

FINANCE MINISTER BACKS MERGER OF TWO BANKS

Economic Difficulties Force Union Bank Into Amalgamation.

BELIEVED WISE STEP
Reduces Number Chartered Banks in Dominion To Eleven.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, May 22.—Hon. James A. Robb, acting minister of finance, announced tonight that he had given his consent to the purchase of the Union Bank of Canada by the Royal Bank of Canada. Before the agreement can finally be approved by the governor-in-council, it requires ratification by the shareholders of both banks, as provided by the bank act. Shareholders of the Union Bank are to receive one share of Royal Bank stock for each two shares of Union Bank stock.

Mr. Robb stated that in asking his consent to the agreement of sale, the directors of the Union Bank had acted in the view of substantially reduced earnings, with no prospect of early improvement, and the difficulty (despite most right economies) of curtailing proportionately the cost of operation, they were faced with the necessity of making a drastic cut in the annual dividend, which would result in a substantial drop in the value of the bank's shares, and, further, might adversely affect the general standing of the bank in the eyes of the public, and in order to protect the shareholders and the public, as well as in the interest of general financial stability, the directors of the Union Bank, after exhaustive consideration, deemed it their wisest course to obtain the consent of the minister of finance to a sale to the Royal Bank.

Increase Winnipeg Office.
Inasmuch as the head office of the Union Bank of Canada is in Winnipeg, and as it has more branches in the middle West than any other bank, the acting minister of finance stated he was glad to be able to announce that the Royal Bank of Canada had given assurance that in future its executive offices in Winnipeg will be made more important than in the past.

Mr. Robb added that, while he had been unsympathetic to further bank mergers, there could be no doubt that in the present circumstances he was warranted in acquiescing.

In regard to the transaction, C. S. Tompkins, inspector-general of banks, said: "There is little to add to the announcement of the acting minister of finance. My view is that the directors of the Union Bank of Canada, after giving this matter careful study for some time, have made a wise decision. The proposed merger should be considered a wise move for the shareholders and others directly concerned, and is unquestionably in the public interest."

Only One Bank Bank.
The purchase of the Union Bank of Canada by the Royal Bank of Canada reduces the number of banks chartered by the federal government to eleven. The financial statement of the department of finance, and showing the condition of Canadian banks, has on March 31 of the present year, showed the paid-up capital of the Union Bank as \$8,000,000, and the reserve fund as \$1,750,000. The paid-up capital of the Royal Bank was shown as \$20,400,000, and the reserve fund as \$1,750,000. The total liabilities of the Union Bank at the end of March were \$11,468,170, and total assets \$11,516,741. Current deposits held by the Union Bank on that date amounted to \$28,084,840, and savings deposits to \$22,278,234. The net circulation stood at \$7,877,315. Current loans in Canada totalled \$46,105,965, and call loans \$10,308,000.

The statement of the Royal Bank showed total liabilities of \$602,588,051, and total assets of \$602,527,004. Savings deposits amounted to \$205,515,226, and current deposits to \$82,568,907 on March 31. The net circulation of the Royal Bank was \$27,718,786. Current loans held in Canada amounted to \$137,578,251, and current loans held outside \$131,700,653. Call loans in Canada amounted to \$19,173,464, and call loans outside to \$37,019,526.

SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMY.
Canadian Press Despatch.
Montreal, May 22.—Substantial economies in management and a very large saving by amalgamation at points where both banks are represented, was the forecast tonight by Sir Herbert Holt, president of the Royal Bank of Canada, who gave out a statement regarding the purchase of the Union Bank by the Royal Bank. Sir Herbert said that in his opinion the merger would prove advantageous to the shareholders and customers of both institutions.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Royal Bank has 636 branches in Canada, and the Union Bank has 111 branches, the two banks are competitors at only 50 points. After amalgamation, Sir Herbert said, the Royal Bank will have 513 branches in Canada, and including foreign offices, a total of 923 branches.

TWO IN MIDDLESEX.
These are two branches of the Union Bank in Middlesex county, one at Mount Briddges and one at Melbourn. The Union Bank has a branch at Kingsville, Leamington, Ridgeway and Wheatley.

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HEAD BADLY CUT IN AUTO CRASH

R. Morris, Detroit, Is Thrown Through Windshield of Car Near Thamesford.

Rex Morris of Detroit received a number of cuts about the head in an auto accident two miles west of Thamesford at 2 o'clock this morning, when he was hurled through the windshield of a coupe when it struck the abutment of a small concrete bridge.

Morris was proceeding east on the highway when a car turned out of a side road to go west. The lights of the oncoming car blinded him and he was almost on top of a car owned and driven by Andrew Stevens of St. Marys that had stalled across the road. In order to avoid hitting the Stevens car Morris turned, scraped a telegraph pole, and crashed into the bridge.

The injured man was brought to London to the Iroquois hotel, where he received medical aid.

High Constable Wharton was called to the scene of the accident shortly after it happened and ordered the car towed. The wrecked car was towed to Terry's garage for repairs.

Free Supplies
Not Required

Woodstock Schools Reflect Industrial Improvement.

Special to The Advertiser.
Woodstock, May 22.—For the first time in 32 years no free pupils are in attendance at the Woodstock public schools. It is the practice of the board of education to pay for all school supplies of those pupils whose parents cannot afford to buy the articles, or whose parents are charges of the city, but reflecting the improved industrial conditions existing here, there are at present no pupils under this classification.

BETTER CONDITION SEEN AS MINERS DEFER PACT

Hope For Recovery From Depression in Britain Follows Wage Agreement Decision.

Associated Press Despatch.
London, May 22.—Most people who are closely connected with the heavy industries of Great Britain are disposed to believe there is more than a ray of hope for the country's recovery from the all-round depression as a result of the decision of the miners' conference to defer the preparation of the new wage agreement.

This decision was taken at the miners' conference at Blackpool by an overwhelming vote, and it has had a sudden and welcome effect on stocks and shares in the heavy trades.

Notice of the termination of the present agreement between the mine owners and the miners in June which was anticipated, will not now be so threatening. Instead the joint negotiation in an attempt to get at the root of the causes of the troubles in the coal fields will be continued.

AUTO MAGNATE OMTS ELDEST SON IN WILL

J. Dallas Dort Asks Court For Guardian For Boy.

Special to The Advertiser.
Flint, Mich., May 22.—Dallas B. Dort, eldest son of J. Dallas Dort, motor magnate, who died Sunday, is omitted from the father's will on file here. The son was a spendthrift.

Dort stated in 1917 in his application for a guardian for Ralph.

About a year following the signing of the will Dort applied to the probate court here for a guardian for his son, alleging that he was a spendthrift. The son served in the army during the world war and was discharged with an excellent record.

SIR EDWARD H. HULTON IS DEAD IN ENGLAND

Associated Press Despatch.
Leatherhead, Surrey, Eng., May 22.—Sir Edward Henry Hulton, former owner of the Evening Standard, Daily Sketch, London Daily Despatch and other newspapers is dead. He was born in 1869 and was created baronet in 1921.

Sir Edward owned a noted string of race horses, one of which, Oolah, was entered in the derby, to be run next Wednesday.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

ANDERSON—At his late residence, 487 Tecumseh Ave., on Saturday, May 22, 1925, Robert W. Anderson, in his 72nd year.

Funeral from the above address on Monday morning at 10 o'clock. Requiem Mass at St. Martin's church at 10 o'clock. Interment at St. Peter's cemetery.

FENNER—Sarah Alice, widow of the late John Fenner, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. F. C. Fenner, at 10 o'clock on Saturday, May 23, in her 63rd year.

Funeral services at above address, Monday, May 24 at 2 p.m. Interment at Mount Pleasant cemetery.

WOOD—At his late residence, 295 Princess Ave., George Wood, beloved husband of Selma Wood, in his 72nd year.

Funeral private from above address at 10 o'clock. Service at 2:30. Interment at Mount Pleasant.

LOST—Police dog, named Queen, Registered, of Chicago, and one daughter, Mohena, of Detroit.

NEW ENVELOPE
To Be Issued

On and after June 1 the postal department will issue a 1 cent stamped envelope in manila paper. The envelopes will be sold at \$1.20, according to an advice received here by T. Duncan, postmaster.

The envelopes will be used for circulars.



Here are two popular London boys and their mother, who have reached the pinnacle of fame in the motion picture industry, with the adaptation of the famous stage success, "Charlie's Aunt," featuring the inimitable Sid Chaplin in the title role, which comes to the Capitol on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Above, reading from left to right, are: Charlie Christie, Mrs. Christie and Al Christie. Their faces are familiar to hundreds of Londoners. Every Charlie who brings his aunt will be admitted free on Thursday evening.

W. G. ATKIN NAMED CROWN ATTORNEY

Former St. Thomas Resident Is Appointed To Office in the Soo.

Special to The Advertiser.
St. Thomas, May 22.—W. G. Atkin, formerly of this city and now of Sault Ste. Marie, has been appointed crown attorney of that place. Mr. Atkin is well known in this city, a son of the late W. B. Atkin and Mrs. Atkin, now of Toronto.

HOSPITAL QUARANTINE BRINGS REMAND FOR 3

Nahoon Zarawich, Assault Victim, Was To Have Testified in Court Today.

Nahoon Zarawich's inability to appear in police court this morning, where he is to give evidence against Steve Robak, Pete Gorman and Harry Gilmack, who are charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm, necessitate their remand for another week.

Zarawich was wounded in a street brawl one month ago. He was struck on the head with a bottle, and his three alleged assailants were arrested the following day. They have been on remand since that date.

Zarawich is still confined to Victoria hospital, but not through his injuries. The ward on which he was confined was quarantined some time ago for diphtheria, and as a result he will be unable to testify for another week at least, the court was told.

LOG LOAD TOO HEAVY, FIRM ASSESSED \$10

Two Additional Tons Bring Conviction in County Court Today.

A fine of \$10 and costs was meted out to a local firm in county court this morning for trucking a heavier load of logs into London on the highway than their license called for.

A load of ten tons was the limit that could be carried on the truck, but when weighed at the city scales by James Dean, it was more than the 12-ton capacity of the city scales.

J. W. G. Winnert appeared for the defendant, and pointed out the difficulty of any man guessing the correct weight of the load. The firm had no intention of violating the law, he declared.

T. G. P. Lucas, speed officer on the Proff road, prosecuted the case.

HYDE PARK PAYING WILL START ABOUT JUNE 15

Announcement Made by County Engineer—Chloride Used On Pipe Line.

Paving operations on the Hyde Park highway will commence about June 15, County Engineer Charles Talbot, stated this morning.

Calcium chloride has been sprinkled on the gravel strip in the center of the Pipe Line road and continues to Byron. The calcium lays the dust as effectively as oil and is a great boon to motorists.

EXPRESS SMASHES TRUCK KILLING DRIVER INSTANTLY

Hamilton, May 22.—Patrick Hand, Winona, met a shocking death at the intersection of the Winona road and the Grand Trunk tracks late Friday afternoon, when the truck which he was driving was struck by the west-bound express. He was so badly injured as to be almost unrecognizable. It is believed that he did not hear the warning signal of the approaching train.

ABD-EL-KRIM ATTACKS FRENCH IN MOROCCO

Fez, French Morocco, May 22.—Severe fighting has continued all day on portions of the front where French soldiers are opposing the tribesmen of Abd-el-Krim, who have invaded the French zone, an official communique stated. French successes were indicated.

ORDINATIONS ALL MARK SERVICES

Four Will Be Taken Into the Methodist Ministry at Centennial Tomorrow.

Particularly impressive will be the ordination service of the London Methodist conference to be held in Centennial Methodist church tomorrow morning.

The service, at which four young men will be ordained into the Methodist ministry, will be conducted by Rev. A. E. M. Thomson, M.A., B.D., Centennial church, president of the conference and pastor of Centennial street church, London.

Those who will be ordained are: Irving F. Kain, Dorchester; Albert E. Menzies, B.A., Sarnia; Robert Harold Parr, B.A., West Lorne, and Robert E. Southcott, Exeter. Rev. H. J. Uren, Colborne street church, London, will be immediate past president of the conference, will deliver the sermon.

Tomorrow will be Conference Sunday, when visiting ministerial delegates to the conference will occupy the pulpits and conduct the Sunday school services in eleven of the Methodist churches of the city.

Graydon Agrees With Mowat

Should Emulate Those Well Versed in Law, He Says.

Justice Mowat's critical remarks, delivered at Osgoode hall yesterday following an appeal of a case tried in local police court, in which he referred to "slap dash convictions," "10-cent magistrates," and defended English magistrates as persons who knew a good deal about law, brought the following reply from Magistrate H. M. Graydon this morning.

"I think it would be a good thing for some people to emulate those educated English gentlemen who are so well versed in the law."

Although no decision was given in the appeal case, one in which C. J. Scott was convicted of wounding, Justice Mowat intimated that a lot of injustice is done by magistrates convicting on local prejudice.

His remarks, however, are confined to the case of the day, and not to the entire magistracy. Graydon. Rather it is taken as stricture on all magistrates in the country.

Military Notes

A course for the qualifying of lieutenants and N. C. O.'s of the non-permanent active militia will be held at the Royal School of Infantry, Woolwich barracks, from June 29 to Aug. 8.

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Believe Denis Flemming, Traveler, Was Carried Down Stream.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ferne, B. C., May 22.—In a motor accident just east of Michel, it is feared that Denis Flemming, traveller, lost his life. Flemming was riding in a roadster driven by Mr. Wood, of Michel, with another man seated on Flemming's knees. The car went over the bank and tumbled into the Michel creek. Only the rear end of the car was submerged. The men had been thrown out of the seat after the accident. The Fleming was missing, and it is believed he must have been catapulted into the creek and carried down stream.

The car was owned by Blairmore, Alberta, where he has a wife and two young children. He is a native of Cape Breton and a veteran of the great war.

BEATTY TO ADDRESS MANUFACTURERS' ASS'N

Sir John Aird Will Also Speak At Annual Banquet in Hamilton.

Canadian Press Despatch.
Toronto, May 22.—Acceptances have been received by the Canadian manufacturers' association from Sir John Aird, president of the Canadian Manufacturers' association, and E. W. Beatty, K.C., chairman and president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, to be present and to speak at a banquet to be held in connection with the annual general meeting of the association in Hamilton during the week of June 1.

Since Logan, M.P. for Cumberland, N. S., also accepted the invitation of the association to attend the convention and will be the speaker at a luncheon on June 2, he will be accompanied to the West Indies and will tell of the possibilities of Canadian trade with the countries bordering on the Caribbean sea.

Wellington Rifles Lead.

The Wellington rifles are leading in the brigade shoot at present. Artillery schools will be held at Petawawa this year on the 22nd of June, June 1 to 20; June 22 to July 13; July 20 to July 21. They are qualifying and refreshing courses for officers, N. C. O.'s and specialists.

There will be one course for engineers at Kingston from June 21 to July 6.

Signalling Course.

A course in signalling will be offered at Camp Borden from July 20 to August 29.

Small arms schools will be operated at Connaught ranges, near Ottawa, "A" wing for rifle, bayonet and light gun and revolver; two courses, July 6 to Aug. 15, and Aug. 24 to Oct. 3.

"B" wing takes up Vickers machine gun, range finder and revolver, two courses, July 20 to Aug. 15, and Aug. 24 to Sept. 19.

Cadet instructors' training from July 13 to Aug. 1. One course in cavalry will be held at Niagara from June 21 to July 6.

CHURCH UNION PARLEY AT MALINES CONCLUDED

Associated Press Despatch.
Brussels, May 22.—The conference at Malines for discussion of a union of the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches has come to a close, but the conclusions were not made public.

Cardinal Mercier, who presided, has left for Rome to see the pope and the Anglican delegates have returned to England where they will report to the archbishop of Canterbury.

DR. CHOWN DENIES POLITICS INJECTED INTO UNION ISSUE

Head of Methodist Church in Canada Speaks to Conference Delegates.

REFERS TO FINANCES
Disputes Claim Made in Some Quarters That Church Is Poor.

"In faith, that faith of Christ, we look to the consummation of church union. The Presbyterianism came to us asking that we proceed with union at a time when we were united, prosperous, loyal, enthusiastic and proud of the successes of Canadian Methodism. Today we still stand as one throughout Canada and I do not know of a single congregation in Canada that has considered going contrary to the church as a whole. We have played the game. So spoke Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, general superintendent of the Methodist church in Canada, in the course of an address Saturday morning before the London Methodist conference, the delegates of the most largely attended sessions yet held.

Denies Political Charge.

It came as an immense surprise to many to hear the resolutions of the general assembly as scraps of paper and by distorted publicity had attempted to encourage divisions in their own ranks, explained Dr. Chown, who also spoke of the great need for a union of the churches in Canada. He told the story of a foreigner going to a western town and failing to comprehend the reason why four churches should be necessary to do the work of Jesus Christ.

"I cannot understand men trying to perpetuate the pettishness of denominational distinctions," said Dr. Chown. Concerning the statement attributed to the Methodist head, that he was attempting to make the new church a religious political machine, Dr. Chown made a flat denial, but he did state that at the present time a conflict is going on for the religious control of the country, and for that reason thought there should be a united Protestant church. He opposed, however, any church that had political ends in view.

Calls Anti-Tyrants.

To the allegation that the Methodist church was a poor church, Dr. Chown stated that the value of its church property was greater than any other church, and that the Methodist was not out to get, but to give, and if its property was worth even a hundred millions more than any other church, it would be turned over to union without a murmur.

Concerning a charge that he was a despot and issued mandates to legislators, Dr. Chown intimated that despotism was not on the side of union but against it. The anti-unionists would like to exercise a tyranny both over the Methodists and the legislators, a tyranny to which Methodism would not submit.

That there was a profound admiration for the dignified silence of the Methodist church during the controversy, Dr. Chown was assured.

No Orders Issued.

No orders had been issued demanding this silence. It was observed by none. Members of his party, wearing the strenuousness of the prince's South African tour, took an afternoon off and slept.

PRINCE PLAYS GOLF.

Idyllic South Africa, May 22.—Covered from the blazing sun by a gigantic red umbrella of the kind used by African chiefs, the Prince of Wales played golf yesterday afternoon. Members of his party, wearing the strenuousness of the prince's South African tour, took an afternoon off and slept.

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