

—Parrsboro, N.S., Board of Trade is agitating to have the Government construct, on the Intercolonial Railway, as part of the system, a loop between Amherst and Athol, to a point on the I.C.R. at or near Truro, by way of Southampton, Parrsboro, Economy, and other important villages. The scheme finds quite a number of adherents.

—In a debate in the Imperial House of Commons the other day, one member, in the course of a debate on the West Indian Islands, suggested that negotiations should be carried on with Canada with a view to this country conducting the government of those colonies. If, said he, they were attached to Canada, they would form something like a southern zone for the Dominion. Reorganizing and revitalizing the West Indies would add enormously to Imperial strength on the strategic highway of the world, and in the commercial centre of the new world.

—The Ontario Government's action in placing at the disposal of the trustees of Toronto University a sum of no less than \$465,000, is to be commended. And perhaps not less so is its decision to conduct a full enquiry into the administration of the University, an enquiry, however, which, it is stated, will not necessarily affect the teaching organization. The buildings on which the money will be expended will, it is estimated, cost in all \$1,600,000. They include a new General Hospital, towards which there is reason to believe the city will give \$200,000; a physics building, a convocation hall, a museum for the science building, four men's residences, an addition to the women's residence, glass houses for commencing practical teaching in botany and forestry. The Premier, in announcing the grant, said that \$250,000 in subscriptions from private parties would be forthcoming as soon as the bill was passed.

—An extraordinary case has occurred in Newmarket, the town a few miles north of Toronto, where a well-known bar-rister, Mr. Thomas Hiram Lloyd, was arrested for having refused to account for money which he had received in trust for the J. A. Weddell Estate. Since the arrest, dozens of farmers and others living in the vicinity of Newmarket, who claim to have money in Lloyd's hands, have taken alarm, and a very ugly state of things is developing. It is supposed that Mr. Lloyd, who is quite well known in Toronto, got behind in his accounts owing to his extensive dealing in British Columbia mining stocks, which did not prove satisfactory pecuniarily. His liabilities amount to \$33,750, while the assets comprise several properties in the town and neighborhood. Some of the creditors seem to be disposed to abandon criminal prosecution if by so doing they can get their money back sooner, but another meeting, we understand, is to take place to-day.

LA BANQUE NATIONALE.

The forty-fifth annual general meeting of the shareholders of this institution was held at the office of the bank in the city of Quebec on Wednesday, the 17th May, 1904, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Rodolphe Audette, the president, took the chair, and Mr. P. Lafrance acted as secretary.

The president then presented the following report of the affairs of the bank:

Statement of the Bank's Business for the Year.

The balance at credit of profit and loss, on 30th April, 1904, was	\$82,481 67
The profits of the year, after providing for accrued interest on deposits, and for bad and doubtful debts, amounted to	140,684 59
Forming the sum of	<u>\$223,166 26</u>
Which was appropriated as follows:	
Dividend No. 80%, payable 2nd November, 1904	\$45,000 00
Dividend No. 81%, payable 1st May, 1905	45,000 00
Transferred to reserve fund	50,000 00
	<u>\$140,000 00</u>

Leaving at credit of profit and loss account a balance of	\$83,166 26
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GENERAL STATEMENT, 29th APRIL, 1905.

Liabilities.	
Notes in circulation	\$1,483,861 00
Deposits bearing interest	\$5,727,346 84
Deposits not bearing interest	1,025,762 31
	<u>6,753,109 15</u>
Unclaimed dividends	\$646 88
Dividend No. 81, payable 1st May, 1905	45,000 00
	<u>45,646 88</u>
Due to other banks in Canada	58,730 55
Due to agencies of the bank in the United Kingdom	96,230 38
	<u>154,960 93</u>
Total liabilities to the public.....	<u>\$8,437,577 96</u>
Capital paid up	1,500,000 00
Reserve Fund	500,000 00
Accrued interest and exchange ...	15,000 00
Profit and loss account	83,166 26
	<u>2,098,166 26</u>
	<u>\$10,535,744 22</u>

Assets.	
Specie	\$119,204 02
Dominion notes	530,726 25
	<u>649,930 27</u>
Notes of, and cheques on, other banks in Canada	463,476 23
Balances due from other banks in Canada	49,234 31
Balances due from agencies of the bank in foreign countries	128,372 79
	<u>641,083 33</u>
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of note circulation	75,000 00
Call loans on stocks and bonds....	289,232 40
	<u>364,232 40</u>
Total assets immediately available.	<u>\$1,655,246 00</u>
Current loans, discount and advances to the public	8,497,809 58
Notes and bills discounted overdue (loss provided for)	47,070 10
Real estate, the property of the bank (other than the bank premises)	57,071 55
Mortgages on real estate sold by the bank	16,500 00
	<u>8,618,451 23</u>
Bank premises, furniture and stationery	262,046 99
	<u>\$10,535,744 22</u>

N. LAVOIE,
Inspector.

P. LAFRANCE,
Manager.

The election of directors having taken place, the following were found to be elected: Rodolphe Audette, Hon. Judge Chauveau, Narcisse Rioux, Victor Chateauvert, J. B. Laliberte, Nazaire Fortier, Victor Lemieux.

At a subsequent meeting of the board, Mr. Rodolphe Audette was re-elected president, and Judge Chauveau, vice-president.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of the Canadian Clearing Houses for the week ended with Thursday, May 18th, 1905, as compared with those of the previous week.

	May 18.	May 11.
Montreal	\$25,805,055	\$25,658,990
Toronto	20,358,913	19,964,453
Winnipeg	6,080,221	6,084,925
Halifax	1,612,686	1,879,153
Hamilton	1,181,875	1,189,786
St. John	946,965	1,121,466
Vancouver	1,483,706	1,784,256
Victoria	729,900	807,917
Quebec	1,519,542	1,670,554
Ottawa	2,277,711	2,172,272
London	900,044	1,102,343
Total	<u>\$62,896,618</u>	<u>\$63,436,115</u>