

**Report of the Proceedings of the Annual
Meeting of Shareholders, Tuesday,
12th January, 1915.**

Your directors record with regret the death of their late colleague, Hon. George A. Cox, during the year 1906. Mr. Cox had been a Director of this Bank for nearly twenty-eight years, during twenty of which he filled the offices first of President and then of Vice-President. By his death the Bank lost a strong friend and adviser, whose business judgment was unusually sound. In accordance with the plan of the Bank, as so amended; as the last annual meeting the vacancy created by his death was not filled.

In acknowledgment of our duty to the Empire and of the obligations placed upon us by the terrible conflict now raging in Europe, your directors voted to contribute \$50,000 to the Canadian Patriotic Fund, \$5,000 to the Canadian Red Cross Society, and \$2,500 to the Del-

coveries.

The net profits for the year were \$2,688,362.29, a decrease of \$324,717 from last year's net profits of \$3,013,080. The net profits were divided into 100 shares on the Capital and Rest combined. We were enabled to pay dividends amounting to \$1,500,000, these being a 4 per cent. usual dividend on the Capital with extra bonus dividends of 2 per cent. The regular appropriation for the Pension Fund required \$80,000, and subscription for the same \$100,000, totaling \$180,000. We are carrying forward in Profit and Loss Account a balance of \$1,117,769.37, as against \$384,829.98 a year ago.

You will notice that no appropriation has been made in Bank Premises Account, which shows an increase over last year of \$100,000. This increase is mainly accounted for by the final

30TH NOVEMBER, 1914

ASSETS.	
Current Coin	\$16,928,230 20
Dominion Notes	\$13,418,985 15
	\$30,337,215 35
Other Current Banks	\$2,019,301 09
Checks on other Banks	5,197,975 85
Balances due by other Banks in Canada	17,500 00
Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada	5,182,285 67
	13,017,162 51
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities not exceeding 90 days value	8,295,411 88
British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities and Municipal Securities	1,791,071 91
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks not exceeding 90 days value	16,104,763 38
Call and Short Loans (not exceeding 30 days) in Canada on Bonds, Debentures and Stocks	8,926,859 89
Call and Short Loans (not exceeding 30 days) elsewhere than in Canada	18,760,526 61
Deposit with the Minister of Finance for the purposes of the Circulation Fund	760,641 00
	\$2,982,633 41
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest)	132,165,482 00
Other Current Loans and Discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest)	1,419,594 50
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit, as per contra	2,748,516 00
Overdue Debts (estimated loss provided for)	732,828 00
Real Estate other than Bank Premises (including the un-sold balance of former premises of the Eastern Townships Bank)	\$1,252,344 80
Less mortgage assumed	100,000 00
	1,152,344 80
Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.	382,002 00
Bank Premises at cost, less amounts written off	\$4,986,991 69
Less mortgage assumed on property recently purchased	300,000 00
	4,686,991 69
Other Assets not included in the foregoing	81,496 00

We have checked the cash and verified the securities representing the investments of the Bank at its chief office and principal branches at a date other than that of the verification at 30th November, and found that they were in agreement with the entries in the books of the Bank relating thereto.

In our opinion the Balance Sheet properly shown up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Bank according to the information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Bank.

to be faced. I need not tell you what was accomplished in the way of remedying the measures by the wisdom of the British Government, and the assistance of bankers, merchants and men of affairs generally, but the few words which I have just said, in the presence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, will, I think, with a meaning which cannot escape the historian of British affairs for centuries to come, be sufficient to show that we have, from any principles which have been accepted in this country, but that we have not, in the management of our affairs, government has ever been called upon to undertake in the past." In the report of our London manager, which appeared in the *Standard* of the 12th inst., the most admirable summary is made of the various events in London bearing on the subject of the "free trade of the world in its own currency." The following are the smaller, they were of the most profound

	No. of	No. of
	Shareholders.	Shares.
Ontario	1,285	49,367
Quebec	1,355	50,355
Maritime Provinces	778	15,454
Western Provinces	161	2,559
In Canada	3,579	89,144
Great Britain	1,816	33,283
United States	707	25,690
Other Countries	107	1,893
Total	6,147	150,000

We have not thought it advisable to open many new branches, but are confining ourselves to districts giving unusual promise of future development, and in those sections we have opened branches that had not proved profitable after a fair trial. We shall pursue this policy whenever possible, and thus we are confident we have secured gain and loss. The net increase of branches during the year was six, the geographical distribution being as follows:

Alberta	52
British Columbia	41
Manitoba	24
New Brunswick	1
Northwest	1
Ontario	87
Prince Edward Island	5
Quebec	82
Saskatchewan	69
Yukon	1

importance to us, and we can never be satisfied with the high intelligence and the quickness of our English friends of Finance. Our gold supply is not important in amount as compared with that of the greater nations, but its present position is such that it is necessary to convince people that the hoarding of gold was unnecessary, and in any event made it nearly impossible, was part of the trouble of the war in England. One of the most effective means of accomplishing this was, as far as possible, to make sure that the inevitable result of the war in Europe was that it would not be intensified by a lack of currency with which to carry on our daily affairs. The arrangement proposed by the Minister of Finance, and approved by the House and put into operation, all within twenty-four hours, was as follows:

(1) For the first time in the history of the world, the people were empowered to pay their debts in their own money. When these notes reached the clearing-house, however, they were redeemed in government legal tenders or in gold. These notes were given to the people, suppose, made a legal tender as before. Individuals, and the main object of this arrangement was to prevent people from securing gain in a whole to board it, a process which would have been ruinous to the nation as it would have amounted to comforting the individual who secured the gain.

(2) The banks went!

President's Address.

The war has so changed all business conditions that it is unnecessary to describe those previously existing, and yet without doing so it is difficult to estimate our present position. We had a long period of trade expansion throughout the world which in our case has been sharply exemplified by our foreign trade statistics. Our exports in March, 1913, when the excess of our imports over exports fell just short of \$100,000,000, had increased by the time this war had provided interest and

the lowering, therefore, of the charge for war risk in international shipping, partial resumption of operations by passenger and merchandise exchanges, and many other remedial features, all these have been the result of the war, and the machinery of the world by which, before the war, all international and much of our domestic business transactions

The only moratorium legislation put into effect in Canada thus far has been

I think we need have no great fear of the future in this respect if we take advantage of the present situation. In the year 1914, although the markets were only favorable at times, and since the war has been going on, I believe we sold securities abroad amounting to over \$225,000,000.

A. Kingman, Hon. Sir Lyman Melville, Jones, Hon. W. C. Edwards, Hon. J. H. McMillan, Hon. G. B. Woods, John N. Gilson, C.M.G., Hon. L.D.L., Robert Stuart, George F. Galbreath, Alexander Laird, William Farwell, James M. Smith, Stephen A. Dymally, Carl Merfeldt, George G. Foster, C.C. Chasler, Colby, M.A., Ph.D., George W. Allard, H.H. Hall.

H. At a meeting of the newly-elect

realization of the value of a bit of unused land as a garden plot, the little or great increase in production of almost every farm in Canada, east or west, the willingness to wear out old clothes and to put off the purchase of all luxuries—no matter how desirable—the cry for an estate valued at approximately four hundred thousand dollars. The bulk of it is divided among his widow and four children. Miss Annie Bicknell, a sister, is given the house in which she lives on Herkimer street, Hamilton, and five thousand dollars.

Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.

In Use For Over 30 Years

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.