

BANK JOBS GO BEGGING.

Serious Shortage in Clerks Worrying the Managers.

Think of it, our once-exclusive banks are hanging out cards asking for clerks, just as factories do when they want help. Neat little placards in this connection are hung up near the tellers' cages. Hark to the contents of one of them:

"Employment on the staff of this bank offers an attractive future for young men. We are in a position to place a number of boys with High School education at our different branches throughout Canada.

"For particulars please refer to the manager."

Can't you imagine one of Canada's hygienic general managers, pompous of mien, revisiting old haunts and nearly having an apoplectic fit at the sight of such a placard. Advertising for clerks! The very idea! Twenty years ago or more such an expedient would never have been dreamed of. Why, there was keen competition to get jobs in banks. In those distant days of Canada's hard times banks had waiting lists just like modern golf clubs, and picked and chose the young men who were to have the privilege of working for them. Applicants for positions approached a manager in humility and awe.

Not only good appearance, but social pull was necessary for admittance to one of the larger institutions. A boy's ancestry loomed larger with some general managers than did his penmanship. A bank job was the goal of most youths whose parents could not afford them a profession. For the post was a sure thing—banks never actually firing their clerks — and promotion, though slow, was regular up to a point, at least. Moreover—alas! that appeal to snobbishness—a bank clerk was some pumpkins socially in the city, and in the country towns he was absolutely IT. But that was twenty years ago.

Junior clerks started their career of finance in those days with as little as \$150 a year. To-day bank juniors are hard to get at \$600 and \$700 a year. And they have adding machines to do the dirty work. Twenty years ago—yes, less than fifteen years ago—branch managers with long service, several clerks under them and heavy responsibility, frequently received per annum no more than street car conductors and motormen are rejecting as insufficient to-day. Ask any senior bank man.

About fifteen years ago the native supply of bank clerks began to peter out in Canada. Better times had come with the opening up of the West, and opportunities offered in the professions and other occupations for young Canadians. The demand for clerks rose simultaneously with the shortage, as new branches were springing up on the prairie overnight, like mushrooms. One or two large banks began importing clerks from Scotland, which has since furnished Canada with hundreds of hard-head bankers.

The outbreak of war made the situation more stringent. Girls, whom banks had mostly employed as stenographers or at work which did not bring them into contact with the public, presently appeared at tasks hitherto considered unsuitable for feminine endurance. To-day they run the big deposit ledgers and in some country offices even that nerve-racking post, the cash, where she might have to use the loaded revolver lying ready at her side to defend the money from robbers. Some girls receive \$1,200 and \$1,500 a year in banks.

One Canadian bank has opened no less than 200 new branches within the past two years. Two or three of the larger institutions have from 400 to 500 branches each. All of which illustrates the growth of Canadian banking and the opportunities it offers.

Body Heat.

The immediate nearness of a large and robust person at the theatre or in a street car on a hot summer day may be a cause of discomfort by reason of the amount of heat given off by his or her body.

Such radiation from the human body is so considerable that, as proved by recent experiments, the presence of a man can be detected in the dark, with the help of suitable apparatus, at a distance of 600 feet.

Apparatus of the kind—consisting of a concave mirror to focus the heat rays, a "thermopile" and a galvanometer—proved very useful during the war. If a man crossed the range of the instrument the latter instantly perceived the fact. Even the lifting of a head out of a hole in the ground was registered.

Taken From His Sock.

A humorous story comes from the country district where an automobile salesman had one of the biggest surprises of his life when an Italian farmer, who had ordered a car, made an old-fashioned specie payment and all in silver coin. The salesman was asked to "wait a minute" for his money. After an hour and a half he was summoned to the back yard, where the farmer had laid out the price of the car on two tables. The coins were all quarters, halves and dollars, piled \$10 in a stack. When the salesman undertook to check up he quickly understood why he had been left sitting on the front doorstep so long. It took him another hour and a half to make sure that he hadn't been overpaid.

Aerial Game Laws.

Modern inventions begot new manners and new laws to govern the changed customs. The man who nets fish wholesale seems about to be out-clashed by the airplane operator who gathers in wild birds by means of a net. So, apparently, think the sportsmen in one locality of Canada. As a consequence, an association of them are sponsoring a request to the Government to prohibit the flights of airplanes over marsh lands, and the use of flying machines in pursuit, shooting, or netting of wild fowl. When warned of anything approaching, these birds do not seek cover, but rise immediately into the air and obviously become open at once to the ingenious contrivances of airplane pilots. Rapid-firing guns, and nettings attached beneath the body of the machines, would seem to be easy means of possible extermination of the birds, and this it is sought to avoid.

Prairie Dogs.

The little ground squirrels, or prairie dogs, of the western plains have their homes 12 or 15 feet underground, with corridors and rooms. In some of these chambers the squirrel family lives, and in others food and various materials are stored.

One of Four Millions



(A Photograph Direct from the War-Stricken Area)

\$1 per Month Preserves the Life of One Child

Millions of war orphans in Central Europe are growing up undernourished and stunted.

Thousands of them are dying of typhus, tuberculosis and small-pox.

There is almost a complete lack of the nourishing foods growing children need, of clothing, of doctors, nurses and medical supplies. The condition of the children is pitiable in the extreme.

Upon this coming generation depends largely whether these nations will be healthy and right-minded or a hot-bed of anarchy and degeneracy—a menace to the world.

It has been found by experience that the cost of caring for a waif child is approximately three dollars per month; that of the supplies that are required by imports about one dollar is needed; and therefore the dollar that we provide, together with the local support of local governments, local municipalities, local charities and local services practically preserves the life of one child.

The British Empire War Relief Fund will be administered in Europe by the British Red Cross in co-operation with the League of Red Cross Societies. Send your contribution care of:

The Canadian Red Cross

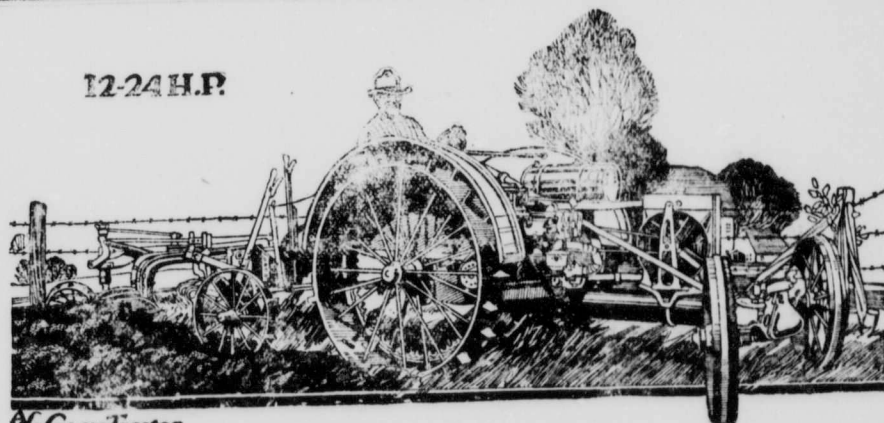
Enclosed find cheque
 money order for \$
 cash

as my contribution to the Canadian Red Cross Society for European Relief.

Name
 Address

Please send your contribution to the local Red Cross Branch or to The Canadian Red Cross, 410
 Sherbourne Street, Toronto.

12-24 H.P.



LaCrosse tractor means a Happy Farmer

Above we show cut of an outfit sold by us to a farmer at a big plowing match on the Asylum Farm, Hamilton. We have only one more to offer at the same price, which means a saving of about 10% over present prices. Our line of Mitts for men and boys are extra good value. See our Cream Separators at \$75 each, today's price \$100. Our Sulky Plows at \$75 are unsurpassed for value and satisfaction.

CHAS. RICHARDS, THE FARM SUPPLY HOUSE
 30 Market Street **Hamilton, Ont.**