

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Head Office—Toronto, Canada

Paid-up Capital - - - \$15,000,000
Reserve Fund - - - 13,500,000

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., President
JOHN AIRD - - - - - General Manager
H. V. F. JONES - - - - - Assistant General Manager

"This Bank has 370 branches throughout Canada, in San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, Ore., and an agency in New York, also branches in London, Eng., Mexico City and St. John's, Nfld., and has excellent facilities for transacting a banking business of every description.

Savings Bank Accounts

Interest at the current rate is allowed on all deposits of \$1 and upwards. Careful attention is given to every account. Small accounts are welcomed. Accounts may be opened and operated by mail.

Accounts may be opened in the names of two or more persons, withdrawals to be made by any one of them or by the survivor.

THE Merchants' Bank of Canada

ESTABLISHED 1864

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL

Paid-up Capital - - \$7,000,000
Reserve Fund - - - \$7,248,134

President.....Sir H. Montagu Allan
Vice-President.....K. W. Blackwell
E. F. Hebden, Managing Director.
D. C. Macarow, General Manager.
T. E. Merrett, Superintendent and Chief Inspector.

211 Branches in Canada, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Agents in Great Britain: The London Joint Stock Bank, Ltd.; The Royal Bank of Scotland.

New York Agency.....63 and 65 Wall Street

General Banking Business Transacted
Savings Departments at all Branches

Deposits received of One Dollar and upwards, and interest allowed at 3 per cent. per annum.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Granville and Pender Streets.....G. S. HARRISON, Mgr.
Hastings and Carrall Streets.....G. N. STACEY, Mgr.

In their report they state "that the system of Municipal government in force in British Columbia up to the present time has worked well. For many years past the Legislature has devoted a large part of its time to amending and reshaping the Municipal law, so as to make it suitable to the changing conditions of the Province. A system of law which has been developed in this way is almost sure to be lacking in symmetry but to possess the great merit of being adapted to the actual wants of the people." Some of the more important questions considered by the Commissioners in their report were:—

Introduction of the commission form of Government. They reported that they were unable to find that the introduction of such a system in British Columbia would be of advantage.

Classification of City Municipalities. They recommended that inasmuch as the present arrangement was giving good results, and as they were unable to see advantages to be gained by classification, no change should be made.

Revision of the laws relating to Local Improvements. They reported that they found the existing laws to be somewhat unsatisfactory, and advised that they should be revised. This was done in the following year.

The creation of a Municipal Department. The Commission urged the creation of such a department which should have a measure of supervision and control over Municipal affairs in the Province, which should have the authority to certify Municipal by-laws and debentures so as to place their validity beyond doubt, and which would be of general assistance to Municipal Councils and officials in their work and to the Legislature in dealing with Municipal questions. The recommendation was carried out and a Municipal Department was organized in 1914.

Investment of Sinking Funds in Mortgages. They recommended that inasmuch as this power was open to abuse it should be taken away. This was done in the Act of 1914.

Extension of the term of office of members of the Council. They expressed the opinion that it would be an improvement if the term were extended to two years. This opinion did not, however, meet the views of the Legislature and no change was made.

A change in the constitution of the Police and License Boards. Various proposals were considered but the Commissioners were of the opinion that the existing system was more suitable than any of those suggested.

Exemption of Church sites. They reported that the weight of evidence was in favour of churches bearing their share of taxation.

Censorship of Moving Pictures. A recommendation, which was afterwards carried out, was made to the effect that censorship should be instituted.

There have been in all sixty-eight Municipal incorporations in British Columbia, but of these only sixty-three are now in existence. It has been noted that the first Municipality incorporated by Letters Patent, that of Salt Spring Island, was disincorporated in 1883. All liabilities of the Municipality were discharged by the Provincial Government. In 1901 the Town of Wellington, having become almost entirely deserted owing to the shutting down of the Wellington Collieries, was disincorporated, the assets, consisting of a steam fire engine, being taken over by the Province, and the liabilities, amounting to \$2,100, being at the same time taken care of. The City of Columbia, incorporated in 1899, was three years later amalgamated with the City of Grand Forks. In 1905 the inhabitants of the District of Dewdney, being unable to sustain the burden of protecting their lands from inundation by the Fraser River, petitioned the Government for relief, and in the following year

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