

NET SURPLUS FOR POST OFFICE OF \$3,298,836

Toronto showed largest Revenue with Winnipeg second and Montreal next. Report for year ending March

NET REVENUE \$21,345,394

A net surplus of \$3,298,836.55 was the result of the postal administration for the year ending with the month of March, 1918, according to a report just issued by the Post Office Department.

The net revenue gave \$443,010.02 over the previous year and totalled at \$21,345,394.48, but the increases in salaries kept the expenditure a long way ahead of the increase in revenue and greatly reduced what would otherwise have been another record year in the financial history of the Department; out of the \$1,745,979.25 of increases in expenditure, the increases in salaries account for \$1,301,709.65. The total expenditure was \$18,046,557.90, which, deducted from the \$21,345,394.48 of net revenue, leaves the above stated surplus of \$3,298,836.58.

Compared with 1908—ten years ago—it is in round numbers an increase of \$14,000,000 in revenue and of \$12,000,000 in expenditure, whilst the comparison with 1898—twenty years ago—shows an increase of nearly \$18,000,000 in the revenue and of \$14,500,000 in expenditure. Most of the revenue, of course, comes from large business centres: Toronto, \$4,137,678.14; Montreal, \$2,353,045.65; Winnipeg, \$2,452,902.96; Quebec, \$311,642.88; Hamilton, \$463,749.62; Halifax, \$278,324; St. John, N.B., \$225,882.11; Calgary, \$446,170.28; Vancouver, \$667,280.27, etc. The revenue derived from some of the smaller offices are absolutely insignificant.

ONE DOLLAR REVENUE.

In Nova Scotia, Whycomagh Mountain gives only \$1 a year. Turenne, in the province of Quebec (since closed), also gave only \$1, while Manor, in New Brunswick (since closed), Tête de la Baleine, in Quebec, gave only \$3 each, and Stewardale, in Nova Scotia, \$4.

The general development of the Canadian postal service during 1918 may be summarized as follows: 216 offices were opened and 366 closed, the closing resulting from the extension of the rural mail delivery.

The number of post offices transacting money order business was 4,930, an increase of 120 over the previous year; and the number transacting savings bank business was 1,318, an increase of 6.

The amount of money withdrawn from Post Office Savings Bank accounts, and the number of accounts closed, were greater than in the previous year, while a smaller number of new accounts were opened. This is believed to have been due to the fact that the money was used for the purchase of Victory Bonds.

The number of accounts remaining open on March 31, 1918, was 125,735, and the balance at the credit of depositors was \$41,283,478.84.

The total number of money orders issued during the year was 9,919,665, as against 8,698,502 for the previous year. The aggregate value was \$142,959,167.54, as against \$119,695,535.27 for the previous year; 1,908,142, with a value of \$26,194,676.43, were payable abroad.

The number of orders issued abroad and payable in Canada was 668,990, with an aggregate value of \$9,385,627.24.

The number of orders issued in Canada on the United States was 1,070,935, and the value \$15,741,314.28.

The number of orders issued in the United States on Canada was 562,558, and the value \$7,591,506.43.

With the United Kingdom the exchange of money orders was as follows: \$6,864,578.30 payable in the United Kingdom and \$1,445,621.18 payable in Canada.

Dividing the money order transactions by provinces, it is found that Ontario issued \$40,576,600.80 and cashed about the same amount in money orders. Next came Saskatchewan with \$31,964,230.67 issued and \$15,399,241 paid in the province; then Manitoba with an issue of \$11,869,795.74 and a total of \$31,430,518.63 cashed. Quebec issued \$15,669,297.73 and received \$16,761,172.67 in the same way.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

The last decade witnessed the establishment of rural mail delivery. Commenced in 1908, the system was first limited to existing stage routes and in 1912 extended to all residents of rural districts along main thoroughfares of one mile and upward in length. Arrangements were also made in that year to have the couriers on rural mail routes sell money orders and postal notes through the offices which are the starting points of their routes, so that the rural courier now, to all intents and purposes, secures to rural residents the full benefits of a post office practically at their doors. The introduction of the rural delivery system has been attended with a very considerable increase in the operating expenses of the Department, but there are few, if any, who will say that such expenditure is not justifiable.

At the end of 1918 there were in operation 3,674 rural routes, on which there was 173,150 boxes, an increase of 8,065 during the year.

All the post office employees have shared in the different increases of remuneration granted from time to time. In fact, the country postmasters, for instance, are paid to-day nearly twice as much as they were ten years ago, the minimum salary being \$60 per year as against \$35 in 1907, \$25 from 1903 to 1907, and \$12 previous to 1903.

War added heavily to the ordinary work of the Department and of the whole service. Hundreds of thousands of Canadian soldiers overseas had to be kept constantly in communication with their families, which necessitated the despatch of very heavy mails by the shortest possible routes at a time when the transportation facilities were quite a problem. Mails from certain countries had also to be watched constantly and often censored in order to thwart the tricks of the enemy.

Tender Wanted.

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Reconstruction of Wharf at Thessalon, Ont.," will be received at this office until 12 o'clock noon, Monday, May 26, 1919, for the reconstruction of the wharf of Thessalon, district of Algoma, Ont.

Plans and forms of contract can be seen and specification and forms of tender obtained at this Department, at the office of the District Engineer, Equity Building, Toronto, Ont., and at the Post Office, Thessalon, Ont.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on printed forms supplied by the Department and in accordance with conditions contained therein.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to 10 per cent of the amount of the tender. War Loan Bonds of the Dominion will also be accepted as security, or War Bonds and cheques if required to make up an odd amount.

NOTE.—Blue prints can be obtained at this Department by depositing an accepted bank cheque for the sum of \$10, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, which will be returned if the intending bidder submit a regular bid.

R. C. DESROCHERS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,

PROVINCES NOW GROW THEIR OWN SEED, AND IT IS OF HIGH CLASS

Dominion-wide Organization Promotes Growing of Seed and has Improved quality.

SEED TESTED AND PROVED

The April issue of the Agricultural Gazette of Canada, published by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, contains an article on the subject of seed, in which the statement is made that the older provinces are almost if not quite self-supporting in the matter of cereal seed. The work of the Seed Branch of the Department of Agriculture, the federal and provincial experimental stations, the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, and the provincial departments of agriculture, in co-operation to provide dependable seed, is referred to.

IMPROVING THE SEED.

"New varieties of field crops are tested and proved or bred by plant breeding experts on the federal and provincial experiment stations," the article states. "Farmers who make a specialty of seed grown under the direction of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association obtain their stock seed from these experiment stations and multiply and sell it as inspected registered seed. To further extend this work the Seed Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture expends fifty thousand dollars a year on condition that the provinces expend a similar amount in organizing and conducting competitions in field crops which are judged from the standpoint of utility for seed purposes. The general plans for these field crop competitions are prescribed by the Minister of Agriculture for Canada. For the holding of local seed fairs the federal Seed Branch shares the cost with the provincial departments of agriculture. These fairs are very helpful in the distribution of good seed grain within the locality in which each is held. Substantial grants are also given by the Seed Branch for the provincial seed exhibitions at which prize winning exhibits in field crop competitions and seed fairs receive further attention as do also exhibits of registered seed.

EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION.

"The above organizations that have been brought into existence by the federal Department of Agriculture have been found to provide an efficient connecting link between the plant breeders of Canada and the farmers on the back concessions who are now, as a result, producing crops from seed of better quality than did the more favourably situated farmers of twenty years or even ten years ago. In addition there is now much opportunity for individual effort. And yet after so much has been done, seed shortages occur, yes, and for the ordinary cereal crops of Canada. Seed shortage is, however, a relative term. Before the days of the seed testing laboratory, seed shortages were not felt, and many a poor stand was charged to a blight, an insect, or some other mysterious cause.

IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES.

"The Seed Purchasing Commission is taking care of the demand for seed oats in the Prairie Provinces by making available tested supplies at market values and banks are encouraged to provide funds for legitimate seed purchasing. The question naturally arises, when will farmers' organizations be able to provide within themselves the great annual seed needs?"

Professor John Bracken of Saskatchewan University has proposed a plan that calls upon the agricultural society to co-operate with the plant breeding station by the station each year providing elite stock seed of each main cereal crop to sow twenty acres in the district of each agricultural society, on the farm of a selected member. Each twenty acres of crop produced from this seed the first year would require to be officially inspected. The plan

provides further that in the second year ten selected farmers in each society would sow the seed produced from the twenty acres of pedigreed seed. By this plan, an agricultural society would, the second year, produce at least two hundred acres of seed of superior variety grown by ten of the best farmers in its membership. This plan applied to the main cereal crops grown and consistently followed up in any province should reduce the possibility of a seed shortage to a minimum.

OVER TEN THOUSAND "HOME BOYS" JOINED CANADIAN FORCES

Revised Figures given out by Immigration Department show Manly Qualities of Barnardo Boys.

TEST OF CHARACTER

In a statement given out by Mr. G. Bogue Smart, of the Department of Immigration and Colonization, Chief Inspector of British Immigrant Children, it is shown that the enlistments of Old Country boys who came to Canada as child immigrants have been over 10,000. The following table shows the number of enlistments among "home boys" from the various societies through which they came to Canada as juvenile immigrants:—

Society.	Enlistments.
Barnardo	6,211
Middlemore	434
Macpherson	460
Church of England	426
Catholic Emigration Association	600
Salvation Army	67
Miss Smyley	115
National Children's Home	486
Fegan	350
Quarrier	400
Manchester and Salford Refuges	83
Mrs. Birt	402
Daykene Farm (Nottingham)	26
Total	10,054

"The supreme test of the character of these boys who migrated to Canada with the assistance of various organizations and societies, and under the supervision of the British Immigrant Children and Receiving Home Branch of the Department of Immigration," continues the statement, "came when war broke out and the Old Country needed their services. The number of enlistments indicates how nobly they responded to the call of their homeland for help.

"At present the demand for immigrant boys as farm apprentices is very great, and thousands of farmers have this spring filed applications with the various societies for this class of help. In nearly all the organizations there are long waiting lists of names of farmers who are looking forward to the resumption of this class of immigration to secure 'home boys' as help on the farm.

"That the work of child saving had proved to be not only philanthropic but intensely patriotic and imperialistic is evidenced by the large number of youths and young men of this class who flocked to the colours in Canada.

"Dozens of these boys won their commissions on the field; the Military Medal and other decorations have been awarded these erstwhile immigrant boys, and several have gained the Victoria Cross, thus proving that in addition to their loyalty they possess the true fighting spirit of the British-born.

"The far-reaching results of years of effort in behalf of child immigration from Great Britain and Ireland are thus becoming more manifest as the years go on. The great war, while putting a temporary check on this work, has been the means of throwing a new light on the importance of this form of enterprise within the Empire."

Buy War Savings Stamps.