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OTTAWA'S CIVIC SYSTEM.

A good city council, critical and watchful, is necessary to keep a check upon the board of control, is Comptroller Hopewell's opinion. It was given in a lecture delivered before the Unity Club, Ottawa, last week. The presence of committees, he added, is an impediment to Ottawa's ideal civic system. Ottawa is at present governed by a mayor, board of control of four members elected from the city, and a council of aldermen, sixteen in number, two from each ward. Previous to the recent change, the civic government was in the hands of a mayor and council of twenty-four aldermen, three from each of the eight wards in the city. In the civic organization there are twelve departments. The city clerk has charge of the official seal and all correspondence is done through him and his

department; the city treasurer has charge of the finances, the receiving, paying out and banking of all moneys; the city engineer has full control over the engineering and waterworks departments; the city collector has full control over the collection of water rates, taxes and the like, and for this he is held responsible; the fire department is in charge of the fire chief.

The city auditor keeps an eye upon the whole, and never fails to call attention to mistakes. The city solicitor's advice is sought in all matters that have a legal bearing.

The assessment commissioner is wholly responsible for the city's assessment. The new civic electric department is managed by the board of control and an electric commission. The police department is controlled by a police commission consisting of the senior county judge, the magistrate and the mayor. The board of health consists of six council members, and the court of revision consists of three members.

The first board of control in Canada was formed in Toronto six years ago.

EAST AND WEST.

Edmonton.—The Board of Trade have taken up the question of lower freight rates of coal between that city and Lethbridge.

Portage la Prairie, Man.—Never before has such a large acreage of fall plowing been completed as now. Much new land has been broken in this locality.

Grand Forks, B.C.—The Winnipeg Hotel has been sold to S. J. Miller, of Victoria.

Sydney, N.S.—The rail mill of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company has been put on 24-hour shift and every available steel worker in the city is being employed.

Moose Jaw, Sask.—The new court house to cost \$60,000 is nearly completed.

Fort Frances.—In connection with the power development here, 250 men are engaged on construction work. This force is shortly to be increased to 350.

Rainy River.—Operations were lighter than usual this year because of an unfavorable Western market. Both mills have still much lumber on hand, and the market is dull.

Magog, Que.—The former wooden bridge here is being replaced by a new steel bridge over the outlet of Lake Memphremagog.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.—It is stated that the steel plant of the Algoma Steel Company will probably close next week because of lack of orders. The move will throw 1,500 men out of employment.

Regina, Sask.—Arrangements are being completed for the erection of a \$100,000 flour and meal mill to be erected by F. A. Bean of Minnesota. The plant will embrace an oatmeal mill having a capacity of 100 barrels per day, a flour mill having a capacity of 500 barrels per day, and a flax and linseed oil mill, with elevator and storage accommodation.

CONCERNING WATEROUS.

Waterous is the third divisional point on the G.T.P. west of Winnipeg and is 408 miles from Winnipeg and 360 from Edmonton and 60 miles east of Saskatoon. It is situated near Lake Little Manitou, which is attracting the attention of the analysts of Montreal, Toronto

and Chicago, and its curative powers have been known from Indian times. It is not unlikely that a sanitarium will in the near future be founded here.

This town is just six months old and is already incorporated with a population of 450.

The business property of the city is valued at \$100,000 already, and the residential part consists of fully 100 homes.

Town lots have doubled and tripled in value since the G.T.P. placed them on the market. Main Street lots now selling at \$1,000.

The Grand Trunk Pacific have at this point a roundhouse built of brick and cement—12 stalls. They have over eight miles of siding tracks.

The surrounding country is fertile and thickly settled by Dakota and Minnesota farmers, who are of the very finest type to be found.

Land is worth from \$24 to \$40 per acre in the surrounding country. Although occasionally it is sold less when a rapid sale is desired.

The Dominion Government has decided to make an exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, to be held in Seattle, June 1st to October 16th, next year.

The customs' collections for the port of Montreal for the seven months of the season of navigation show a decrease of \$3,000,000. The amount collected from May 1st to November 30th was \$7,302,784, as compared with \$10,315,867 last year.

The Saskatoon "Daily Phoenix" has published a special harvest number. It is replete with valuable information concerning Saskatoon and district, and contains many interesting impressions of the city and its surroundings. The Harvest Number is a creditable production, and stands as further evidence of Saskatoon's enterprise.

The total immigration into Canada from April 1st to October 31st was 109,575, a decrease of 102,449, or 48 per cent., as compared with last year. Immigration from the United States for seven months was 50,238, an increase of 783. Immigration via ocean ports from January 1st to the end of October was 86,481, a decrease of 18,136, as compared with last year. The immigration of Japanese into Canada for the first seven months of the present fiscal year, April to October inclusive, was 434. For the corresponding period of last year the Japanese immigration was 6,648. The decrease this year is 6,214, showing the complete effectiveness of the arrangement concluded by Hon. Mr. Lemieux, with the Japanese Government to restrict immigration.

The fact that Crown Reserve lost fourteen points on Tuesday in face of the dividend announcement of 12 per cent. quarterly with a bonus of 4 per cent., is some indication of condition of the local mining market. Cobalts and Christmas do not go well together, and the former will have to look after themselves for a time. New York, too, has temporarily withdrawn support. This has been plainly evidenced in the weakness displayed by both Nipissing and La Rose. Bids for the former are now not much above 10, while purchasers for La Rose are not disposed to give more than around \$6.50. Otisse, one of the new Montreal River propositions, has kept surprisingly firm, stockholders having considerable confidence in their property. City of Cobalt have declared a quarterly dividend of 3 per cent., with a 7 per cent. bonus. There is not much business in the stock, which is quoted at about \$3.60.

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THE HOME BANK OF CANADA

DIVIDEND No. 8

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of SIX PER CENT per annum upon the paid-up Capital Stock of The Home Bank of Canada has been declared for the THREE MONTHS ending the 30th November, 1908, and the same will be payable at the Head Office and Branches of the Bank on and after Tuesday, the first day of December next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th to the 30th of November, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board.

JAMES MASON,
General Manager.

Toronto, October 21, 1908.