

Observations on the opening of the new Bank of Montreal

Many businessmen can recall the names of Managers of the Bank of Montreal who served well and contributed much to the life of the community in a business and a social way. They include Morgan Smith, Pat Truman, Jack Hamilton, A. E. Taylor, C. A. Thompson, H. B. Black, Paddon, Montizambert and Dunsford.

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Leslie M. Frost delved into history at the opening of the new Bank of Montreal when he said the first bank in Lindsay was the Bank of Upper Canada and that it was located in the residence now occupied by Mrs. J. R. Wilford at the northeast corner of Russell and Mill streets. The first registry office was located at the north-east corner of William and Glenelg streets, said Mr. Frost.

Visitors to the bank for the official opening included the Managers and many of the staff members of other local banking institutions, as well as M. E. Grant former manager of the Dominion bank in Lindsay.

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According to Mr. Frost, the ~~historian~~ who is today's director of the Bank of Montreal, the first local manager was Harley Dunsford whose father first settled at the Beehive, Sturgeon Lake, west of Bobcaygeon. This gentleman, a Reverend Dunsford, was honoured by having the village of Dunsford named after him.

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It was interesting to note that many of the counters and desks in the new buildings were manufactured by Lincraft of Lindsay.

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Following the demolition of the old Bank of Montreal, a concrete walk will be built along the north side of the new building and the new parking lot will be paved.

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The following article regarding the Bank of Montreal appeared in the Old Home Week booklet published in 1948: "Like other old timers the ninety-year old Bank of Montreal office recalls the days when Lindsay was but a quiet rural settlement with lumbering as its chief occupation. In the years since we have seen the town develop into a thriving community, distributing centre of a prosperous agricultural district — home of many mill and factory products."

"Working with Lindsay and its people since 1858 — the Bank of Montreal has contributed its share to the town and district's outstanding development and progress in agriculture and industry".