

News Notes

The following are the values of exports and imports during the six months ending September 30, 1918, at the ports of Montreal, St. John, Halifax and Quebec:

	Montreal.	St. John.
Exports	\$222,150,361	\$64,381,749
Imports... ..	94,140,647	7,443,699
	\$316,291,008	\$71,825,448
	Halifax.	Quebec.
Exports	\$15,991,704	\$ 811,978
Imports	7,173,319	9,031,393
	\$23,165,023	\$9,843,371

From the above it will be seen that St. John is well maintaining its record of export business and its standing as a port.

A decrease in production of coal in British Columbia during November amounted to approximately 49,476 tons, as compared with the October total. The falling off is attributed chiefly to the lower output of the Island collieries, caused principally by the Spanish influenza epidemic. November production is estimated at 168,006 tons, as against 217,482 tons for October. For the eleven months ending November production in British Columbia amounts to 2,372,161 tons, which is 222,186 above the 1917 record.

A correspondent of Kelly's Monthly at Sao Paulo, Brazil, writes: The heavy frost which recently occurred here has done very serious damage to the coffee crop of the state. The Sao Paulo Government appointed a commission to investigate the damage, and it was found that 80 per cent of the coffee bushes were destroyed or so badly affected that many years must elapse before they will reach their normal yield. The number of bearing coffee bushes in Brazil is estimated at round about 790 to 791 million bushes, of which more than 360 million have been destroyed.

The production of sugar beets grown for the manufacture of beetroot sugar in Ontario this year is estimated at 18,000 acres. The average yield per acre being 10 tons, the total production is estimated at 180,000 tons. The value of this production at the average price of \$10.25 per ton is \$1,845,000.

The production of refined beetroot sugar in Canada for each of the last seven years is as follows:

Year.	Lbs.
1911	21,329,689
1912	26,767,287
1913	26,149,216
1914	31,314,763
1915	39,515,802
1916	17,024,377
1917	23,376,850

At the present time there are three sugar beet factories in Canada, all of them in Ontario. Up to the year 1914 there was also a sugar beet factory in Alberta.

The total area under root and fodder crops, including potatoes, turnips, etc., hay and clover, alfalfa and fodder corn, amounts to 12,321,351 acres, as compared with 9,576,568 acres in 1917. In total value at local prices these crops amount for 1918 to \$437,364,425, as compared with \$268,310,300 in 1917.

A Derbyshire paper merchant is the inventor of "a new or improved substitute for cardboard, straw-board or the like," for which he has been granted a patent. It refers to composite materials, comprising outer skins of paper and an intermediate layer of sawdust. By this means it is sought to provide a substitute economically and quickly. The outer skins or sheets are of suitable thickness or texture, and an intervening layer of sawdust, or two or more such layers, separated by a sheet or sheets of paper, the whole being bound together by a suitable adhesive or agglutinant, and consolidated by pressure to form boards or sheets of any desired thickness or stiffness or pliability.

Mr. Edgar Tripp, Canadian Commercial Agent, Port of Spain, Trinidad, writes that while the sugar crop of Trinidad was less in 1918 than in 1917 owing to ravages of the insect pest known as the froghopper, there is good reason to anticipate that the crop of 1919 which will commence towards the end of February will show much better results than that of 1918.

Imports into the United Kingdom during December increased £31,420,000 over the same month in 1917, according to statistics made public by the Board of Trade to-day. The increase was mostly in food-stuffs and raw materials, of which £4,500,000 was cotton.

Exports increased largely, cotton textiles providing £2,000,000 of the increase.

Italy's debt rose from \$2,929,000,000 to \$6,918,000,000 by the close of last year.

While the bulk of Canada's pulp and paper exports go to the United States, they are also sent to Great Britain, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Cuba, Mexico and South America.

Surprising results are being obtained by means of the new invention of an Italian youth, Francesco di Bernocchi, called the wireless iconograph, which has recently been tested between Milan and Turin. His apparatus is far in advance of anything of the kind yet recorded. Besides ordinary messages, it also transmits autographs, shorthand characters, and all sorts of designs. So simple is the arrangement that the transmitter and receiver of this instrument may be applied with ease to any ordinary wireless telegraph plant. General Spingardi, the Italian Minister of War, is so much impressed by the enormous advantages of the wireless iconograph for transmitting orders and conveying sketches in time of war with the utmost secrecy, that steps were immediately taken to secure for the Italian Government exclusive possession of the patent.

The Standard Bank of Canada.

Quarterly Dividend Notice No. 113.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of THIRTEEN PER CENT. PER ANNUM upon the Capital Stock of this Bank has this day been declared for the quarter ending 31st January, 1919, and that the same will be payable at Head Office in this City, and at its branches on and after SATURDAY, the 1st of February, to Shareholders of record of the 23rd of January, 1919.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the Bank in Toronto, on Wednesday, the 26th of February next, at 12 o'clock noon.

By order of the Board,

C. H. EASON,

General Manager.

Toronto, December 20th, 1918.

THE Molsons Bank

Incorporated by Act of Parliament 1855.

Paid-up Capital - \$4,000,000
Reserve Fund - \$4,800,000

Head Office - Montreal
97 Branches
Scattered
Throughout
Canada

Edward C. Pratt, General Manager

THE Dominion Bank

160 St. James St.

Our SAVINGS DEPARTMENT is especially equipped to give all depositors a thoroughly efficient service.

Interest allowed at current rate.

M. S. BOGERT, Manager

THE Home Bank of Canada



Branches and Connections
Throughout Canada.

Montreal Offices:

Transportation Bldg.
120 St. James Street

Hochelaga Branch:

2111 Ontario St. East Cor.
Davidson

Verdun Branch:

1318 Wellington Street

"Your savings account indicates whether you are living in the spirit of the times."

DIVIDEND NOTICE

Bank of Nova Scotia

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank will be held in the Banking House, Hollis Street, Halifax, on Wednesday, the 22nd January next, at Eleven o'clock a.m., for the purpose of receiving a statement of the affairs of the Bank, for the election of Directors and for other business.

By order of the Board,

H. A. RICHARDSON,

General Manager.

Halifax, N.S., December 14th, 1918.