

FRONT ELEVATION.

and was at that time presented to the city of Montreal. Executed in rough stone and surmounted by a lion it acts as a natural link between our Empire and one of her leading institutions.

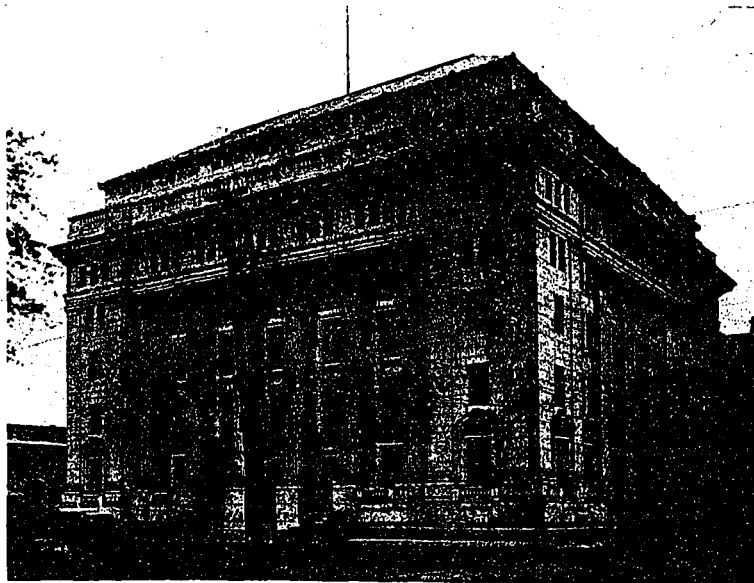
This, then, was the problem presented—to plan for an active modern business a structure which would express the full meaning of the business within and at the same time have it enhance rather than detract from the dignified character of its environments.

That the architects fully appreciated the task in its entirety is quite evident, not only from the appearance of the building itself, but also when taken in conjunction with its general surroundings. Standing some hundred feet above the ground; clothed throughout with a gray granite which invites as well as demands respect; designed with classic feelings of severity and refinement; it tends to raise our

own standards of art and as a consequence lift a little higher our immediate thoughts. It is one more argument in favor of adhering to precedent and still allowing of a liberal and free adaptation to fit our present needs.

The central portion of the main facade consists of six massive fluted columns, five feet in diameter, fifty one and a half feet high, which form the decorative feature. These in connection with moulded treatment of the windows between, furnish a striking contrast to the

plain subdued treatment at each corner. The columns are recessed so that all the mouldings are back of the face of the main wall, a feature permitting of a richness without the feeling of obtrusion. In order not to break the stability and severity of the corners. The openings are plain with the exception of those at the ground floor. The vertical tendency of the central portion is enhanced by allowing



GENERAL EXTERIOR VIEW.