FINANCE and ECONOMICS

THE MOLSONS BANK: ANNUAL MEETING.

The Molsons Bank which held its fifty-fourth annual general meeting at Montreal on Monday is one of the first Canadian banks to report the results of the year's operations. The net profits for the twelve months amount to $493,479, an excellent exhibit. The shareholders have received in dividends the sum of $350,000, being made up of four quarterly disbursements of 2½ per cent. each, while taxes, the officers' pension fund and branch premises expenditure, account for $38,442. This leaves $104,084 to be added to profit and loss account balance, which now stands at $250,769. The bank's profits are less than those of last year, but the low money rates and the plentiful supply of money largely account for this decline. The bank's deposits on demand and after notice, as on September 30th, totalled more than $27,000,000.

A progressive policy has been followed regarding the opening of new branches. During the year the Molsons Bank was established at Lethbridge, Alta.; Forest, Ont.; Lambton Mills, Ont.; Kirton, Ont.; Camrose, Alta.; Pierreville, Que., and Westminster Avenue branch, Vancouver, B.C. Alterations and improvements were made in several of the branch premises. New buildings were erected at Fraserville, Morrisburg, and Revelstoke, and the premises occupied by the bank at Forest, Lethbridge and Woodstock were purchased. To offset the outlay in connection with this expansion, $100,000 has been added to bank premises account, which now stands at $600,000.

Mr. William Molson Macpherson interestingly reviewed the year's banking development in Canada. The retiring directorate was re-elected as follows: Messrs. J. P. Cleghorn, George E. Drummond, S. H. Ewing, Charles B. Gordon, H. Markland Molson, W. Molson Macpherson, and W. M. Ramsay. At a subsequent meeting of the directors, Mr. W. Molson Macpherson was re-elected president, and Mr. S. H. Ewing, vice-president, for the ensuing year.

KERR LAKE'S ANNUAL REPORT.

To the mining shareholders perhaps the question of dividends is one of the most important. According to the pamphlet report of the Kerr Lake Mining Company for the year ended August 31st, 1909, dividends have been paid since 1906, amounting to $1,140,000. The treasurer states that the financial statements give evidence that dividend payments can continue at the present rate of $720,000 per year and can be materially increased if the management should consider it to the best interests of the company to do so. The production during the year was 2,268,648 ounces of silver produced in 1,072 tons of ore and 600,000 pounds of screenings. The gross value of this production at 50 cents an ounce is $1,334,324. The net profits for the year, above all expenses, amount to $1,129,047. In concluding a lengthy report Manager Heakes says: "The future of the property depends a great deal upon carrying on this development work without sacrificing it to increased ore production. As an illustration of the great value of the pay veins, it may be interesting to note that in the month of June of the present year a drift on the 150 foot level of No. 7 vein, sixty feet in length, nine feet wide, produced 94,000 ounces of silver. The amount of ore produced from the development work has enabled us to continue our ore reserves, which have been materially added to during the year. We have two miles of underground workings. Special attention has been given to the general physical condition of the mine, as regards timbering, ventilation, and increased safety to employees. We have averaged over 125 men employed daily."

MONARCH BANK AFFAIRS.

The winding up of the Monarch Bank is proceeding slowly. The official referee, Mr. J. A. McAndrew has now to decide whether or not the provisional directors of the bank were entitled to pay out of stock subscriptions commissions for the sale of stock. The bank did not open for business, apparently owing to its failure to make the $250,000 deposit with the Government and to secure subscriptions for $500,000 worth of stock. Mr. R. C. Clarkson moved against the provisional directors, T. Marshall Ostrom, Senator Kerr and D. A. Gordon, of Wallaceburg, for an accounting of money received. It appeared that for $240,000 of stock subscription $60,000 cash was received, of which $20,000 was disbursed, a part of it in payment of commissions for the sale of the bank stock. Mr. Gordon had a contract under which he agreed to underwrite 16,000 of the shares and dispose of them for $10 a share commission. Agents were appointed in various places and were paid to sell the stock.

The assignee claimed that under the Bank Act the provisional directors as such are not invested with authority to use the bank's money to pay commissions and sought to hold them liable for the $20,000 expended.

Mr. James Bicknell and Mr. Mackelcan, for T. M. Ostrom, contended that the receipt each prospective shareholder signed stated that until the sum of $250,000 was obtained from stock sales, that the money was to be paid over to the Toronto General Trusts Corporation, and as only some $60,000 was paid in, that it did not formally become the property of the bank.

IMPORTANT FINANCIAL CHANGES.

Many important changes among various companies' officers and directors have been announced this week. At a meeting of the directors of the Canada Cement Company Sir Sandford Fleming was elected honorary president, and Mr. C. H. Cahan, K.C., president. The board of directors is composed as follows: Sir Sandford Fleming, honorary president; Messrs. C. H. Cahan, K.C., president; Hon. Robert Mackay, G. E. Drummond, C. C. Ballantyne, Montreal; J. R. Booth, J. S. Irvin, Hon. W. S. Edwards, Ottawa; Hon. George A. Cox, and W. D. Matthews, Toronto; R. W. Kelley, New York; W. R. Warren, New York; E. M. Young, Allentown, Penn.; W. H. E. Bravender, Calgary; J. M. Kilbourn, Owen Sound.

The directors appointed the following executive committee: Messrs. C. C. Ballantyne, G. E. Drummond, and R. W. Kelley, and the president, ex-officio.

Mr. C. C. Ballantyne has resigned as director of both the Canadian Rubber Company and the Canadian Consolidated Rubber Company.

Major George W. Stephens has been elected a director of the La Rose Consolidated Mining Company in place of Mr. H. Timmins. Major Stephens, who is widely known and well respected, is associated in several business enterprises with Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon, a director and large stockholder of the La Rose Company.

SEPTEMBER BANK STATEMENT.

As the Monetary Times goes to press, the September bank statement comes to hand. Total deposits on demand and after notice aggregate $714,000,000, an increase during the month of 13 millions, and a gain over the previous year of 120 millions. While considerable activity has been denced in the market call loans in Canada decreased half a million while those elsewhere showed a gain of nearly 11 millions. Current loans in Canada gained 17 millions during the month and show an increase of 43 millions. The following are the principal changes:—

	Sept. 1909.	Month's increase.
Circulation	$ 79,207,441	+ $ 7,359,889
Dep. on demand, Canada	239,900,052	+ 11,562,373
Do after notice	474,103,799	+ 1,511,981
Total. dep. in Canada	$714,063,851	+ $13,074,354
Deposits elsewhere	76,556,786	+ 5,749,124
Call loans in Canada..	56,124,620	— 555,552
Do. elsewhere	131,634,384	+ 10,974,875
Current loans in Canada	560,206,621	+ 17,051,958
Do. elsewhere	32,981,183	+ 2,319,746

	Sept. 1908.	Year's increase.
Circulation	$ 76,246,237	+ $ 2,961,204
Dep. on demand, Canada	183,207,740	+ 56,752,312
Do. after notice	410,332,819	+ 63,770,980
Total dep. in Canada	$650,292,871	+ $63,770,980
Deposits elsewhere ...	68,071,694	+ 8,485,032
Call loans in Canada..	41,084,145	+ 15,040,475
Do. elsewhere	59,843,979	+ 71,799,405
Current loans in Canada	516,690,003	+ 43,246,618
Do elsewhere	26,994,946	+ 5,986,237

The usual comparative statement will appear in next week's issue of the Monetary Times.