

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr. J. B. McLaren, for some years manager of the Canada Landed and Investment Company, died at Victoria, B.C., last week.

Mr. F. Beresford Oxley has been appointed secretary-treasurer of the Trinidad Electric Company and the Demerara Electric Company.

Major C. S. Riley, general manager of the Canadian Fire Insurance Company, is recruiting a battery in Winnipeg to be known as the 59th Battery.

Mr. I. W. Killam, president of the Royal Securities Corporation, is expected to be in Montreal again shortly. He is making progress after his recent operation.

Mr. F. W. Ross, formerly manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia in Hamilton, Ont., has assumed his new duties as the manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia at Winnipeg, Man.

Mr. W. A. Read, head of the well-known financial firm of W. A. Read & Company, New York, died some days ago at New York. The late Mr. Read was thoroughly in touch with Canadian financial matters, and his firm handled many issues of Canadian railway and municipal securities.

Mr. J. Bernitz, special agent of the Export Association of Canada, who is a native of Russia, and who is familiar with the Canadian industrial field, is now receiving final instructions from a special group of manufacturers, all members of the Export Association of Canada, for a visit to Siberia, which will occupy at least six months.

Mr. H. A. Richardson, general manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, has returned from a tour of inspection of the bank's branches in the West Indies. He was accompanied by two of the bank's directors and by Mr. W. P. Hunt, manager at Montreal. Mr. Richardson states that Jamaica possesses great possibilities, but is handicapped somewhat by lack of capital. He suggests the appointment of a Canadian trade commissioner there.

Mr. Johnston Ewart Hodgins, an associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute of Great Britain, has been appointed inspector of the St. Lawrence and British Empire Underwriters' Agencies. Mr. Hodgins was formerly employed by the Norwich Union in Toronto. He has had an extensive insurance experience, and prior to coming to Canada, he occupied important positions in Ireland. He was also a lecturer in connection with the Belfast Insurance Institute.

Mr. W. D. Ross, vice-president of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, had a strenuous year during 1915 in directing the finances of the company on account of its record operations. Mr. F. B. McCurdy, M.P., addressing the company's shareholders at the annual meeting recently, said they were indeed fortunate in having Mr. Ross as financial adviser and vice-president. He was a local product as a financier, known throughout Canada as prudent in business, wise in counsel and energetic in action, and one who had risen to a position where he did not have to take off his hat to any man in Canada in financial ability.

Mr. Homer Vipond, Montreal representative of the New York Life Insurance Company, recently addressed the Ontario Life Underwriters' Association. Mr. Vipond outlined the evolution of the insurance business, pointing out the main features, among which he emphasized the good work to be performed and already being performed by insurance companies towards the men who are to-day fighting for the empire and for civilization. Speaking of the insurance business in relation to present conditions, he stated that although many financial institutions of all kinds had failed to meet the crisis, the life insurance business to-day was in a stronger position than ever.

Col. Cantley, president and general manager of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company, who has been connected with the company for more than 30 years, presided over an unusually interesting annual meeting of the corporation recently. He told the shareholders that the company and its management had passed through some anxious and trying years, but in all his experience he could not recall a year where the issues involved and the fluctuations and departures

from normal conditions were anything like so great as during 1915 in iron and steel. Mr. F. B. McCurdy, M.P., paid a tribute to Col. Cantley's energy. The flying start the company received in the manufacture of munitions of war could only be attributed to Col. Cantley's foresight, his confidence in the ability to accomplish great things, and his expert knowledge of steel manufacturing. In this regard, declared Mr. McCurdy, not only was the company, but Canada and the whole British Empire under a debt of gratitude to Colonel Thomas Cantley. This declaration was applauded by the shareholders, who recognize in Col. Cantley a thorough president and general manager, and one who knows his company's business in every department.

BANK CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS

The following are the bank clearing house returns for weeks ended March 30th, 1916, and April 1st, 1915, with changes:—

| | Week ended Mar. 30, '16. | Week ended Apr. 1, '15. | Changes. |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Montreal | \$ 55,474,197 | \$ 38,911,525 | + \$16,562,672 |
| Toronto | 37,162,673 | 30,059,517 | + 7,103,156 |
| Winnipeg | 23,776,743 | 20,367,805 | + 3,408,938 |
| Vancouver | 4,478,663 | 4,948,582 | — 469,919 |
| Ottawa | 3,656,674 | 4,176,391 | — 519,717 |
| Calgary | 3,299,793 | 3,116,916 | + 182,877 |
| Quebec | 2,555,608 | 2,304,997 | + 250,611 |
| Hamilton | 3,284,004 | 2,307,301 | + 976,703 |
| Edmonton | 1,940,379 | 1,975,235 | — 34,856 |
| Halifax | 1,556,784 | 1,614,569 | — 57,785 |
| London | 1,699,957 | 1,299,691 | + 400,266 |
| Regina | 1,548,528 | 1,278,860 | + 269,668 |
| St. John | 1,284,982 | 1,583,370 | — 298,388 |
| Victoria | 1,045,857 | 1,670,455 | — 624,598 |
| Saskatoon | 867,346 | 646,926 | + 220,420 |
| Moose Jaw | 710,110 | 827,506 | — 117,396 |
| Brandon | 436,257 | 366,095 | + 70,162 |
| Brantford | 530,648 | 431,492 | + 99,156 |
| Fort William | 351,348 | 342,852 | + 8,496 |
| Lethbridge | 395,931 | 244,507 | + 151,424 |
| Medicine Hat | 294,717 | 236,403 | + 58,314 |
| New Westminster | 178,032 | 231,810 | — 53,778 |
| Peterboro | 433,603 | 335,050 | + 98,553 |
| Totals | \$146,962,834 | \$119,277,855 | + \$27,684,979 |
| Sherbrooke | | | |

The following are the bank clearing house returns for weeks ended April 6th, 1916, and April 8th, 1915, with changes:—

| | Week ended Apr. 6, '16. | *Week ended Apr. 8, '15. | Changes. |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Montreal | \$ 65,923,475 | \$ 36,465,589 | + \$29,457,886 |
| Toronto | 46,953,734 | 28,665,773 | + 18,287,961 |
| Winnipeg | 33,397,411 | 16,896,774 | + 16,500,637 |
| Vancouver | 5,532,109 | 3,894,653 | + 1,637,456 |
| Ottawa | 5,091,450 | 3,938,317 | + 1,153,133 |
| Calgary | 4,173,339 | 2,570,326 | + 1,603,013 |
| Hamilton | 4,248,839 | 2,692,413 | + 1,556,426 |
| Quebec | 3,731,691 | 2,540,008 | + 1,191,683 |
| Edmonton | 2,422,654 | 1,816,016 | + 606,638 |
| Halifax | 2,185,016 | 1,650,718 | + 534,298 |
| London | 2,211,221 | 1,824,237 | + 386,984 |
| Regina | 1,779,543 | 1,257,494 | + 522,049 |
| St. John | 1,746,188 | 1,251,068 | + 495,120 |
| Victoria | 1,299,841 | 1,113,394 | + 186,447 |
| Saskatoon | 1,186,916 | 720,066 | + 466,850 |
| Moose Jaw | 830,495 | 708,375 | + 122,120 |
| Brandon | 513,603 | 520,575 | — 6,972 |
| Brantford | 636,452 | 456,668 | + 179,784 |
| Fort William | 442,296 | 458,040 | — 16,644 |
| Lethbridge | 528,812 | 300,152 | + 228,660 |
| Medicine Hat | 376,748 | 207,889 | + 168,859 |
| New Westminster | 251,014 | 241,500 | + 9,514 |
| Peterboro | 413,701 | 440,110 | — 26,409 |
| Totals | \$185,876,548 | \$110,631,055 | + \$75,245,493 |
| Sherbrooke | 519,604 | | |

*Four days only.