

CANADIAN BANK EXTENSIONS

Within the Past Year Have Been Remarkable.

Depositing and Borrowing Public Greatly Benefitted—Only One Big Institution Failed.

The last year has been one of the most remarkable in banking extension in Canada, and that for two or three reasons. It has witnessed a large development in the way of extending banking facilities to the smaller towns and in the more remote neighborhoods. Whether all these branches have been profitable as yet, is only known to the banks concerned, but that these extensions are for the convenience of both the depositing and borrowing public undeniable. "And it is beyond question that the field for such extensions is constantly enlarging in the Northwest. It is certain that many of the neighborhoods and settlements of those vast regions are only at the beginning of their development, and as time progresses, banking facilities will be required in numbers of places that have no need for them at present.

The year has also witnessed a unique and remarkable spectacle of the active managing centre of two banks, whose headquarters have long been in the Maritime provinces, being removed to the two chief business centers of the Dominion. The Merchant's Bank of Halifax, now called the Royal Bank of Canada, has transferred the office of its general manager and staff to Montreal. The Bank of Nova Scotia has transferred the office of its general manager and staff to Toronto. The headquarters of each of these banks still remain in Halifax, where the board of directors of each institution is still to be found. The experiment is one that has never been tried before in Canada, although something like it has been tried in Great Britain. The great bank now called Paris, Limited, had its origin in the Lancashire town of Warrington, and its nominal headquarters may, possibly be there still. The Lloyds Bank, Limited, is a Birmingham institution, in which place it had its origin. The centre of this corporation has for some time back also been in London. The analogy, however, is scarcely complete, for neither Montreal or Toronto constitutes the all-absorbing centre that London is to Great Britain. The move is likely to be a good one. If the banks are to do business in the various provinces of the Dominion, it is important that they should be in touch with banking and commerce in one or the other of the great centres. It has undoubtedly been a drawback for the banks doing business in these large places to have their centre of management in a city like Halifax. There can be no doubt that one reason why the Commercial Bank of Canada failed was that its management and board of directors were located in so small a city as Kingston, and entirely removed from the great current of finance and business. Similarly, some of the misfortunes which at one time befell the Ontario bank, doubtless arose from its head office being situated in such a small town as Bowmanville. In these days of rapid motion, constant changes and keen competition, it is essential that general managers should be in close touch with the large currents of commercial and banking life.

Another remarkable development of Canadian banking which has already been referred to, is the absorption of the business of the Bank of British Columbia by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Respecting this we do not need here to say more than this, that it was conceived and carried out with an energy, judgment and ability which are a credit not only to the parties concerned, but to the general banking world of Canada.—Toronto Monetary Times.

Fleet-Footed Caribou.
A man lately returned from the woods says that a caribou can run faster than any other animals on legs. He says: "I have a friend who owns a greyhound, and he always maintains that no animal could outrun the dog—at least, he thought so until lately, when he stood by and saw the fleet dog run off his feet by a herd of caribou that didn't seem to be in much of a hurry either."
"One day this friend of mine was bragging about the dog to an old woods guide, when the latter said he could find an animal that would leave the hound so far behind that he would think he was anchored. This touched my friend in a sensitive spot, and a wager of \$10 was made on a race between the hound and the first caribou he came across.
"Finally the guide succeeded in getting the dog after some caribou, a herd of four, found standing like so many statues on the ice in the middle of one of the big ponds of the Penobscot west branch region. You know a caribou trots instead of running like most wild animals. There had been a

good fall of snow, a light rain which formed a thick crust, and then about three inches more of snow. It was the finest kind of surface for running, and when the greyhound was turned loose his owner confidently expected that he would play tag with those caribou.
"The dog went after them like a wild locomotive, and the caribou started. At first they didn't appear to be going very fast, but as the hound drew up on them they let out a link. The hound was running his prettiest, and before the caribou had time to think he was right up on them.
"Then they put on steam, and it was a sight to see them go. Why, when they struck their gait they pulled away from that dog as though he had been anchored, and by the time they had reached the end of the pond the hound wasn't half way across.
"When the dog came back he was sadder and wiser and his master looked dazed. To be sure, a greyhound is fast, but when you come to stack greyhounds or any other kind of hounds against caribou you are in too fast a game—sure."—New York Sun.

EARL RUSSELL DIVORCE CASE

His Trial by Peers an Unusual Proceeding.

New York, July 6.—The London correspondent of the Tribune writing of the Russell case, says:
"The case of Earl Russell, involving the trial of a peer by the house of lords after the suspension of functions of this kind for 60 years, may offer an object-lesson in the form of a majority verdict which will tend to dignify the traditional dignities of 12 ordinary men in the box. New precedents may be created by a fresh committee empowered to examine the journals of the house of lords.
"The essential facts will be that a medical peer will be exposed to a majority verdict from a house representing the old torporism of the privilege classes and that any member answering the committee call of the lord high steward will be both an unsworn juror respecting issues of fact and a judge regarding complex questions of divorce law in England, and in America. The results so remarkable an experiment in criminal procedure cannot be safely forecasted. An abandonment, or at least a reconstruction of the anticipated procedure of trial by privileged classes would seem more likely than the substitution of a majority for an unanimous verdict in ordinary criminal practice.
"The Nevada judge who granted the divorce decree to Earl Russell has indeed been instrumental in raising a series of questions of exceptional interest. This is the first issue of the validity of divorce under the laws of Nevada, and the decisions of the United States supreme court. There is the fundamental question of the power of any foreign tribunal to release an Englishman from the obligations of marriage contracted in his own country and to enable him to return to England with another wife. There is the issue of privilege, with the anomalous procedure of trial by the house of lords when there is a charge of felony against a peer and this is the traditional inheritance of social conditions which have been transformed by the normal development of political institutions. The Nevada judge has opened a Pandora's box for the confusion of the privileged order and for the bewilderment of hair splitting lawyers.
"The best consolation which the stern moralist is to find, is to hope that the Russell case may lead to the enactment of uniform divorce laws in the States of the American Union and may open the way for a closer approach between England and America, in legislation for the defense of the sanctity of marriage."

Royal Grandchildren.
The king and queen need not worry about the worldly prospects of their grandchildren, who are few indeed when compared with the many descendants of Queen Victoria. The two little ladies Duff have a father who can provide for them, independently of royal relationship.
The valuable Cornwall quartette, three princes and one princess, will be chargeable on the country as they grow up, and nobody will begrudge the money for such important young highnesses. Our king and queen have lost two sons; one daughter remains unmarried; another, though married, has no children. Their majesties will be represented by a limited number of descendants in the third generation, all near home, and with a fair financial future.
Queen Victoria had no voice in the bringing up of her eldest daughter's children, who belonged to Prussia, and were under the jurisdiction of the old Emperor William till his death. Princess Alice's sons and daughters were Hessians, and nominally outside her Britannic majesty's control, but the weak character of the late Grand Duke Louis not only allowed, but almost obliged, the august lady to look after the interests of grandchildren to whose welfare she had so liberally contributed.
Princess Christian's children were practically under the queen's rule, because she had provided them with a home, and they lived in England, yet, officially, the head of their family is Duke Ernest Gunther, of Schleswig-Holstein, brother of the German emperor, who lately gave his consent that the divorced wife of Prince Arbert of Anhalt should resume her maiden name and be known again as Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein. The children of Princess Beatrice, being Battenbergs, belong to a morganatic branch of the Hessian grand ducal family.
Of all Queen Victoria's grandchildren they seemed nearest and dearest to her majesty, born and reared under her roof as they were. The Duke of Edinburgh and his family passed from the British sovereign's control on his becoming Duke of Coburg, an independent German potentate; and so did the young Duke of Albany, later on. The Connaughts remain the subjects of King Edward, as they were of Queen Victoria; so do the Duchess and Princess Alice of Albany; and, last but not least, the venerable Duke of Cambridge, who has lived in five reigns, and, as baby, child, youth and old gentleman, has seen out four English monarchs, his relatives.—Ex.

Balloonist Killed.
Muskegon, Mich., July 5.—Frank Tezelow, a Grand Rapids balloonist, was killed here last evening. He fell from mid-air, a distance of 1000 feet, falling in Muskegon lake. Death was instantaneous. Tezelow was the assistant of Prof. Meitzel, of Grand Rapids, who was engaged to make two ascensions here today. He had made but one ascension before, that being in Cedar Springs on Tuesday. He begged to be permitted to go up here, and Meitzel consented. Tezelow was to be shot out of a canon when he had risen to a certain height. It was in this that he was enclosed with a parachute. When the balloon had risen to a distance of 1000 feet, the rope fastening of the canon caught fire, letting it fall to the earth. The descent required but a moment, the balloonist and his enclosure of metal plunging into Muskegon lake before the gaze of thousands of spectators. The canon struck a sawlog and was badly battered, and the remains of the balloonist were fearfully mangled. Tezelow was 20 years of age.
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