

BANK OF HAMILTON.

The statement of the result of the business of the Bank of Hamilton for the year ending 28th February, 1919, constitutes the best report ever issued by this popular banking institution. The bank's statement for the year is characterized by a considerable enlargement of resources and by yet further strengthening of its liquid position. This indicates the conservative course pursued by the bank under the able management of Mr. J. P. Bell.

Net profits for the twelve months under review of \$571,226 compare with \$598,522 for the previous fifteen months. The sum of \$100,000 appear in the statement as recovered from over appropriations which together with the sum of \$232,422 balance from last year make a total of \$903,648 available for distribution, appropriated as follows: Four quarterly dividends, \$360,000; pension fund, \$37,287; war tax, \$30,000; patriotic fund, \$18,150; premises account, \$173,096; transferred to reserve, \$200,000; leaving a balance of profits carried forward of \$85,114.

The service rendered by the Bank of Hamilton to Canada is indicated by the current loans amounting to \$37,719,328 an increase of \$4,585,000, and Government wheat loans on demand of \$7,918,000. Call loans abroad which amounted to \$1,400,000 in 1917 have been eliminated while call and short loans in Canada have been increased by \$933,000 to \$4,421,378. The total assets have been increased from \$66,541,680 to \$77,404,121. The proportion of liquid assets to liabilities to the public is over fifty per cent. indicating a very strong position. Deposits bearing interest have increased from \$36,588,312 to \$41,578,248 while deposits not bearing interest have increased \$16,771,669 to \$22,798,810.

The Bank of Hamilton has recently opened a branch in Montreal under the management of Mr. R. L. Ellis where an important volume of business is already being transacted.

SOMEWHAT OF A PROPHECY.

We publish the following letter addressed to the Editor of The Chronicle and published in its columns in August, 1900, from a correspondent in Germany in the year 1900, as being both interesting and enlightening, and indicating conditions as they actually existed nearly twenty years ago in Germany. Had England correctly sized up the situation at that date the war just concluded so victoriously for the Allies, might never have taken place.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

Leipzig, Aug. 15th, 1900.

Dear Editor,—When the war between England and the Transvaal broke out, the feeling borne by the nations of Europe to England was no secret. In fact, it was what might be expected of most of

them. The ill feeling of Germany to England, however, is much greater than is generally supposed, and its roots extend far beyond any Transvaal war, although in that war they find expression. One has only to take up a paper, and read the war news—scathing, unrelenting criticism of the English on all sides. No doubt much of this criticism is deserved, but the bitterness with which all such notices are saturated, points to more than mere criticism or even temporary ill-feeling. It cannot be sympathy for the smaller nation. Any reasoning, thinking German admits that there was no course other than the one they have taken, open to the English; that they themselves would have acted in the same manner, had they been placed in similar circumstances. The truth is, that the Germans are bitterly jealous of the English, of England in the sense of Greater Britain.

Germany has grown remarkably rapidly from an insignificant state to a leading nation. She is now, by the very rapidity of her growth, carried on to strive for first place, and her jealousy can be explained when she sees that place for the present at least, hopelessly occupied by England. But Germany is working grimly, patiently to make England's position untenable. One can see it in many ways—notably in the wildly enthusiastic manner in which the Kaiser's late naval appropriations were backed by the entire nation.

I was talking the other day to one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Germany—surely a man whose words ought to carry some weight. I found him as bitter against England as the many of lowlier station has been. "England," he said (and these are almost the exact words), "hates us and does all she can to harm us, and we are but biding our time to do the same thing to England. That time will come in about twenty years. The struggle for supremacy will be between the fleets on the channel, and the whole thing will be over in 48 hours." So much from a thinking man.

Surely this is surprising. The feeling in England certainly does not warrant it. Tell an Englishman this, and he will laugh at you, and yet it is undeniably the state of German feeling at the present. The one thing that the Germans cannot understand, and it seems to act as a damper on their malicious joy at English disasters in the magnificent way in which the Colonies have responded to the call of the Mother Country. The Germans (and others) cannot but recognize the fact, that in any big struggle these same colonies will claim their share of attention. And the fact does not please them.

Yours truly,

J. C. F.

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