As it proceeds in exact and mathematical order the C.I.C.'s Flagship hoists a blue-and-striped flag at her yard arm, indicating she is about to send a long message or order, and then two of her semaphore begin whirling their great arms in a rapid and seemingly chaotic manner. Yet on board our battleship and consorts the communication is infallibly interpreted the part of the word for word, spelled out, and written down on a signal-pad. So the message goes on, the black and white arms flailing it across the green waters. Suddenly the waving arms cease, and close. "Finish. Down answer," rings out on our lower bridge of our battleship, where, obedient to the order, the long tail of bunting in acknowledgment is hauled down hand over hand. over hand.

Just after dark, when sleet is storming down the rising gale, the electric at the Flagship's masthead suddenly begins blinking and gleaming. On board our vessel the signal-midshipman, in dripping oil skins, a muffler round his neck, reads the dots and dashes as smartly and as instantly as any of the alert yeomen of the signals below. And before the Flagship has been stuttering for five seconds all the units of her command have also begun a dizzying, bewildering series of longs and shorts. Day and night, summer or winter, peace or war, the eyes of the signal staff

never rest.

"What is it, eh?" grunts the officer of the watch, as the midshipman passes him toward the steep ladder, to send aft the news to the "skipper" who is in his

"Squadron of the Deutschers issuing from the Skager Rak, another coming through the Kattegat at full speed," is his

Keen eyes on the deck below have read the message, as well as the signal-men, and already a "buzz" of gladness is going round.

### The Thankful Spirit By John Clair Minot

One morning in November, When skies were drear and gray, A happy little stranger Threw sunshine on my way. He waved his hand in greeting As he came down the road, And smiled a smile so winning

That I forgot my load. . "I am the Thankful Spirit,"
He said, and smiled again; "I travel far in autumn, And sing amid the grain. When harvest-time is over, I fill the world with cheer,

Till all men join in praising The bounties of the year." Then to the Thankful Spirit I spake what filled my heart:

"When harvest praise is given, Why do you then departs Why not sit down and tarry While seasons come and go, And make each day Thanksgiving?
It would be better so."

And straightway came the answer:
"I fain would tarry here; I would not be a stranger Who comes but once a year. If you will make me welcome Beside you at your hearth, Our daily feast, I promise, . Shall be the best on earth."

# The Garden of Dreams

Over the hilltop departs the bright day; Slowly the afterglow fadeth away. Twilight descending hath spread her dark wings;

Softly and sweetly the nightingale sings.

Under the willows the weird shadows creep Softly the wind lulls the garden to sleep. Fragrant, the poppy's breath, laden with dreams,

Steals from the glade where the silver pool gleams.

Faint is the fountain's melodious splash, Veiled in the darkness its sparkle and flash, Black is the hemlock tree, stately and tall, 'Gainst the gray stones of the ivy-grown wall.

High in the heavens the moon is afloat; Low from the wood comes the whip-poorwill's note.

Silvery stars and a shimmering stream, Soft in the moonlight, weave into my dream.



# The Royal Bank of Canada

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30th November, 1918

# LIABILITIES

TO THE PUBLIC:  Deposits not bearing interest  Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date of statement	\$135,243,278.72 197,348,439.20		
Notes of the Bank in Circulation.  Balance due to Dominion Government.  Balances due to other Banks in Canada.  Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents in the United Kingdom and foreign countries.	\$ 26,794.90 6,068,926.22	39,380,975.74 9,000,000.00 6,095,721.12	
Bills Payable		316,058.43 10,162,629.56	
	v v	\$397,547,102.77	
TO THE SHAREHOLDERS:  Capital Stock Paid in			
	400.000.00	15,535,757.19	
Dividend No. 125 (at 12 per cent per annum), payable December 2nd, 1918	420,000.00 10,122.95	430,122.95	
		\$427,512,982.91	

ASSETS		
Current Coin	\$ 17,488,314.07 24,636,344.75	
Deposit in the Central Gold Reserves  Notes of other Banks Cheques on other Banks Balances due by other Banks in Canada Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada Dominion and Provincial Government Securities, not exceeding market value Canadian Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian, not exceeding market value. Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks, not exceeding market value Call Loans in Canada, on Bonds, Debentures and Stocks. Call and Short (not exceeding thirty days) Loans elsewhere than in Canada.	10,678,020.86 20,034,899.30 6,042.80 10,391,516.44 36,599,976.37 29,620,885.90 15,084,414.64 10,067,481.94	
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest) Other Current Loans and Discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest) Overdue Debts (estimated loss provided for)	64,175,163.85	,
Real Estate other than Bank Premises		10,162,629.56 742,818.75
		\$427.512.982.91

H. S. HOLT,
President.

Montreal, Canada, 18th December, 1918.

EDSON L. PEASE, Managing Director.

C. E. NEILL, General Manager.

# **AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE**

We Report to the Shareholders of The Royal Bank of Canada:

That in our opinion the transactions of the Bank which have come under our notice have been within the powers of the Bank.

That we have checked the cash and verified the securities of the Bank at the Chief Office at 30th November, 1918, as well as at another time, as required by Section 56 of the Bank Act, and that we found they agreed with the entries in the books in regard thereto. We also during the year checked the cash and verified the securities at the principal branches. That the above Balance Sheet has been compared by us with the books at the Chief Office and with the certified returns from the Branches, and in our opinion is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Bank.

That we have obtained all the information and explanations required by us.

JAMES MARWICK, C.A., S. ROGER MITCHELL, C.A., of Marwick, Mitchell, Peat & Co. J. W. ROSS, C.A., of P. S. Ross & Sons. Auditors.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT 564.264.53 2.809.846.24 3,374,110.77 APPROPRIATED AS FOLLOWS: Dividends Nos. 122, 123, 124 and 125, at 12 per cent per annum.....\$ Dividends Nos. 122, 123, 124 and 125, at 12 per cent per annum.

Transferred to Officers' Pension Fund
Written off Bank Premises Account
War Tax on Bank Note Circulation.
Contribution to Patriotic Funds.
Contribution to Halifax Relief Fund.

Transferred to Reserve Fund.

Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward. 1,614,702.00 100,000.00 400,000.00 40,000.00 3,374,110.77

(Continued on page 13)