

MARBLE TEMPLE OF MONEY IS READY FOR BANK OF TORONTO

On Wednesday Bank Will Be Doing Business in Its Splendid Building at King and Bay Streets—Ample Utilitarian as Well as Architecturally Perfect.

A bronze and marble monument best describes the new building at King and Bay streets, in which the Bank of Toronto will be doing business next Wednesday. While rich in decorative treatment and abounding in magnificent expressions of costliness in architectural and furnishing schemes, the structure is ample utilitarian, and holds many mechanical features uncommon in banking houses in this country. The interior arrangement is such that the carrying on of business will be greatly facilitated.

The new place is a great change from the old at Wellington and Church, which was in accord with, probably in advance of, banking requirements a half century ago. In the new building the bank has a place of business that is planned to please them for perhaps another fifty years. Stability is the first impression; beauty the second.

The new building can be taken as an index to the character of Toronto, even as the bank has often been adjudged the city's ideal in finance. Strength and beauty are epitomized in the graceful columns of the exterior. Exquisite richness and refinement are exemplified in the interior, where delicate tracery of bronze grille and ceiling are in harmony with marble of every tint. Creative power, strong purpose, are shown forth in the whole. Truly the building adds to Toronto's structural status.

Capaciousness a Feature. In that aspiration of all architects, to design a building that there may be more space within than appears without, the designers of the bank have succeeded well. The extent of the main banking floor, and the height of the ceiling, and the four floors are the truth of that. No pillars break the sense of space within the main room, the cages for cashiers, and clerks, set along three sides of the floor, aid that feeling. The savings department is off to itself in the northwest corner. On the second floor, the mezzanine, is a room for head office, board rooms, and two heavy vault sets. On the ground floor are two, and the second floor two, vaults weighing each 178 tons in the aggregate as many as a building weighs. These vaults in size and strength are far more massive

than anything in Toronto. A little—in comparison—group of book and silver deposit vaults in the basement complete the idea of security and secrecy. The vaults are carried on pillars quite independent of the structural supports of the building, which now is complete.

Will Go No Higher. The walls will admit of no upward extension, which would mar the building's symmetry, and besides interfere with the great light well in the centre, over the glass ceiling of the banking floor, and which is protected by a glass-paved court on the third floor level. Pipes that will be heated in winter run within the recesses where the vaults would lodge and stain the exterior if left to melt.

The bronze metal and glass ceiling provides the striking feature. It is a thing of surpassing beauty, said not to be exceeded in America by the glass ceiling of the Hotel Astor of New York. The richness of its lines, the delicate inlay of bronze, are surprisingly beautiful; another surprise is in the fact that this marvelous metal work was fabricated by the Canada Foundry Company, generally believed to be but Toronto handiwork for pipes and locomotives. Many places. Furniture of Circassian and French walnut, in a design of intricate execution, and best in the Murray-Kay Company. The plaster work, of chaste and simple tracery, was done by a Toronto firm. The banking screens, with their uncommon treatment in bronze; the make of the vestibule doors, were made, too, by a New York firm.

Little Canadian Marble Used. The mild pink marble of the exterior came from Tennessee; the marble of the interior from Italy and other foreign countries, including some domestic marble, and it is a wealth of color. Nearly every piece of stone used is carved exquisitely. The doors are but an introduction, the sculpture being executed by Ardolino Brothers from the models of the French sculptor F. M. L. Tonnetti.

In its utilitarian aspect, experts must find the bank building perfect. Pneumatic chutes will hasten the distribution of money or paper from any desk or any room. In the basement is an incinerator, made specially by the Toronto Furnace Company, and unusual in this country, for the burning of time-worn bills. Four hundred thousand dollars of retired money met hasty dissolution there a few days ago as a try-out. A system of purifying all the air and another for filtering all the water used are parts of the equipment, which also includes a power and light plant independent of transmission line troubles. Dutch ovens, as the self-stoking furnaces that force the flame back beneath the boilers are called, were installed by the McKenzie Furnace Company of New York. The boilers were put in by John Inglis. These are mentioned to show that the hand of some building has a purpose beyond that of supplying scope for staid designers of costly ornamentation.

Over Two Million Dollar Investment. Altogether the structure has cost the bank approximately one million dollars, and land close to a million. Eustace G. Bird, associated with Carrere & Hastings, New York architects, drew the plans and supervised the construction, the general contractors being Norcross Bros. Co.

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Attractive Water Trips, Dominion Day. The Niagara Navigation Line are offering very attractive outings to Hamilton, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls and Buffalo for Dominion Day, To Niagara Falls, the low rate of \$2 for the round trip will be in effect, and to Buffalo round trip rate of \$2.50, good going June 30 and July 1, and good to return July 2. Tickets can be obtained at ticket office, 46 Yonge street, corner Wellington st., which office will be open Monday evening, June 30, from 7 until 10 p.m., for the convenience of passengers desiring to purchase tickets and catch the early steamers on the morning of the holiday. This office will also be open at 6:30 a.m. on the holiday morning. Tickets also can be obtained at the dock office as usual.

Family Wiped Out. COLUMBIA, S.C., June 28.—Six persons members of one family, lost their lives in a fire that destroyed a house at Lexington, S.C., during the night. The bodies were found in the ruins of the house this morning.

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First Rose Show Opens on Thursday

The Rose Society of Ontario, the first to be established in the Dominion, will take place on Thursday next, in St. George's Hall, and will be open from 12.30 p. m. till 10 p. m. Music will be provided. It is to be hoped that everyone who has a love of horticulture will patronize this first effort to make gardening and everything

that is beautiful a real live thing in Ontario, and Toronto has been naturally selected as the first place for the exhibition. The establishing of this society has been a labor of love, and has entailed an immensity of detail that only those who have taken part in it are aware of. The officers hope that next year it will be treble the size. The admission is 25 cents, afternoon, 10 cents, evening. Miss Marion Armour, 103 Avenue road, Toronto, will gladly give all information. Several silver cups and medals are offered, and the prize list is a very liberal one. The hon. president, Mr. J. T. Moore, offers a silver cup, value

\$50; Lord and Lady Hyde also offer a silver cup; and Sir Edmund Osler, a gold medal. These are only a few of those who have given generously to the prize list, which has been drawn up carefully to suit all classes.

New Marconi Contract. LONDON, June 28.—According to The Times, it is understood that the government will acquiesce in the repudiation by the Marconi Wireless Company of the agreement negotiated last year, and will proceed to negotiate a fresh contract with that company.



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