

## MORE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS INDICATED BY SEMI-ANNUAL BANK OF MONTREAL REPORT

Half-Yearly Statement to April 30th Shows That General Business Through the Country Continue to Make Big Strides—Very Large Gain in Deposits—Strong Position Maintained.

The semi-annual statement of the Bank of Montreal for the six months to April 30th makes a strong and interesting exhibit. It indicates that throughout Canada trade and commerce continue steadily to expand.

Of a still more satisfactory character is the very large gain in deposits bearing interest, indicating as it does that the general public all over the country are continuing to add very materially to their savings. This is interesting in view of the almost unprecedented activity in speculation.

Even with the large increase in business handled, the Bank has maintained its usual strong position. This is especially reassuring at a time like the present, when numerous large undertakings are taking shape in so many sections of the country.

Total assets at April 30th amount to \$868,187,616. They show a gain

for the year of over \$80,000,000, comparing with \$784,112,774 at the corresponding date last year. The large business being done in serving the customers of the Bank is reflected by total loans of \$382,340,890, up from \$326,313,372, an increase of more than \$56,000,000.

Striking gains are reported in deposits, the total of which amounted to \$736,350,486 at the end of April, against \$656,578,714 a year ago. Deposits now bearing interest totalled \$143,773,753, up from \$130,730,698, while interest bearing deposits now stand at \$592,576,433, compared with \$519,848,016, a growth during the year of over \$72,000,000.

Of the total assets of \$868,187,616, liquid assets amount to \$452,864,416, equal to 52.27 p. c. of liabilities to the public. Included in them are cash holdings of \$110,151,407, equivalent

to 13.95 p. c. of public liabilities, comprising gold and subsidiary coin \$33,608,838, Dominion Notes \$57,542,634 and deposit in Central Gold Reserve \$19,000,000.

The principal accounts in current assets include Dominion and Provincial Government securities of \$81,642,520, against \$90,007,661; railway and other bonds, debentures and stocks \$6,929,569, compared with \$3,935,421; Canadian municipal securities and British, foreign and colonial public securities, other than Canadian \$42,353,736, up from \$28,605,880. Larger Business Handled

Reflecting the increased requirements of the Bank's customers, current loans and discounts in Canada are now reported at \$297,609,586. This compares with \$249,470,228, a gain during the year of over \$48,000,000. Loans to cities, towns and municipalities stand at \$25,076,930, compared with \$22,749,114, and current loans and discounts elsewhere than in Canada amount to \$57,580,519, as against \$51,983,926.

The profit and loss statement shows that the heavier volume of business being handled has resulted in a normal increase in earnings. Profits for the half-year to April 30th were \$2,994,901, and compare with \$2,780,660 for the corresponding period last year. Added to the balance carried forward, the total amount available for distribution is \$3,149,700. This was appropriated as follows: two quarterly dividends \$1,795,002; provision for taxes Dominion Government \$199,533; and reservation for bank premises \$400,000 as compared with \$250,000

## STUDENTS MUST DON STRAW HATS

Rome, June 1—The wearing of straw hats made from Tuscan straw has been rendered obligatory for all university students by Sig. Augusto Turati, secretary of the Fascist party.

The order is part of the national campaign started to promote the general wearing of Italian-made straw hats in order to help the industry, which for one reason or another has recently fallen on bad times.

"The University Straw Hat" has been designed in one type for all the colleges of Italy, but the various universities will wear individual ribbons round the crown with the college colors; and a badge indicating the city of the student's university.

### THE RENTS

We know why they call them a mess of greens; they are:

for the same period in the previous year. This left an amount to be carried forward of \$755,114.

The capital of the bank now stands at \$29,916,700 and the Rest has been increased to \$30,916,700.

## LONDON IS NOW IN A SNAG TO DETERMINE WHAT IS A JAG; DRUNK MEANS DRUNK

By Beverly Smith in the New York Herald Tribune

London—"Drunk means drunk," Thus bluntly and according to his opponents, obtusely, did Henry C. A. Bingley, London police magistrate, answer the new problem which confronts the ancient common law, to wit: whether the same standard of drunkenness should be applied to motorists as is applied, for instance, to pedestrians, trap drummers or after dinner speakers.

It was one of those cases of drunken driving which arise daily in all countries where civilization has mixed gasoline with alcohol. The evidence, as in most of these cases, was conflicting. The police surgeon, a conscientious man, testified as follows:

"If the prisoner had been a pedestrian, I would have said he was sober, but as a motorist he was drunk—he was not capable of operating a car safely."

Decision Heightens Problem

"The prisoner must be acquitted," said Magistrate Bingley. "The surgeon's view is the law." In a case before the Superior Court a short time ago the Lord Chief Justice, our highest authority, stated that drunk means drunk. Case dismissed.

The case was dismissed, but the problem remains. Many of Mr. Bingley's fellow magistrates disagree with him, and the medical fraternity is ranged almost solidly against him.

In the old days London's view of drunkenness was less strict. It was expressed by the constable who, having propped the prisoner up against the bar, was giving his evidence on the case. "What was the prisoner doing?" he was asked. "E was a lying in the gutter, sir." "Was he drunk?" he was asked. "I wouldn't say that sir—I seen 'is finger move."

With the coming of the automobile however, this amiable view was progressively revised. The police courts learned that what they had hitherto regarded as mild illumination might flame up, behind a steering wheel, into a blooming catastrophe. And, with motor cars all over the streets, they found it necessary to frown even on those formerly harmless citizens who habitually made their way home late at night by rolling, wriggling and crawling on all fours.

### Tests for Inebriates

Then began the various police tests for intoxication which have caused so much dispute in recent years. The prisoner was asked to walk a chalk line, turn and walk back, or to pronounce "Truly rural," "British Constitution" and "The Leith police" dismissed us.

These tests created more difficulties than they solved. Loud protests were heard. Scores of innocent lispers and stammerers, it was claimed, were being railroaded to jail. The chalk-line test was denounced as unfair for ordinary men, but pie for tight rope walkers, however tight. Medical men, on the other hand, alleged that agile-tongued drinkers could make a Roman holiday of pedestrians and lamp posts with their motor cars, and then pass their elocution tests summa cum laude.

At this point appeared a device, said to have been invented by American chemists, which promised a scientific solution of the whole problem. It was called the "football bladder test." The suspect would be ordered to inflate the bladder with his breath. The bladder would then be deflated into certain tubes and the percentage of alcohol in the prisoner's system calculated with chemical precision.

The millennium in booze testing seemed to have arrived. But it soon developed that the learned scientists had left out of account a factor of which the veriest barfly could have told them, namely that some men are more affected by four drinks than others are by fourteen. A veteran police sergeant of unquestionable sobriety, for example, was found to have considerably more alcohol on his breath than a Cambridge freshman, just arrested for staging a one-man riot from Piccadilly Circus to Russell Square. The football bladder was declared off-side.

### Physicians Devise Formula

Finally, in despair, several London

physicians devised a formula which is causing the present legal controversy. The prisoner, they held, should have a full examination from a committee consisting of both doctors and laymen. The examination should be heart to heart, breath to breath, and wholly friendly, thus giving the prisoner no opportunity to "pull himself together," thus defeating the entire object of the test. The whole should be a "when shall we join the ladies" or "where do we go from here" kind of affair.

After an hour of chumming up with the prisoner in this way the committee should withdraw and debate upon the question of whether the prisoner "was owing to alcohol, incapable of doing safely the work on which he was engaged at the time specified in the charge."

On this formula most of the doctors and half of the magistrates of London have been able to unite. It establishes, definitely, separate bibulous standards for the aviator, the motorist, the bicyclist, the elevator operator, the steam shovel engineer, the over-the-audience vaudeville trapezist, the oyster shucker and the already-referred-to trap-drummer, after-dinner speaker and pedestrian.

Paris, May 31—Modernist musical innovators may not be so modern after all, the Parisian public is beginning to learn, thanks to the Society of Ancient Musical Instruments and kindred associations.

One of the most advanced of modernist conceptions produced a few weeks ago was symphony for a percussion instruments written by a young Russian. It caused a storm of discussion. Then the Society of Ancient Musical Instruments played a similar piece, a quartet for tuned drums. But it was written more than 300 years ago by a classicist named Philidor. And the laugh was on the Russian.

The three societies in Paris organized to stimulate an interest in old music report an enormous success of this year, due perhaps to a reaction after a surfeit of jazz. Works of Orlando Gibbons, the sixteenth century English composer; Haendel, Bach, Schutz and Palestrina have been played to large audiences and even advanced critics gave them "favorable mention."

She—Haven't I always been fair to you?

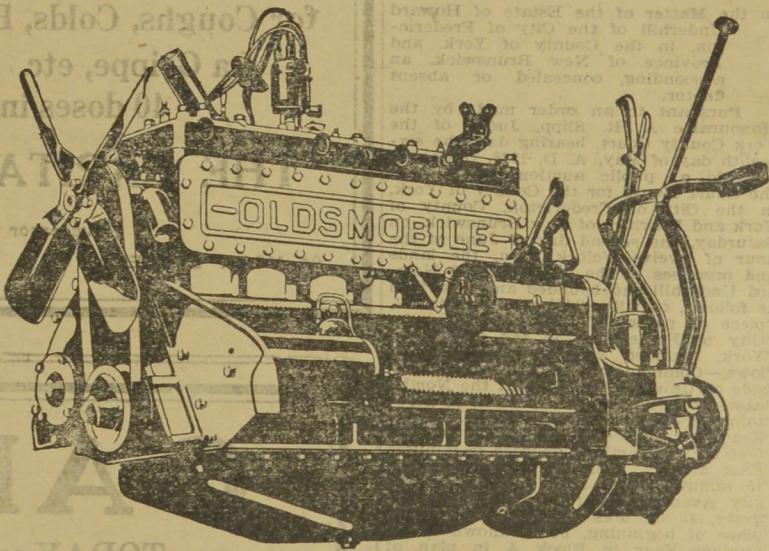
He—Yes, but I want you to be fair and warmer."

## FIRE ALARM LOCATION IN THE CITY

- 6 Argyle and York Sts.
- 7 Victoria Public Hospital.
- 8 Children's Home.
- 12 Westmorland and Aberdeen Sts.
- 13 Northumberland and Saunders Sts.
- 14 Brunswick and Smythe Sts.
- 15 Charlotte and Smythe Sts.
- 16 George and Northumberland Sts.
- 17 King and Northumberland Sts.
- 21 York and Queen Sts.
- 23 York and George Sts.
- 24 Queen and Westmorland Sts.
- 25 Brunswick and Westmorland Sts.
- 26 Charlotte and Westmorland Sts.
- 27 King and York Sts.
- 28 Saunders and York Sts.
- 31 Queen and Regent Sts.
- 32 Needham and Regent Sts.
- 34 Queen and Carleton Sts.
- 35 Brunswick and Carleton Sts.
- 36 Charlotte and Carleton Sts.
- 37 George and Regent Sts.
- 38 King and Regent Sts.
- 43 Aberdeen and St. John Sts.
- 44 Queen and St. John Sts.
- 45 Brunswick and St. John Sts.
- 46 Charlotte and St. John Sts.
- 51 King and Church Sts.
- 52 George and Church Sts.
- 53 Union and Church Sts.
- 54 Shore Street and Waterloo Row.
- 55 George Street and University Avenue.
- 56 Lansdowne and Waterloo Row.
- 57 Grey Street and University Ave.
- 112 Aberdeen and Smythe Sts.
- 113 Northumberland and Argyle Sts.

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