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Bankers' Vaults AND Vault Doors BANKERS' SAFES FIRE-PROOF SAFES

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LICENSING OF EXTRA PROVINCIAL COMPANIES.

The Vancouver Board of Trade thinks, as there is considerable diversity in the statutes of the various provinces as to the cost and operation of legislation affecting the licensing or registration of extra-provincial companies, that the matter might be profitably discussed at the annual convention of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The Board of Trade has circulated a comparative statement of dues levied on extra-provincial companies by the various provinces. The following notes are taken therefrom:—

- (1) Registration fees are annual in Prince Edward Island; Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, but payable once only in other provinces.
- (2) Fines for doing business if not registered are:—
 - (a) \$100, or 3 months' imprisonment in Quebec.
 - (b) \$100 in Nova Scotia.
 - (c) \$50 to the company and \$20 to the agent in New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia.
 - (d) \$50 to the company in Saskatchewan and Alberta.
- (3) Travellers and correspondence are excepted in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan; also (by implication) in Prince Edward Island.
- (4) Registration fees are chargeable only "on amount of capital employed in the Province" in Quebec.
- (5) A maximum registration fee of \$250 is provided for in British Columbia, provided the company does at least fifty per cent. of its business outside the Province.

Note.—(6) Unregistered companies cannot use the courts in New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia.

The registrar of Saskatchewan advises as follows:—

"A friendly suit was tried before the Court en banc in 1905 to test the necessity of companies holding Dominion charters registering, which was decided in favor of this Government."

STORY OF A BANK NOTE.

It was no banking corporation, but an artist, that issued what was perhaps the most remarkable bank-note ever put out, and this artist was no other than George Cruickshank. The issuance of this note was coincident with the beginning of the last century at a time when the penalties for crime in England were excessively harsh. About three hundred offences were punishable by death, these ranging from

murder to the theft of a piece of cloth, or the passing of a counterfeit one-pound note. Hanging was, therefore, so common that to witness an execution was among the most popular forms of amusement. All windows that commanded a view of Newgate or Tyburn were let at high prices, and parties were made up among people in the country to go to see a hanging.

Now it chanced one day, in the year 1818, that George Cruickshank was passing Newgate when a great crowd was gathered before it. His curiosity was excited, and he went forward and saw the execution of several men and women. Horrified at the spectacle, he inquired as to the crimes committed by the unfortunates and learned that the women were being hanged for passing counterfeit one-pound notes. He learned, too, that the poor creatures often sinned in ignorance, being the dupes of men who sent them to buy some trifle and return the change.

Cruickshank went home and, moved by pity and shame, sketched a grotesque caricature of a bank-note. He called it a bank restriction note—not to be imitated.

On it he represented a place of execution, with a row of criminals hanging by the neck. The spaces were filled in with halters and manacles. There was a figure of Britannia devouring her children, and around it were transports bearing to Australia the lucky or unlucky ones who had escaped death. In place of the well-known signature of Abraham Newland was that of "J. Ketch."

This note was seen by Cruickshank's publisher, Hone, who begged it for publication. So Cruickshank etched the note and gave it to Hone, who exhibited it for sale in his window with startling effect. Crowds gathered round and purchased so eagerly that the issue was soon exhausted. Cruickshank was kept hard at work making more etchings, and the crowds grew so great that the street was blocked and the mayor had to send soldiers to clear it. Hone realized three thousand five hundred dollars in a few days.

But the effect in other directions was still more startling. The bank directors were furious. They had met with trouble from the prison reformer, Elizabeth Fry, but they seemed to have defeated her. Here, however, was an adversary of a different stamp whom they could neither silence nor crush. They held a meeting and stopped the issue of one-pound notes, a measure which had a sensible effect in diminishing the number of hangings at Newgate. Soon afterward an indignant public compelled Parliament to make juster laws.—Harper's Weekly.