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NEARLY 80 years of Banking in Canada, has demonstrated the strength, security, safety and service of The Bank of British North America. The history of this bank for over three-quarters of a century has been one of progress and development, and of consistent growth in the regard of the business world.

THE BANK OF British North America

79 Years in Business. Capital and Surplus \$7,864,000.
London Branch—H. F. Skey, Manager.
London Market Square Branch—G. F. Pearson, Manager.

DISCRIMINATION, EXTORTION, CHARGED AGAINST RAILWAYS IN FREIGHT RATES ON COAL

Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo, Hespeler, Preston, Waterloo and Elmira Raise Protest Before the Railway Board.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
TORONTO, Dec. 11.—Claiming that the new rates of the railway companies applicable to coal from the Niagara frontier gateways are excessive and discriminatory, large deputations representing the boards of trade at Guelph, Kitchener, Waterloo, Hespeler, Preston, Waterloo and Elmira appeared today before the Dominion Railway Commission at the city hall vigorously protesting against the existing rates, and urged that a liberal readjustment be made in the rates of the large manufacturing centres in Waterloo County.

After hearing the deputations and the explanation of railway officials why the existing rates should not be disturbed, the commissioners reserved judgment.

The deputations representing the different boards of trade who protested against the coal rates, were introduced by Messrs. Thomas Marshall and J. E. Walsh. The visiting representatives elaborated upon the fact that the new rates of the railway companies had placed them in an awkward position in the matter of competition with the coal fields of the West, and that the rates were a serious handicap to the manufacturing industries of the Niagara frontier.

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MANY CANADIANS GAZETTED FOR BRAVERY IN FRANCE

London, Dec. 11.—A number of Canadians have been gazetted for bravery at the front.

Distinguished Service Order.
Major Philip Burnett, Canadian Medical Corps, took over command at the front, and for 48 hours carried out duties with great skill and determination under very heavy fire.

Military Cross.
Lieut. Richard John Burde—Maintained supplies throughout the action and cleared the battlefield, working continuously night and day and displaying great courage.

Lieut. St. George Duncan Clarke.—Carried out daring reconnaissance and later assisted in keeping up a supply of bombs.

Lieut. Charles Thomas Croucher.—Led patrol with great courage and determination, and obtained most valuable information. Was surrounded by the enemy, but fought his way back to his line, killing four of the enemy with his revolver.

Lieut. Henry Guy Greenwood.—Assumed command and handled his company with great courage. Later took charge of another company as well as his own, maintaining the position for four hours against very superior numbers.

Lieut. Percy Robert Law.—As battalion scout officer, carried out daring and successful reconnaissance.

Lieut. Walter James Macdonald.—Made personal reconnaissance of mine crater, going across "No Man's Land" in daylight at great personal risk.

Capt. Stanley Noteworthy.—Took personal supervision of operations on front line, displaying great courage and initiative. Later, although wounded, remained on duty.

SUED BY MONTE CARLO.
Paris, Dec. 12.—Leon Daudet, who has been three months in prison for his part in the Dreyfus case, has been sued by Monte Carlo in his paper, L'Action Française, now faces demands for more than \$30,000 damages for defamation of character.

M. Daudet demanded the immediate and permanent closing of the great gambling place, not only because it is a centre of suicides and extravagance, but because, he says, it is a headquarters of the German spy system.

STOPPED OFF DOWNS.
New York, Dec. 12.—A German submarine operating in the English Channel just off the Downs stopped the British steamship Olaf Maersk, from Rotterdam on November 16, and committed the following crimes:

THE ANSWER IS WEAR RUBBERS
Many People Will Don Goloshes Early This Season to Combat the High Cost of Leather Footwear.

"Buy rubbers," says the shoe dealer who plays fair with his customers.

Leather is up and shoes are up to such an extent that the buying of a pair of shoes is almost on a level with the acquiring of a new suit or coat. Shoes must be worn, but the economical person will don rubbers as soon as the weather gets the least bit "damp under foot"; not only for the protection to the health that the rubbers afford, but to save the costly shoes he or she wears.

There was never a problem in economics that was not solved sooner or later, and rubbers and over-shoes seem to be the answer to the augmented price of shoes this winter.

SIXTEEN KILLED OR MISSING IN GREAT PETERBORO BLAZE

Big Quaker Oats Plants Completely Destroyed.

LOSS IN THE MILLIONS

Sound of "Fire" Caused a Panic-Stricken Rush by Employees.

PETERBORO, Dec. 11.—Fire which broke out this morning, following an explosion in the drying room, completely destroyed the Quaker Oats Company's plant on the bank of the Otanabee River, wiped out a large elevator, gutted the courthouse, destroyed the roof of the law library, and leveled a heavy toll in human life.

Four are dead, twelve are missing and are believed to be in the ruins, five are injured. A statement issued by the company, which turned the recovery is doubtful, and ten suffered more or less serious injuries.

It was not till nearly 2 o'clock this morning that the Peterboro fire brigade, aided by reinforcements from Lindsay, succeeded in subduing the flames.

Nearly 500 employees are thrown out of work. No attempt has been made to recover the bodies of the missing men. Nothing will be done in this way until tomorrow when a meeting of the heads of the various departments will be held and a reliable statement be made in regard to the missing.

A statement issued from a semi-official source brings out the information that the buildings and stock were valued at \$1,600,000.

PETERBORO, Dec. 11.—The casualties resulting from the explosion and fire which destroyed the Quaker Oats Company number four dead, twelve missing, five severely injured and ten less seriously hurt. In the majority of cases likely to recover. Following is the list of the dead, missing and injured.

Dead.
Edward Howley, 291 Union street, killed by the explosion; married.

Vincent Fernald, 43 Jackson avenue, died upon reaching hospital; married.

Frederick M. Smith, 231 Smith street, died in hospital; married.

Fred Holden, 241 Euclid avenue, died in hospital.

Missing.
Wm. Mesley, 247 Westcott street, married.

James W. Gordon, 253 Stewart street, married.

James Foster, 253 Stewart street, married.

Ernest Staunton, 20 Benson avenue, married.

Denis O'Brien, 552 Harvey street, married.

Alex. McGee, Wm. Hogan, 552 Harvey street, married.

Thomas Parsons, Wm. Nichols, 552 Harvey street, married.

John Conway, Wm. Kemp, 552 Harvey street, married.

Injured Severely.
R. Healy, 223 Euclid avenue, fractured skull, broken leg and jaw.

J. W. Walsh, 547 Rogers street, broken leg and jaw.

J. Houlihan, 501 Sherbrooke street, fractured skull, broken leg and jaw.

J. W. Tetreau, 553 Bethune street, badly burned.

Injured (May Recover).
Michael Casavella, 506 Elm street.

Fred Cavacella, 506 Elm street.

Edw. Bedding, 557 Concession street.

W. Garvin, 17 Cricket place.

Mauro Giardin, 308 Farnell street.

James Murphy, 158 Dufferin street.

Patrick O'Connell, 457 Farnell street.

Michael Long, 457 Farnell street.

Philip McNeil, Victoria avenue.

L. Robbins.

The fire started as a result of spontaneous combustion.

A north wind coming from across the river fanned the flames so that they ate through the whole length of the building, made up of the boiler room, the drying room, and the engine room, package department (where the girls are employed), and the large offices and shipping rooms. The fire spread on each side of the river was burning furiously.

RUSS PARLIAMENT UNITED AGAINST GERMAN FACTIONS

Both Chambers Want Change in Ministry.

OLD REGIME IS PASSING

Expected That Russia Will Soon Have Representative Government.

BERLIN TELLS U. S. DEPORTATIONS ARE FOR VICTIMS' GOOD

Attempts To Justify Exiling of Belgians.

WORK BADLY NEEDED

Charges That Belgians Were Becoming Demoralized by Idleness.

Both Are Firm.

Both chambers are firm in their insistence upon not merely a change of personnel in the ministry, but the final elimination of those "dark forces" which formed the topic of so many impassioned utterances in the Duma and the Imperial Council.

Extreme Right Split.

Half of the Extreme Right faction in the Duma has seceded from the party since the scandal caused by the insult offered President Rodzianko by the Reactionist Deputy Markoff, and the Imperial Council, reflecting for the first time in its history and the popular voice, has by an overwhelming majority allied itself with the Duma.

The prospects of the Greek Government's wheat sales to the United States market again to be resold has a bearish tendency, but this was offset by the large decrease of nearly three million bushels in the American visible supply.

The Winnipeg market was stubbornly firm until the afternoon, when a decline was greater than in the American market. December wheat was 10c, and the week's movement, owing to the weak cash market.

The premiums dropped from 2c to 3c for Nos. 1 and 2. The demand was all off, especially in the high grades. The exports were out of the market, and the orders easily filled. Offerings were no heavier than usual, but the demand was not enough to keep up the premiums. Low grades were also off, and some of them were sold at a loss.

There were no bids. Oats were in the delivery basis, and so took a drop. Barley was unchanged to 2c lower. Flax was indifferent.

PEACE PROPOSALS REPORT SENDS DOWN PRICES WITH RUSH

Wheat Figures at Chicago Crumble Badly.

"WAR BABIES" DROPPING

Munitions Shares Slump Sensationally On Wall Street.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 12.—Wheat prices came down with a rush today, crumbled by Germany's formal proposal of peace. The market was falling of its own volition, and with all possible caution, then tumbled headlong, making a sheer drop of nearly ten cents a bushel.

Transactions took on immense proportions and the changes in price were rapid to be followed with anything like completeness on the blackboards.

Chicago, Dec. 12.—Cattle—Receipts, 7,000; market steady. Beef, native, \$17.00 to \$17.50; western, \$17.00 to \$17.50; light, \$17.00 to \$17.50; heavy, \$17.00 to \$17.50; mixed, \$17.00 to \$17.50; light, \$17.00 to \$17.50; heavy, \$17.00 to \$17.50; mixed, \$17.00 to \$17.50.

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SCARCITY OF FOOD REACHES CRISIS AT KAISER'S CAPITAL

People Believe Government Is Holding Back Stocks.

London, Dec. 12.—The Daily Chronicle prints a dispatch from Amsterdam which says that the German Government is holding back stocks.

The food scarcity has reached a crisis, and for weeks past in one part of the city the supply of bread has been falling constantly. Fish now becomes one of the most important foods, but no fresh fish is available, and the price of dried fish is now six times the normal.

The more the announcements of arrangements with neutrals for food supplies and the more numerous become official regulations, so the number of shops closing also becomes larger than ever.

WOULD SEIZE STOCKS.
The newspaper is quoted as urging the seizure of all Berlin stocks, and the feeling among the people is said to be that the Government is behind these difficulties in order to make people agree more readily to the communal feeding system. Such difficulties, the Rundschau adds, would be settled in one day in America, where judges and lawyers have no scruples in seizing the property of the enemy.

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It is understood the 12nd will also be meeting shortly in addition to the "Give us his name" campaign.

FINANCIAL, MARKET AND COMMERCIAL SECTION

HAY JUMPS AGAIN BECAUSE OF SMALL SUPPLIES TODAY

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Vegetables were steady. Broccoli brought \$6 to \$6.50 a bushel. Potatoes sold for \$2 to \$2.25 a bag, new cabbage brought \$2 to \$2.50 a dozen and dry onions sold for \$2.25 to \$2.50 a bushel. Parsley sold for 30c to 40c a dozen and carrots brought 30c to 40c a bushel. Spinach sold for 75c a bushel, parsnips for \$1 to \$1.25 a bushel, turnips for 60c a bushel and lettuce for 40c a dozen.

Apples were steady at 30c to \$1.25 a bushel. Dairy prices are unchanged. Creamery butter is selling for 48c to 50c a pound. Butcher butter, in rolls, is selling for 40c to 42c a pound, and dairy butter, in casks, for 45c to 46c a pound. Eggs sold for 48c to 50c a dozen.

Pressed poultry, wholesale, is steady, chickens selling for 15c to 21c a pound, and ducks for 16c to 17c a pound. Old fowl bring 16c to 18c a pound, and geese sold for 16c to 18c a pound. Retail prices for 16c to 18c a pound. Turkeys bring 20c to 30c a pound, and geese 18c to 20c a pound.

Hogs are selling for \$11 a cwt., and fat sows for \$8.25 a cwt. Small pigs bring \$4 to \$5 a pair. Dressed hogs sell for \$14 to \$15.50 a cwt., and veal for \$15 to \$16 a cwt. Beef sells for 10c to 11c a lb.

Hides were unchanged in price, but had an upward tendency.

GRAIN.
Winnipeg, Dec. 11.—Wheat closed 2 1/2c lower in December and 1 1/2c lower for May. Oats were down 2 1/2c for May. Barley was 3c lower for December and 1c lower for May. Flax dropped 10c on December 2c for May.

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