

BRITISH DEBT TO JAPANESE IS EMPHASIZED

Assistant General Manager of Union Bank Speaks to Rotarians Here.

Views of Jap at Home in Spite of German Training and Sympathies Stuck to Pledged Word

Half a hundred Rotarians and half a hundred wives or friends of Rotarians mobilized at the Hotel Quinte last evening for a dinner of turkey and other choice viands...

It was officially "ladies' night." It was a success, and the ladies voted that as many more such functions as were possible would be a good thing.

Present as a guest, but assisting in the proceedings to a large extent was Mr. George E. Wilson, Assistant General Manager of the Union Bank.

Mr. Wilson was not so long ago in China and Japan on business. There he made a splendid series of pictures of many things the mere tourist could never see.

Previous to this there were many amusing incidents at a Rotarian conference with witty doings and sayings.

Mr. Spence Clarke was given a large and shining medal as "Champion Fisherman of Canada."

November Donations Gifts for Crippled Girl

The Ontario has been asked by Capt. Ruston, Inspector Children's Aid Society, for this county to publish the following:

- Donations Children's Shelter for November: Mrs. W. Tennant, mitts; Mrs. Moore, cake and jelly; Ladies' Guild St. Thomas church, eatables; Shop, 2 cakes...

WILLIAM COOPER INSANE. Milton, Ont., Dec. 17.—William Cooper, of Georgetown, who severely injured two men when they attempted to arrest him two weeks ago, has been found by doctors to be insane.

MALAGAMATION. Dec. 17.—The Collins onto, manufacturers of hardware special amalgamated with the s. Limited, of this will be operated here.

DRIVER WHOSE CAR HIT MISS PARKER FOUND NOT GUILTY

Harold Dingman, the driver of a motor, charged at the sessions on Friday, was late in the afternoon freed by the jury who after several hours deliberation brought in a verdict of not guilty on the charge of criminal negligence in connection with the accident which befell Miss Josephine Parker, who was struck by a motor and injured at the corner of Pinnacle and Campbell streets.

"Peterborough-Picturesque" By A Well-Known Writer

Katherine Hale Enlivens an Interesting Narrative With Many Well Known Local Scenes—A Summer Visitor to the Lakes

In the December issue of the "Canadian Home Journal," a bright publication published in Toronto, appeared a paper and a stronger with every number, is an interesting article by Katherine Hale (Mrs. John Garvin) entitled "Peterborough—Picturesque and Progressive."

Much interesting incident of the pioneer days is included in the article, which is written in a clear and simple style, and is a constant summer visitor at Stoney Lake.

Mr. W. Carnew presented at Col. E. D. O'Flynn defended the accused. The case of George O. Delina on the charge of fraud was in progress today.

When James Hamilton did not appear to answer a serious charge at the sessions, his bail was ordered extracted.

Christmas in every thing but the disappearance of the snow which fell late on Friday, was indicated at the Belleville market today.

Other prices easier. Goose and Chicken and Duck Not Out of Reach of Modest Buyer

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By the year 1853 Peterborough had so far progressed that it was visited by the Greatest Show on Earth, the Myers Brothers, and the two elephants were so huge that their tread was too mighty for the strength of the town bridge.

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MARKET GIVEN BUSINESS AS USUAL CHRISTMAS LOOK; FOWL A FEATURE

Turkeys Were Not Cheap and Never are, Ranging from \$6. to \$10.

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BUSINESS AS USUAL IN MERCHANTS BANK

Local Branch, Though Now Part of Bank of Montreal, Will Not be Closed for the Present—No Uneasiness Indicated

Business as usual marked the trading at the local branches of the Merchants' Bank of Canada and the Bank of Montreal, which are part of the two financial institutions in the big merger which has just been announced.

Shareholders, holders of notes of the Merchants' Bank and depositors of that institution went about their business today as if nothing of account had happened.

Both offices will continue to operate here and there is a likelihood that they may not be merged for a long time.

Big Business in District. The Merchants' Bank has a wide clientele in Belleville and district, and that this business will remain in the hands of this institution seems a certainty.

Towards evening definite information was received by Mr. Robert Tannahill, of the Bank of Montreal from the General Manager, Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, that the amalgamation was being arranged.

The news was a complete surprise to the staffs of the two local branches.

Early today there were a number of inquiries made at the Merchants' Bank as to the situation but in none of them was any uneasiness displayed, but rather increased confidence.

May Take Five Years. In the case of mergers it has been the custom to operate the two organizations as two separate entities for some time after the final ratification of the plan has been made.

Locally the merger goes through, it will place the Bank of Montreal, already strongly entrenched, among the strongest financial institutions of the world.

At the Bank of Montreal today, while there was considerable curiosity about the proposed merger, there was nothing of an exciting nature that transpired to show any lack of confidence in the Merchants'.

No Advantage in Transfer. Mr. Tannahill gave the information to a number of people that there was no advantage in transferring accounts and deposits to the Bank of Montreal, that they were just as safe in the Merchants' as they are in the Bank of Montreal.

"I should be greatly surprised if the two branches are not maintained here, at least for a long time. And I should advise that they should be kept open," Mr. Tannahill explained to the Ontario.

The general opinion prevails that the merger, if adopted will go into effect quietly and that both banks will carry on as hitherto.

Combined Capital \$32,500,000 Details of Banks in Merger

MONTREAL, Dec. 17.—In connection with the absorption of the Merchants Bank of Canada by the Bank of Montreal, the following figures are of interest:

The bank statement for October 31 showed paid up capital of the Bank of Montreal to be \$22,000,000, and the paid up capital of the Merchants, \$10,000,000, so that the combined will have a paid up capital of \$32,000,000.

The total non-interest bearing deposits of the two banks are \$17,751,932.33, of which \$28,733,331 are Merchants Bank.

The total deposits under all headings of liabilities would total \$707,770,571.98, of which \$190,387,409 are Merchants Bank.

The gold and silver coin current for both would be \$29,820,416, of which \$25,622,287.14 is Bank of Montreal.

Current loans of both in Canada total \$329,405,990, of which \$217,185,794 are Bank of Montreal.

Officially Announced. MONTREAL, Dec. 17.—The proposed absorption of the Merchants Bank of Canada by the Bank of Montreal, subject to ratification by

In regard to the merger no statement was forthcoming at the head office of the Bank of Montreal, but it was learned that the terms of the merger would not be announced until the notice calling a meeting and explaining the proposed amalgamation had been sent out to the shareholders.

No further statement as to the proposed terms was given out at the head office of the Merchants Bank. The meeting will be held some time in January, as under the Bank Act, six weeks' notice has to be given for all such special meetings of the shareholders.

The merger will more particularly affect the bank's shareholders, as the value of their holdings of the bank's stock will entirely depend on the terms of the transaction.

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SIR ARTHUR PEARSON Founder of St. Dunstan's Hotel for the Blind, and himself a blind man, was accidentally drowned in London. He was famous the world over for his work for the blind.

known as "The Black Horse Inn." A famous drinking place was that of Mrs. Rosie O'Neill, who once sold whiskey and did a laundry business on the site of the now enormous plant of the Quaker Oats Company.

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Youth, 16, Too Young For a Transfusion So Patient is Dead

MONTREAL, Dec. 17.—A timely transfusion of blood probably would have saved the life of a young boy, 16 years of age, of Verdun, who died at the Notre Dame Hospital last night following the loss of a hand, according to the reports made by doctors of that institution to Deputy Coroner Price.

The reason for the failure to perform the blood transfusion, the Deputy Coroner learned, were that the only volunteer to offer to give his blood, the brother of the dying youth, two years younger, was rejected as too young for the consequent strain, and that it was impossible to secure another volunteer.

A verdict of accidental death was returned at today's inquest by the Deputy Coroner.

Church Union Moves Forward

WINNIPEG, Dec. 17.—Dr. S. D. Chown, General Superintendent of the Methodist church, stated last night that the committee representing Methodist, Presbyterian and the Congregational churches is hard at work on the preliminaries for church union, and that the act for co-operation would be ready for discussion by the general conference next year.

Refuse to Give Leeway to Germans

PARIS, Dec. 17.—The Reparations Commission refused today to grant Germany's request for an extension of the time on the January and February payments, until she has told what she can pay on instalments.

REBEKAH CONCERT HELD

MDCO JCT.—Those who attended Rebekah concert in Stirling Opera House report one of the best ever put on by local talent.

Mrs. George Eggleton entertained the W. M. S. one afternoon last week in her cozy living room with its cheery coal fire, after a very interesting meeting a dainty luncheon was served.

Mrs. Fitchett to celebrate the birthday of her only daughter, Mary, on Monday evening, "The Reward of Virtue," under the direction of Mr. Gerald Clute has a cast of characters, who each one deserve special mention.

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