

## The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Head Office—Toronto, Canada

Paid-up Capital - - - \$15,000,000  
Reserve Fund - - - 13,500,000

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., President  
ALEXANDER LAIRD - - - General Manager  
JOHN AIRD - - - Assistant General Manager

This Bank has 370 branches throughout Canada, in San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, Ore., and an agency in New York, also branches in London, Eng., Mexico City and St. John's, Nfld., and has excellent facilities for transacting a banking business of every description.

### Savings Bank Accounts

Interest at the current rate is allowed on all deposits of \$1 and upwards. Careful attention is given to every account. Small accounts are welcomed. Accounts may be opened and operated by mail.

Accounts may be opened in the names of two or more persons, withdrawals to be made by any one of them or by the survivor.

## The Bank of British North America

Established in 1836

Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1840

Paid-up Capital - - - \$4,866,666.66  
Reserve Fund - - - \$3,017,333.33

Head Office in Canada, Montreal  
H. B. MACKENZIE, General Manager

### Branches in British Columbia

Agassiz	Kerrisdale	Prince Rupert
Ashcroft	Lillooet	Quesnel
Duncan	Lytton	Rossland
Esquimalt	North Vancouver	Trail
Hedley	150-Mile House	Vancouver
Kaslo	Prince George	Victoria

### YUKON TERRITORY

#### DAWSON

Savings Department at all Branches.

Special facilities available to customers importing goods under Bank Credits.

### Collections made at lowest rates

Drafts, Money Orders, Circular Letters of Credit and Travellers' Cheques issued; negotiable anywhere.

Vancouver Branch

WILLIAM GODFREY, Manager  
E. STONHAM, Assistant Manager

each stream has its distinctive race of sockeye, the progeny returning at maturity to the parent stream, and that sockeye fry rarely survive when they proceed to sea within the year in which they are hatched. He further finds that sea-feeding, with consequent rapid growth, produces early maturity, an equal number of years in fresh water producing comparatively little effect.

Dr. Joseph Stafford, M.A., Ph. D., Montreal, reports on his investigations into the life-history of the native oysters of British Columbia. During the summer he visited almost the entire coast-line of the Province, and observed the distribution of the oyster and its associates, and its spawning in northern waters. He collected plankton, temperatures and salinities and noted the physical features of the coastal areas where oysters occur. What he writes is authoritative, for he is America's first oracle on the oyster.

Perhaps the newest and most interesting portion of the report is devoted to the first systematic attempt anywhere made to trace the life-history of the halibut. This work was inaugurated by Mr. Babcock when he assigned W. F. Thompson, of Stanford University, California, to the task two years ago. All over the world Mr. Thompson's report will be read with engrossing interest by scientists and fishermen alike. He has opened up a virgin field and collected specimens on a scale never before attempted.

In his report, Mr. Thompson indicates that the best halibut banks are becoming exhausted by over-fishing, the supply is limited and is rapidly decreasing, and that if this source of food supply is not to be largely lost to the public some protection must be extended to the halibut in the near future. How necessary, then, to know the life-history of the halibut if protection is to be given in a rational manner and without unduly disturbing the industry.

In this connection it may be said that both Ottawa and Victoria, in conjunction with Washington, are considering the advisability of making a close season for halibut for certain months in the year, probably from December to April.

Some interesting facts have been disclosed by Mr. Thompson. The female halibut is always larger than the male; the fish from Hecate Strait are very much larger than those from Frederick Island and Kodiak Island; the age of the oldest halibut is about 22 or 23 years, and that of the youngest three years, among those whose ear-bones had been collected and examined. It may be stated with confidence that the halibut breeds on this coast between the middle of December and the last of April or the middle of May.

There are few halibut that mature during the eighth year of their lives, and there are fish still immature in the 15th year of their age. The eighth is, however, the age of a large proportion of the fish in Hecate Strait at the time of their capture and observation. The evidence bears out the fact that a large majority of fish caught do not reach maturity. These facts are of the utmost importance in judging of the methods to be used in conserving the fish and also in explaining the decrease of fish in certain banks. Further investigation is needed along this line.

Mr. Thompson makes the definite statement that sea lions eat halibut. At various times, when he was on the halibut banks 15 to 20 miles off Frederick Island, in water over 100 fathoms deep, he saw sea lions apparently feeding on the halibut. At the same time he finds it hard to believe that the sea lion penetrates to a depth of 100 fathoms to feed on halibut. So do we. But Mr. Thompson had the halibut fishermen to reassure him of the truth of what he apparently saw. But we know those halibut fishermen; they are like all other fishermen, fluent but not necessarily veracious story-tellers.

However, Mr. Thompson is to be congratulated on the report that he has made on the halibut. He had an arduous task, having to share the hardships of many a fishing trip; but he has produced an invaluable report of tremendous economic importance to our national fisheries.

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