

**WEATHER:**  
VERY COOL.

**THE MOLSONS BANK**  
Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1855

Head Office, MONTREAL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:  
Wm. Molson, President.  
S. H. Ewing, Vice-President.  
G. E. Drummond, B. McNeill.  
F. W. Molson, W. A. Black.

General Manager: Edward C. Pratt  
Superintendent of Branches: W. H. Draper  
Inspector: E. W. Waud  
Inspector of Western Branches: M. A. Harris & Thos. Carleton, Assistant Inspectors.

Capital ..... \$4,000,000  
Reserve Fund ..... \$4,900,000

**THE DOMINION SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY**  
DOMINION SAVINGS BUILDING  
LONDON, CANADA

Capital ..... \$1,000,000  
Reserve ..... 225,000.00

H. PURDOM, K.C. President  
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**CITY OF SASKATOON, Sask.**  
5% BONDS DUE 1943.

**CITY OF ST. BONIFACE, Man.**  
5% BONDS DUE 1943.

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INVESTMENT BANKERS

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A well-lighted suite of 1 general and 4 private offices, occupying a floor space of 1,500 square feet. Vault also included. Could be rented for one to three years.

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**GERMANS LOST MANY IN RETREAT ACROSS YSER.**

Paris, May 18.—Heavy losses were inflicted by the Allies' artillery before the Germans withdrew from the western to the eastern bank of the Yser Canal, north of Ypres near Steenstrate and near Het Sas. According to an official communique issued by the French War Office to-day, 2,000 Germans were killed by the terrific bombardment of the Allies' artillery.

North of Arras the Germans are still trying to regain some of the ground lost to the French. All counter-attacks of Teutonic troops were repulsed by the French.

**THAW TRANSFERRED FROM TOMBS.**

New York, May 18.—Harry K. Thaw was paroled to-day in the custody of Sheriff Griffenhagen and taken from the Tombs to Ludlow street jail.

In making the ruling, Justice Hendrick said that Thaw was not a criminal and he saw no reason why Thaw should not make his abode in a civil prison. The judge then adjourned the hearing on Thaw's insanity until June 7th.

**A Splendid, Well Balanced, Newsy Journal**

The Montreal Journal of Commerce has entered upon its second year as a daily newspaper. The Journal of Commerce is devoted especially to financial, commercial, industrial and insurance news.

There is a splendid field in Canada for a publication of this kind, but unfortunately the outbreak of the great war last year, affecting business generally, proved unfavorable for an enterprise of this kind. The Journal of Commerce, however, kept straight on its course, and a splendid, well balanced, newsy journal has been produced, receiving general support from business interests.

In a recent review of the situation, our contemporary expressed the firm belief that the worst is over, and it is more than ever determined to make itself an indispensable factor in financial, commercial, industrial, transportation and insurance fields.

Hon. W. S. Fielding is president and editor-in-chief. To his journalistic experience and wide knowledge of business is attributed much of the success of this business man's daily.—Moncton Transcript.

**ROUTED AUSTRIANS CAPTURING 20,000**

**Russians Conquered Whole Region Between Dneister and Pruth and Probably Occupied Czernowitz**

**BRITISH ADVANCED A MILE**

Germany are Hard Pressed North of La Basse—Several Trenches Have Been Carried and the Attack Continues.

(Special Cable to Journal of Commerce.)

London, May 18.—As a result of the Russian offensive in Bukovina, conducted as they were being forced far into Western Galicia before the overwhelming forces of General von Mackensen, the Austrians have been routed and driven in disorder toward the Pruth.

In their rapid retirement from their well organized front of ninety-three miles, the Austrians, it is reported officially in Petrograd, lost twenty thousand prisoners, and had to abandon many of their wounded. The Austrian debacle, the Russians feel, more than offsets the Austro-German victory in Galicia, although it is admitted the enemy swept so far eastward that the long range guns at Przemyel were called into play on one of his columns.

**Cavalry Played Brilliant Part.**

Latest reports from Bukovina front indicates the whole region between the Dneister and the Pruth has been conquered by the Russians, and that they probably already have occupied Czernowitz. The Russian cavalry played a brilliant part in shattering the Austrian defence. Full divisions charged the enemy, and kept up the pursuit without resting.

In the region of Kolomea, where the Russians are maintaining an especially vigorous attack, the enemy has succeeded in bringing up reinforcements in an effort to hold the only railroad centre which connects Bukovina with Transylvania and other Austro-Hungarian territory. The loss of this would mean possession of Bukovina for the Russians, it is believed.

Storms have interrupted communication between Petrograd and London, and the latest official communication received here from the Russian capital is dated Sunday.

**Won Mile in Three Days.**

German troops are hard pressed to-day north of La Basse, where the British have gained more than a mile of ground within the last three days. Several trenches have been carried by Sir John French's fighters, and they are hammering away without let-up inflicting severe losses on the invaders in each attack.

The French are just as active on their section of the western battle front, and have stormed and taken several German trenches in the Alley wood capturing 250 prisoners. In another engagement they took four hundred men. At one point a contingent of German troops was caught between the fire from their own and British guns, and was annihilated.

A British casualty list issued to-day contains the names of many prominent men, including Captain the Hon. Wyn Phillips, of the Scots Guards, 26 years old, elder son and heir of Lord St. Davids; Captain Maurice De Tuyl, of the Tenth Hussars, aged 27, younger son of the Duchess of Beaufort; Second Lieutenant the Hon. Henry Harding, of the Second Rifle Brigade, aged 19, heir of Viscount Harding and nephew of the Viceroy of India.

**Men in the Day's News**

**MR. G. T. SOMERS.**  
President Sterling Bank of Canada. The annual meeting was held in Toronto to-day.

**ITALY NOW ALL READY.**

Rome, May 18.—Mobilization has virtually begun. Offices of Ministries of War and Marine were open all night, the clerks and minor officials working in relays on preparations for war with Austria.

There will be no cessation in the labor until the Italian army is in the field and the navy off Libau. A strange calmness settled over the city to-day. It was apparent that all believed the die had been cast, and that only formal declaration of war was necessary.

Mr. C. H. Godfrey was born in Montreal fifty-four years ago to-day. He was educated in this city and remained here, where he became prominently identified with business and civic affairs. For two years Mr. Godfrey was one of the city's controllers where he rendered most efficient service. Previous to that he was vice-president and treasurer of the Montreal Steel Works. He is widely and favorably known among business men in the city.

Sir Edgar Speyer, who has resigned his Privy Councillorship and requested the revocation of his barony, was born in Germany in 1862, the son of Gustav Speyer, the well-known banker. Sir Edgar was educated at Frankfort-on-the-Maine and later became a partner in his father's three firms located in London, New York and Frankfort-on-the-Maine. In 1887 he took charge of the London branch, where he became a prominent figure in the financial world. He was knighted in 1906 and made a Privy Councillor in 1909.

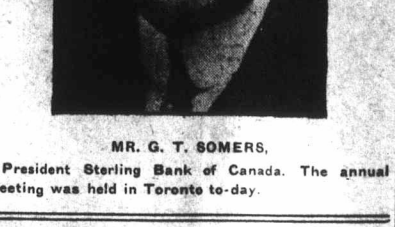
Mr. G. T. Somers, who presided at the annual meeting of the Sterling Bank held in Toronto to-day, started his business life as a private banker and now in the prime of life is president of one of the country's chartered banks. Mr. Somers was born and educated at Barrie, Ont., and carried on business for some years as a private banker and grain merchant at Barrie, Ont. He was one of the founders of the Sterling Bank, of which he is now president, and is also vice-president of the Continental Life Assurance Company and a director of a number of other corporations. Mr. Somers is an unusually wide-awake business man.

Captain W. F. Kay, M.P. for Missisquoi, is thirty-nine years of age to-day. He was born in this city, but has been identified all his life with farming and military matters in the Eastern Townships. Captain Kay was elected to Parliament at the last election for Missisquoi in the Liberal interests. He has a large farm in the country and is known far and wide as a breeder of thoroughbred stock. On the formation of the 13th Scottish Light Dragoons, some years ago, "Fred" joined the regiment and is now a captain. He is an enthusiastic military man, but takes a keen interest in every progressive movement connected with the Townships.

Seymour H. Knox, vice-president of the F. W. Woolworth Company and one of the most prominent business men in Buffalo, died in that city on Sunday. He was born in New York State in 1861, and as a boy of seventeen commenced work in a country store in Hart, Mich. Later he went to Reading, Pa., where with his cousin, F. W. Woolworth, he opened a five and ten cent store. He made a fortune in this business, the company operating at the present time seven hundred and eighty-one stores in the United States, Canada and Great Britain. Mr. Knox was a great horseman and owned a fine string of races.

Mr. Edgar M. Smith, who has just been elected vice-chairman of the Montreal Stock Exchange, is well known in Montreal and throughout the Eastern Townships. He is a son of the late E. R. Smith, former editor of the St. John's News. Mr. Smith himself has a special weakness for journalism, being a former editor of the Metropolitan and publisher of a number of trade papers. Mr. Smith is in his glory these days studying military tactics. It is not generally known that he is the author of a book entitled "Aerostats, the Gaul: A Description of the Second Puner War." He regards Hannibal as one of the greatest tacticians that ever lived. Mr. Smith was elected a member of the Montreal Stock Exchange in 1906 and has been a member of the Governing Committee for some years.

Admiral von Tirpitz, who it is reported has resigned because of a disagreement between himself and his colleagues over the sinking of the Lusitania is the creator of the German Navy. He, next to the Kaiser, is the man responsible for the submarine warfare and the atrocities carried on by Germany. Von Tirpitz entered the German navy at the age of fifteen and recently celebrated his fiftieth anniversary in the service. Although his fleet is now in hiding and despite the fact that it has utterly failed to make good what von Tirpitz boasted it would accomplish, credit must be given him for having created the German Navy. Under his direction the Germans have been spending one hundred million dollars a year upon their fleet for the last ten years. It was largely as a result of his efforts that the Kiel Canal was deepened and widened.



**MAKES STRONGEST EXHIBIT IN HISTORY**

Bank of Montreal Half Yearly Statement Shows Exceptional Strength in Cash Reserves

**HAS LARGEST ASSETS**

Management Aimed at Holding Percentage in Liquid Form so as to be Assurance of Ability to Provide for any Developments.

Business men throughout the country will follow with unusual interest the half-yearly statement of the Bank of Montreal. This covers the six months ended April 30th, 1915, and is therefore the first statement issued under war time conditions. The report is in many respects the best in the history of the bank, which, in view of the existing conditions brought about by the war, is little short of remarkable. The statement shows the bank to be particularly strong in cash reserves and liquid assets, while its total assets are the largest in the history of any banking institutions in the country.

An examination of the report shows that careful banking practice prevailed throughout the past six months. This is especially shown by the large percentage of assets kept in liquid form, as well as in other respects. Liquid assets now amount to \$163,258,000, or 64.83 per cent of the bank's total liabilities to the public, which compares with 55.17 per cent at the end of the last fiscal year. Cash reserves which are included in the above liquid assets amount to \$18,6 per cent of the liabilities to the public, while specie amounts to \$17,300,000, and government notes to \$29,700,000.

The total assets amounting to \$289,562,000, show an increase of over \$30,000,000 over the figures of six months ago. Other satisfactory features of the report are shown by an increase in deposits; those not bearing interest amounting to \$63,900,000, as compared with \$42,400,000 six months ago, and interest bearing deposits of \$166,900,000, as compared with \$154,500,000 at the end of the last fiscal year.

While the bank is in many respects in the strongest position in its history, the curtailment of business activities throughout the country is reflected in a decrease in current loans, and a corresponding decrease in the profits for the half year. Current loans in Canada amount to \$100,391,000, and current loans elsewhere to \$5,000,000. The profits for the six months amounted to \$1,030,000, a decrease of \$82,000 from the corresponding period of last year. The balance of profit and loss at the end of the fiscal year amounted to \$1,232,000, which, with the profits for the six months just closed, makes a total of \$2,262,000 available for distribution. Dividends and a bonus absorbed \$960,000, while the war tax on the bank's notes circulation took \$50,000, leaving a balance carried forward of \$1,252,000 as compared with \$1,232,000 at the end of the last fiscal year.

This showing, in view of the world-wide depression and the upheaval to business, caused by the war, will do much to restore confidence, not only throughout the country, but will also create a most favorable impression regarding Canada in Great Britain and the United States.

**WAR ORDERS TOTAL \$425,000,000 TO DATE**

Shell Orders Placed by Britain and Russia Amount to \$234,000,000 so far

**OTHER ORDERS HIGH ALSO**

While Munition Orders Have Been Coming Forward, Purchases of Cereals Have Been Heavy, and Enhanced Prices Have Enriched Farmers Throughout Country.

As a result of the war orders which have been placed in the hands of manufacturers and producers in the Dominion of Canada, during the past nine months, the Montreal Journal of Commerce estimates that approximately \$425,000,000 have been or are being spent in Canada by the belligerent nations of Europe. Of this stupendous total, over \$234,000,000 have come into the country through the orders for shells which have been given by the British Imperial and the Russian Imperial Governments, through their buying agents in this country, and by private solicitation by Canadian manufacturers.

With the coming of spring, the opening of navigation, the greater amount of money coming into the country, and the prospect of bumper crops throughout the Dominion, hard times have almost entirely disappeared, and the feeling in nearly all lines of business is more optimistic and cheerful. Not only is the feeling better, but trade is actually on the increase, as indicated by the letters from prominent manufacturers, exporters and traders, recently published in these pages.

Since the placing of the first war order, shortly after the declaration of war, Canadian manufacturers have been making the most of their opportunities, as is apparent in the figures quoted above. Every available manufacturing establishment in the country, is at the present time, working as hard as it can, on shells or shell parts, according to its capabilities, and at the present time, ten thousand shells are leaving the country daily. By July, daily shipments will total at least forty thousand shells. This is comparable with the shipments on the first shell order Canadians received, which averaged some five hundred shells per day. Wages have been greatly enhanced, some mechanics making as high as eight and ten dollars per day.

Following the lead of the British Government, France and Russia decided that Canada should receive as many munition orders as she could conveniently handle, without interfering with her work for Great Britain. Both Governments sent their agents to this country to investigate the situation and soon they too, were helping to enrich the country. A compact was made by the Allied Governments by which British Dominions were to be given a preference in placing war orders.

In other words, from now until the end of the conflict, Canada's war contracts will be limited only by her productive capacity.

Practically all industrial firms were soon called upon to "do their little bit," and, in a short while, the textile, steel, leather, packing, lumber and canning industries, as well as the various commodity

(Continued on Page 6.)

**THE Canadian Bank of Commerce**  
Head Office--TORONTO

Paid Up Capital ..... \$15,000,000  
Reserve ..... 13,500,000

Board of Directors:  
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Z. A. Lash, Esq., K.C., LL.D., Vice-President.  
John Hoskin, Esq., K.C., LL.D., D.C.L.  
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H. J. Fuller, Esq., George W. Allan, Esq.

Alexander Laird, General Manager.  
John Aird, Assistant General Manager.

WITH BRANCHES THROUGHOUT CANADA AND IN THE UNITED STATES, ENGLAND AND MEXICO, AND AGENTS AND CORRESPONDENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THIS BANK OFFERS UNSURPASSED FACILITIES FOR THE TRANSACTION OF EVERY KIND OF BANKING BUSINESS IN CANADA OR IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Collections Effected Promptly and at Reasonable Rates

**STERLING BANK STATEMENT IS ESPECIALLY SATISFACTORY**

In View of Abnormal Conditions Which Prevailed During Past Year—Net Earnings at Rate of 9.61 Per cent. on Paid-up Capital.

(Special to The Journal of Commerce.)

Toronto, Ont., May 18.—The statement of the Sterling Bank is especially satisfactory in view of the abnormal conditions which have prevailed. Net earnings show a slight gain for the year ending April 30, 1915, over the previous year, being at the rate of 9.61 per cent. on the paid-up capital as compared with 9.64 in the previous year, the paid-up capital having meantime been increased a little.

President Somers, in his address to the shareholders, said frankly that he was a little bit surprised, and naturally very much pleased, at the bank's showing. "Our profits," said he, "are slightly better, our deposit more. Our cash assets are considerably higher, being equal to 25.1 per cent. of our liabilities to the public."

Readily available assets are equivalent to 45.6 per cent. of liabilities.

Leading items of the statement compare as follows:

Paid-up Capital	\$1,198,801	\$1,184,353
Per cent. earned	9.61	9.64
April, 1915.	April, 1914.	
Year's profits	116,111	114,200
Reserve for dep. in securities	40,000	
Balance carried forward	52,183	87,982
Reserve fund	300,000	300,000
Total dep.	6,841,851	6,841,141
Circulation	957,045	957,045
Liabilities to public	7,938,244	7,938,244
Total assets	9,508,843	9,395,213
Cash assets	1,998,824	1,781,160
Call loans	945,739	814,989
Current loans	5,518,247	5,634,105

**NATIONAL CASH REGISTER CASE.**

Washington, May 18.—A petition for a writ of certiorari to bring before the United States Supreme Court directly, the Government's anti-Trust suit against the National Cash Register Company, of Dayton, Ohio, to-day was filed by the Department of Justice.

**ANTI-WAR RIOTS IN ITALY.**

Turin, Italy, May 18.—The anti-war riots have been resumed here with redoubled violence. Martial law was declared at noon. Thousands of workmen now on strike joined the mobs, shouting "down with the government, we want no war."

**KITCHENER CALLS FOR 300,000 RECRUITS.**

London, May 18.—Earl Kitchener has called for 300,000 more recruits.