly with conspiracy to defraud and false pretences in connection with the sale of stock in the Canadian Wire Screen Co., returned a verdict of guilty of false pretences for Ford A. Manssell. The jury could not agree whether F. E. Lueshner was guilty of false pretences or not. On the charge of conspiracy the jury disagreed as to the guilt of both Manssell and Lueshner.

Lueshner's bail was fixed at \$1000, and was furnished by W. C. Fox of this city. Judge Winchester will announce his decision probably in the course of a week.

The jurymen were asked by Judge Winchester to report on Tuesday next to consider taking up another case. Speaking of the work of Crown Attorney Greer, one of those who had been constantly in attendance at the trial said: "His cross-examination has been as fine a piece of work as has been heard in this court in many a long year."

"The greatest outrages have been perpetrated in the name of British justice," declared Attorney John McGregor in opening the arguments for the defence at the afternoon session. "Remember when the British government, stung to the heart by the Junius letters, directed the attorney-general to issue a band warrant and arrest the men who were printing the letters. The men were arrested and jailed. They were released after one hour in prison, and they brought action for \$300 damages, which was granted. The jury will ever protect the rights of a British subject when an improper act is done in the name of justice. These men have not had a fair trial. It has been a disgrace to the administration of criminal justice from beginning to end. The charges were manufactured after the books and evidence had been taken out of the office."

T. J. Glover was designated as "the iron plow" in the case. In his plea for the crown, Crown Attorney Greer said: "I have been taken back by the attacks upon the crown. You have all listened to the arguments of Mr. Dewart for the defence, but, nevertheless, Mr. Dewart and I will go over a case in prosecution soon, so you may see that it is purely for the defence that Mr. Dewart takes his position in this case."

Crown Attorney Greer in his address asked: "Did the defendants want to sell the screens or to sell big ideas? Both Manssell and Lueshner have testified to saying when they were offered orders for screens: 'Refuse all orders for screens!'"

Refused Good Offer.
The company had an offer from the T. Eaton Company to manufacture the screens, when out of these screens they could have made \$25,000 a year, a modest livelihood, had they taken up the offer."

The case went to the jury shortly after 9 o'clock.

In charging the jury Judge Winchester emphasized the point that it became

Continued on Page 7, Column 4.

Canned Interviews

The Globe continues its campaign of knocking. Just now carefully selected, if not inspired, interviews are its specialty.

It was truly a case of "brother claps the hand of brother" when the oracle of pessimism discovered Mr. W. E. H. Carter of Dunvegan-road and hastened to proclaim his views on the tube question.

"There is no one in the whole city council, in my opinion," the organ quotes Mr. Carter as saying, "who is capable of undertaking so enormous a proposition as the tube scheme."

That is just the "little Toronto" men all over. No valid reasons against a progressive proposition, they fall back on the shallow pretence that no one could be got with the ability to run it. If everyone in civic life were of the calibre of the Globe and its friends, the argument might stand, but did Mr. Carter, the president, or The Globe, his megaphone, ever hear of the Hydro-Electric system and what has been done for Toronto in the course of the past year?

When the work is there the man finds himself.

"ENOUGH TO MAKE THE ANGELS WEEP"



N.B.—This drawing was not entered for the Christmas Globe competition.

LINK TUBES AND CIVIC LINES WITH CHEAP STEAM SERVICE

By which Five Cent Fare Would Ensure Travel All Round City Outlined by W. F. Maclean, M.P., at Earlscourt Meeting—Club of Public Competition Advocated.

Controller Hocken and Ald. McCarthy along with W. F. Maclean, M.P., spoke at Earlscourt last night. Mr. Maclean, in asking the large meeting to support the bylaws, wakened them up by the way he dealt with local traction, or rather, lack of traction. He said "Vote for Hocken, McCarthy and all the bylaws, the tubes, viaduct, Danforth car tracks, annexation of North Toronto and the hydro-electric bylaw. Do that and get the club of public competition in your hands. That will make the company sit up."

"The Globe wanted the people not to have any club in their hands. No club, and the company could defy the public; they'd listen when they had to, only."

Demand Suburban Service.
"What next?" said Mr. Maclean, "get a public utilities commission; as Mr. McCarthy advocated, to take charge of tractions, including the municipal lines and tubes, and next,"

said Mr. Maclean, "let us go to Ottawa and insist on parliament and the railway commission ordering the Grand Trunk and C. P. R. to give Toronto a suburban service with commutation tickets similar to what they give Montreal. Parliament is bound to do it, and the railways to respond. That means five cent fares all round the city."

"But what else?" said Mr. Maclean, "Rush the building of the tubes from the city hall to the Union Station. That could be done in nine months, and, as

The World's Leap Year Baby Mugs

As was stated in a recent issue, The Toronto World will present a beautiful silver birthday mug to every baby born in Ontario on the 29th of next February. These children will only have an anniversary once in four years, and it is fitting that their first birthday should receive some special recognition. There are no conditions or entrance fees attached to the award, the only regulations to be observed are as follows:—

- 1.—Only babies born in Ontario are eligible.
- 2.—Babies must have been born between the hours of 12.00 midnight February 28, and 12.00 midnight February 29.
- 3.—The entry for the award must be made by filling out the coupon which will be found printed in another portion of the paper.
- 4.—The date and hour of each child's birth must be vouché for, in the place indicated on the coupon, by the attending physician.
- 5.—Entries not made on printed coupon will not be considered.

Something more about this award will appear in The World from time to time. Questions addressed to the Silver Mug Department will be answered.

"THEY'RE OFF" IN CIVIC RACE

Candidates Enter Field for Municipal Honors To-day—Mayorality, Board of Control at 10—For Council at Night.

While the candidates for aldermanic honors have been talking about it for some weeks, they have not yet officially entered the ring, and there is still an opportunity for the faint-hearted ones, if there are any, to drop out before 8 o'clock this evening, when the nominations will take place.

As in previous years, there may be one or two drop out when it comes to making good the requirements. It often happens that some who believed they had sufficient real estate to satisfy the authority have found that their property is still assessed in some other's name and on that ground they are rejected.

The contest has more interest in it for the citizen and the citizen has more interest in the fight than the election of Dec. 11, when the Whitney Government was returned.

The present fight is more interesting because it is purely local, and because several bylaws are to be presented to the people, and upon which there has been much controversy.

Seven aldermen of last year's council are either dropping out of municipal politics, or are seeking higher offices. In ward one Ald. Thos. Phelan is dropping out. In ward three, Norman G. Heyd, who has been in the council as an alderman this year, is also quitting. In ward four Ald. Sweeney is trying for the honor of controller. Ald. McCarthy of ward six has also ambitions for a higher position, and Ald. J. A. McCausland has retired.

Reginald Geary and Robert Buist
Continued on Page 7, Column 6.

G.T.R. Must Spend \$400,000 More
It will require an extra expenditure of \$400,000 a year for the G. T. R. to carry out their agreement made in settlement of the train and yard men's strike in 1910, according to a despatch received at G. T. R. offices here yesterday. The new agreement comes in to force the first of the year.

How to Enjoy Christmas.
A good dinner and a good laugh will be a pretty good program for Christmas Day. If you feel that way about it, go and see "Seven Days." It is by far the best laugh of the season and one laugh deserves another.

BRITAIN STANDS FOR MONARCHY IN CHINA

Premier Yuan Shi Kai, Despite Urgings of Own Counsellors, Firm in Opposing Creation of Republic—Britain Tries to Line Up Powers in Support.

PEKIN, Dec. 21.—(Can. Press.)—Premier Yuan Shi Kai to-day gave his answer to those who are striving to transform China into a republic. In an official statement, he declared, without qualification, that he refused to accept a republic.

At the Shanghai peace conference yesterday, Wu Ting Fang, foreign minister in the revolutionary provisional cabinet, spoke strongly in favor of a republic and later Tang Shao Yi said that he was convinced that the abdication of the emperor and the establishment of a republic was the only thing that would satisfy the people. At the same time it expressed doubts whether it would be possible to persuade Yuan Shi Kai to abandon his plan for a limited monarchy.

Will Uphold Monarchy.
It is believed here that Yuan Shi Kai means what he says and will uphold the monarchy. A new situation has arisen. Great Britain, which has been supporting the premier's monarchial program for several weeks, is now strengthened by the Japanese and is endeavoring to obtain the support of the United States and other countries. Great Britain believes that the action of the dependencies, Manchuria, Mongolia and Tibet and the serious internal troubles of China would result far from the establishment of a republic, whereas the republicans have already obtained in a material way everything they desired. Only the name of the monarchy is left.

Powers to Give Credit.
It is stated that the American group if not the American state department is ready with two, if not three of the are ready with two, if not three of the others of the "four nation group" of financiers, to lend Yuan Shi Kai's government money. Negotiations to this end have been proceeding for some days.

It was on Great Britain's initiative that the six powers urged the Shanghai peace conference to reach an agreement. Now Great Britain is endeavoring to persuade the rebels of the necessity to settle the revolution and come to terms.

Just for Sentiment.
It is pointed out that British interference is not directed against China's interests, but against the sentimental idea in such cases where the practical interests of the entire nation are being jeopardized. The extension of the armistice for ten days to which the revolutionists have agreed, has given some hope, but unless the revolutionists accept Premier Yuan's offer the only alternative is continuation of the conflict, with possible division of the country, the dependencies rallying around the northern empire.

Foreigners in Danger.
The revolutionary leaders here positively assert that if Yuan Shi Kai persists in his refusal to accept a republic, the powers giving him their support would be regarded as the enemies of China and the lives of all foreigners in China would be jeopardized.

It is generally believed among the revolutionists that Great Britain is supporting the monarchy solely because of the dangerous example which would be set for India, should China become a republic.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the reform leader, is due to arrive here in a few days and it is believed that he will assume the leadership of the south. Large reinforcements of well-armed and well-trained troops are arriving from Canton.

TWO CARS OFF TRACK.
Late Shoppers Delayed by Double Mishap.
The street car company struck a run of hard luck last night, which resulted in a severe case of tie-up, affecting all lines running on York and West Queen-streets. At 10.15 a car went off the track at Richmond and York, and while that one was still off the tracks another was derailed at Queen and York-streets, thus resulting in a long line of cars being strung west on Queen and delayed in the heavy task of handling the theatre and late Christmas shoppers.

SHOP TO-DAY FOR FURS.
Christmas shopping is going to be very late this season, so that a whole week of work will be crowded into a few hours. You should make it a point to complete your list of purchases by to-night. The Dineen Company have a special display of furs and will remain open to-night and Saturday night.