## The Banking Question Begins to Open Up in Earnest!

The western Canadian papers are discussing our banks; eastern Canadian papers question is now our main issue. As we pointed out yesterday the aim to be sought at the same time improve the position of the banks as part of the commercial and financial organization of the country. All we want to do is to make the banks more useful and to change our masters if not into servants to level them down to equals.

In the United States the question there commands equal attention; they are now in the midst of the greatest financial stringency since the war; and this hap pens just at the time that a new and improved system is about to be put into op eration—the system of national reserve discount banks, decentralizing the reserves increasing the emergency currency to help things over. The secretary of the treas ury, Mr. McAdoo, has criticized the banks for their high rates of interest, and their failure to come alertly to the support of business. And the comptroller of the currency has got into the discussion. His name is John Skelton Williams, he was in politics, he is an authority on finance, a member of the new national reserve board.

Speaking at Indianapolis before the State Bankers' Association, he opened by saying that centralized government [kaiserism] was passing; in the States one hundred millions of free people did the ruling.

He said that the Federal Reserve Act is the instrumentality thru which the American people will be freed from the domination of a financial oligarchy. It restores to the channels of commerce and industry hundreds of millions of dollars of money which was drawn from the sections where it was needed, to lie idle in the vaults of the big banks in two or three cities, or else be loaned by those banks largely on demand loans in the stock market. It provides for a system to meet completely and effectively the requirements of expanding or contracting business according to the season and the varying conditions, and it accomplishes along the most natural lines the mobilization of the bank reserves and devises the methods by which they can be most safely and most fairly

It practically removes from honestly and capably managed banks all fear of runs or the dread of suspension or failure, by providing the means for quickly converting into currency the commercial paper in which its funds may have been that several hundred million dollars heretofore kept in transit and in unavailable balances, will be released for the needs of business, while the delay and expensed making collections of checks will both be eliminated.

Mr. Williams did not see an early opening of the New York Stock Exchange in eight; it would allow four billions of American securities, now in Europe, to be thrown back at America at panic prices; and even if bought, they could not be paid for in gold. It would take time to get the situation as far as these securities were concerned in good shape again; but the banking and currency system would be improved at once by the new laws.

The New York Times which takes umbrage at Secretary McAdoo's action in naming a number of the hoarding banks, asserts that the banks are independent of the people and above the government in a way that will startle the people of the the participation of the government in the banking business of the country. In Canada we have often heard very much the same thing and many of us have grown up under the tradition that the country owes more to the banks than the banks to the country. Undoubtedly, before confederation the people of upper and lower Canada were glad to get the medium of exchange furnished by banks of issue, and for a time looked to the banks rather than to the provincial government for the currency and credit required by business. But Canada has grown some in the past seventy years. We believe now that the banks should no more be independent of the people and superior to the government than should the railways or other public utility corporations holding a franchise from the government. A similar view obtains in the United States and we do not think The New York Times, if it is trying to serve the banks, will get anywhere by saying as it does in its leading editorial

minding their own business and are not answerable to the secretary. Moreover the secretary has more to ask from the banks than they have to ask from His influence is limited to depositing and withdrawing treasury funds, which some banks have declined on the treasury's terms. But the treasury is dependent on the banks for many things in its embarrassments from time to time and even in ordinary business. For the treasury is a depositor and a porrower, not an overseer of the banks.

True The Times steps down its energy of defiance by rather lamely drawing distinction between the disciplinary powers of the secretary of the treasury and the comptroller of the currency. It also argues that Secretary McAdoo was "hasty" in naming certain country banks. We have, however, reproduced the above excerpt to show the attitude of the bankers and their press. In the United States the government is aserting its authority over the banks and is to some extent going into the banking business. In Canada we have been less progressive and when the banks tell our government, our parliament, and our people to mind their own bus on the mysteries of finance, we are inclined to ac cept the rebuke and to go way back and sit down. Some Canadians are all but persuaded that the financial question is too difficult for the government to deal with and that we have no choice but to maintain our present system of banking and currency, unless and until the banks propose amendment. But as said at the outset, the question will not now down until settled and settled right, right for the public and fair to the banks.

Coming back to the Canadian west read this editorial in the Conservative organ in Alberta

Calgary Herald: There has been a great deal of comment lately concerning the attitude of the banks to commercial and farmers' accounts in western Canada. Criticism of this matter was properly conveyed by R. B. Bennett to the representative of one of Canada's leading banking institutions on a recent occasion, and with all due deference to the banking interests, it cannot be said that the reply then given, or any reply that has yet been given, came near to equaling in definiteness the statements of those who complain.

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It would seem that the banks should be placed on the defensive in this matter, and in view of the large powers granted them by government, and the large additional powers recently granted them from the same source, they should take the public into their confidence and say what they are prepared to do for the source, they should take the public into their confidence and say what they are prepared to do for the society.

Some idea of the work Accomplished. the public into their confidence and say what they are prepared to do for the sustaining of business credit, the continuance of business operations, and particularly the protection and encouragement of the farming industry.

To the "man on the street" it certainly seems as tho the government had done its share by its recent legislation to enable the banks to do their share for the sustaining of reasonable conditions in these regards. Also to the same "man on the street" it certainly does seem as tho the banks were just about as tight: toward the public as they could possibly have been if the government had not ing in definiteness the statements of those who complain.

And read this one from the Province of Saskatchewan CHARGES AGAINST THE BANKS.

Medicine Hat Morning Times: Mutterings against the financial institutions of Canada are beginning to be superseded by clearer utterances voiced by those who are not afraid to say what they think. In Calgary, the western superintendent of the Canadian Bank of Commerce declared that the financial institutions of the country are eager to give assistance to the farmers, particularly to those who were engaged in the business of stock raising. He was followed by R. B. Bennett, M.P., who pointed out that the banks in being permitted to issue currency to an amount double the cash to their credit possessed the most valuable franchise in the country and certainly in his opinion owe some duty to the people of the country which has given them such a special privilege. Mr. Bennett knew of many cases in which the banks, instead of assisting farmer: were forcing them to sell their stock.

At the present moment there is such universal complaint against the financial institutions of Canada that we are satisfied that they cannot be properly fulfilling their functions toward the people. Prominent and reliable manufacturers state that they cannot secure the capital which they desire to use in meeting the great opportunity before Canada and we opinted out the other day that this opportunity cannot be met without capital and lots of it. No one is asking the banks to make reckless loans, but the demand is being voiced that they should perform their trust by loaning to bona fide producers money in reasonable quantities with appropriate security.

On the outbreak of hostilities the Canadian banks had out on loan to the New York stock gamblers the enormous sum of 137 millions of dollars and a lesser, but still large sum in Toronto and Montreal. The stock exchanges are closed and the banks cannot recover their money. We can only dream what would happen if this huge sum had been advanced to those pursuing agriculture, manufacturing, distributing and other legitimate pursuits in Canada. Properly applied, the money would have greatly stimulated industry and employment, whereas in the hands of non-producers like the gamblers it is not creating a dollar of legitimate wealth. Indeed, such transactions as those which we condemn succeed in nothing more desirable than an increase in the number of parasites who fatten on the industry of others. The sending of such sums out of the country to be used in such enterprises is not good business and it is not safe business.

What the farmers, manufacturers and others are reasonably demanding in Capada today is that, upon adequate security, they shall be advanced a margin sufficient to permit them to carry on their productive businesses. We are told that the banks refuse to take this risk altho it has been established that they have been in the habit of taking larger risks with gamblers and foreign gamblers at that When we stan to think we can see that they have been in the habit of taking larger risks with gamblers and foreign gamblers at that When we stan to think we can see that they have been in the habit of taking larger risks with gamblers and foreign gamblers are that When we stan to think we can see that they have been in the habit of taking larger risks with gamblers and foreign gamblers are reasonably demanding the farmers, and their they have been in the habit of taking larger risks with gamblers and foreign gamblers. The following members of St. Michael and employ—and all All Angels Anglican Church, Wych—and All Angels Anglican Church, wood, have left for the front, and their and manufacturing, distributing and other legitimate pursuits in Canada. Properly

have been in the habit of taking larger risks with gamblers and foreign gamblers at that. When we stop to think we can see that the whole financial and industrial structure of the country rests upon the risk which the banks refuse to the country re so banks and there would be no need for them. Unless the average yield per mere and the demand for manufactured goods were such as to guarantee the safety of the margin which is sought the banks and every person else would be out of business and Canada would be a wilderness. We would like to see this whole financial situation discussed in parliament of Canada and we think that Mr. Bennett would be an appropriate person to precipitate the discussion. The trouble in the past has been that one half of the parliamentarians in Canada

IS THIS YOU?



Queen Street and University Avenue at 2.30 Wednesday.

desiring of becoming so.

STOUFFVILLE.

Let us close by saying that The World would like to hear Mr. Bennett speaking in parliament. He is a great talker and he did vote against the wholesale re al of the bank charters in 1913 and he will speak out next session if there one and he be there. And we close by saying that our jump from the east to the west, from the States to Canada and back again, as displayed in the foregoing, all olete proposition; that new principles and methods must be adopted. Here in Canada our banking is quite ancient and our currency a survival. We've got to have big new (as far as we are concerned) principles in which the nation supplies the currency and the bank of discount and becomes the senior partner of the banks. This system will give plenty of money and safe money, as it is wanted and in

**BEACHES WOMEN** 

has sixteen relatives fighting for the King in France. Before the battle of Marne there were seventeen, but a nephew with the English Fusiliers was killed in that engagement, and two others have been wounded recent. DOING GOOD WORK

Have Made Over One Thousand Articles for Red Cross Society.

A meeting of the Patriotic League was held vesterday af-ternoon in the Masonic Hall, Balsam avenue, about one hundred and ninety women of the district being present. This is the largest gathering the association has had since its organization. Mrs. A M. Huestis, president of the Local Council of Women, was in the chair. Mrs. L A. Hamilton addressed the meeting and

Some idea of how much work this branch has been doing for the fund was told by the captain, Mrs. R. J. W. Barker. In the first week of the work, commencing on Sept. 8, over 700 articles were forwarded to headquarters for the soldiers' use. This included fifty bedgowns and two dozen suits of pyjamas. Their second consignment was sent on Sept. 17, and consisted of 174 articles, most of them hand-knitted. Up to date this branch has sent in 1360 articles, and before the end of the week 100 gray flannel shirts will be finished. An idea of the speed and the untiring efforts of the members can be illustrated in the the members can be illustrated in the making of these shirts. Seven webs of heavy gray flannel were purchased last Friday, and on Saturday this was all out By Monday night every plece was given out, and the members will have them all returned in time to reach the headquar

ters on Friday morning.

Funds Needed.

The funds for this work are voluntary, and to date \$448.08 has been donated.

The expenditures have aggregated \$411.83, leaving the small balance of \$42.25 on hand. During the past week 336.25 on hand. During the past week the association has employed three wom-on who were out of work, paying them \$1.10 a day, and providing them with a good meal at midday. Next Saturday afternoon the girls of the Balmy Beach afternoon the girls of the Balmy Beath School will hold the weekly cake and food sale. The members would like to have contributions to help in buving the material, and they will be thankfully received at the hall any day this week, or phone the secretary, Mrs. W. G. A. ambe. Beach 425.

MEMBERS OF ALL ANCELS WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED

Sawden, Glanville avenue, Princess Pats; Horace Sparks. 90 Benson street. York and Lancaster Fusitiers; Edward Shuter, 25 Shaw street. Coldstream Guards, and Pte. Wardell, Kennedy street, Coldstream

FAMILY OF SOLDIERS. George Carter, of 36 Earlscourt avenue YORK COUNTY ...AND... SUBURBS

## PEEL REGIMENT BALMY BEACH MEN IN NEW QUARTERS ANSWER THE CALL

Men Enlisting in the Home Guards.

The 26th Peel Regiment have had their

After the ceremony a wedding supper was served, and Mr. and Mrs. Seeley left later on a short trin. On their return they will reside on Wallace avenue.

EARLSCOURT METHODIST QUARTERLY BOARD MEETS

Prof. Smith, Toronto University, will address the Men's Own Brotherhood meeting in Central Methodist Church, Earlscourt, next Sunday afternoon.

The guarterly official board of the Methodist Church met in Central Methdist Church, Earlscourt, last evening, Rev. P. Bryce presiding, Reports were received from the pastors of the five missions in the Earlscourt section, sat-isfactory progress being reported from each district.

each district.

Owing to the present financial stringency, the new churches contemplated in Oakwood and North Earlscourt will not be erected in the meantime.

The Ladies' Aid in connection with Oakwood Methodist Church held a social and tea in Oakwood Hall last evening Rev. Archer Wallace, B.A., occupied the chair and delivered an address during the evening.

the evening.

Mrs. Archer Wallace, who has been visiting friends in England, is expected to arrive home in the course of the next ing winter, several members of the Com-ing winter, several members of the G. T. Suffragette Society are spending the week at the farm of Mr. James Wellman, whose daughter, Mary, is one of the founders of the society.

Special anniversary evening services were held in St. Michael and All Angels' Anglican Church. Wychwood yesterday, Rev. Dr. Boyle, Trinity College, preach-

Business and Professional Splendid Turn Out to First MORE ACCOMMODATION Drill of Sharpshooters Last Night.

"I am delighted with the splendid petition for larger quarters granted, and turnout here tonight and amazed at the speed with which you have picked up the

**NORTH TORONTO** 

The executive of the newly-formed branch of the Toronto Women's Patriotic League will hold a meeting tomorrow morning in the town hall, North Toronto, for the purpose of electing officers. The executive is composed of the convenors of the Red Cross Auxiliary and the relief committee and two representatives of the churches in the district.

In the report of the meeting at which the branch was formed it was stated that Mrs. G. E. Dunbar was elected president. This was an error. She was elected convenor of the relief committee.

The opening meeting of the North Toronto Ratepayers' Association will be held in the town hall on Saturday night for the election of officers. The new committee will have charge of the organization of a military school corps recruited from the Bedford Park, Egilnton and Davisville schools.

The North Toronto Liberal-Conservatives will hold their annual election of officers in the Masonic Hall on Monday night next.

Anglican mission, Danforth road, on Thursday evening, Oct. 1, at 8 o'clock. Special preacher, Ven. Archdeacon Warren, M.A., Sunday, Oct. 4, special services will be held, morning at 11 and evening at 7.

## MUNICIPAL RANGES FOR RIFLE WORK

Deputation From Toronto Civilian Rifle League to Present Request

Ranges at Long Branch Inadequate - Lack of Ammunition Mentioned.

moved yesterday from their former armories on High Park avenue to the more roomy Coffin Block, at the junction or foundas street and Junction road, neer Royce avenue. The regiment held a parade last night from their old quarters for the last time.

A number of well-known business and professional men signed the list of enlist men of the Toronto Home Guard Sharphore and the Toron

sociation in Toronto. It is the
of the meeting to have every r.
sociation join the Toronto
League. The membership fee
\$2. It is proposed that an evolution to the total terms of the sociations represente meeting last night were: P
Trade, Teachers', Earlscourt,
Hydre, St. Anne's, Toronto I
sociation, North Toronto,
the Newspaper and the Nor

NEIGHBORHOOD WOR PLAN WINTER'S

Deputation Will Ask To Council to Start Relia Work Soon.

The opening meeting for the winte session of the Neighborhood Workers to St. Clair district was held yesterda afternoon in Oakwood High School, Rew. J. Brain presiding. It was decided a send a deputation to interview the Yor Township Council on Monday with regar to the need for relief work being stairte in the township at an early date. The following were appointed: Rev. H. I Young, Rev. A. J. Reid and Rev. J. Bryce.

SCARBORO JUNCTION

Harvest Thanksgiving services will be leld in the Church of the Epiphany

Bryce.

The meeting also decided to inaugura branches of the organization in War Toronto and North Toronto to co-opera with the St. Clair branch.

Gave An Address.

the work of the juvenile court, and Arth Burnett, director of the social service de partment, reviewed the work of at Social Service Commission. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. of in Oakwood High School,

Of All Human Blessings e sonal Liberty Is Prized the Highest AMERICANS holding such ideals have built the

name and established the fame of BUDWEISER. For 57 years its quality, purity, mildness and exclusive Saazer Hop flavor have stood above all other bottled beers as the Statue of Liberty towers above the sky line of New York harbor. Its sales exceed any other beer by millions of bottles. BOTTLED ONLY AT THE HORE PLANT

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