

**RANDOLPH MACDONALD, TORONTO**

Randolph Macdonald, of the city of Toronto, is a prominent figure in the development of Canada.

He was born in Drummondville, Ontario, on the 30th of March, 1849, being a son of the late Angus Peter Macdonald, a Canadian by birth, but of Scotch descent, who represented West Middlesex in the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada for a number of years.

Educated at the famous school of Dr. Tassie in Galt, and at Hellmuth College, London, his first business was as Superintendent and Clerk on the construction of the Cleveland and Mahoning Branch Railroad, Cleveland, Ohio; he then joined his father and brother in a railroad contract lasting for three years on the Jamestown and Franklin Railway in Pennsylvania.

In 1870 he associated himself in partnership with his brother W. E. Macdonald under the firm name of W. E. Macdonald & Company, and secured the contract of section 13, consisting of 30 miles of the Intercolonial Railway at Metis in Quebec, considered the heaviest filling-in work on the railroad, which work was completed with credit to the contractors.

In 1875 the firm built sections 1 and 2 of the Lachine Canal and the Wellington Basin, near Montreal, for \$1,250,000.

In 1880 the same firm built the Fenelon Falls section of the Trent Valley Canal, including two locks and approaches. In 1887 Mr. Macdonald was awarded the Don Improvement contract by the city of Toronto and continued the same in partnership with Mr. Alexander Manning, the well-known contractor and capitalist, under the firm name of Manning & Macdonald. From 1891 to 1903 this firm built the Port Dalhousie Harbour Works, the Midland Division of the Grand Trunk Railway to Campbellford, Ontario, the Esplanade Works of the city of Toronto, the Canadian Pacific Railway Section on the Don River, the Toronto Belt Line Railway, Section 13 of the Soulanges Canal at Coteau Landing and Section 9 at Coteau-du-Lac, these two sections costing \$1,200,000, and the St. Lawrence River improvements at Cornwall.

In 1902 the Manning interest in the firm was



purchased by Mr. Macdonald, who then engaged in a large harbour contract at Three Rivers, Quebec, also several other dredging contracts.

He has a comprehensive grasp of public affairs and has made himself prominent in financial and commercial circles where he is known as a sound business man. He was a promoter and organizer of the Sovereign Bank of Canada, incorporated in 1901 with a capital of \$2,000,000 and a provisional Director of the same, and was afterwards elected and is now the first Vice-President of that institution. He was also a promoter and organizer of the Crown Life Assurance Company of Toronto, with a capital of \$1,000,000, and was elected a Director and also a member of the Executive Board of Management.

Mr. Macdonald is a Presbyterian and a prominent member of Chalmers Presbyterian Church, Dundas Street, and is also a member of the Masonic Order A.F. & A.M.

Married in 1875 to Jeannie Ferguson, of Montreal, he has a family of three children, William R., Assistant Manager of the Ohio Cooperage Company, Cleveland, Ohio; Mabel, wife of Charles A. Barton, with the Westinghouse Electric Company of New York, and Frank, a student at St. Andrew's College, Toronto.