Bank of Montreal Annual Meeting

Sir Charles Gordon, President, Stresses Inherent Vigor and Soundness of General Economic Structure in Canada—Reaction in General Business Due Principally to Depressed Grain and Other Commodity Prices.

W. A. Bog and Jackson Dodds, the General Managers, Draw Attention to Maintenance by Bank of Traditionally Strong Liquid Position.

The annual general meeting of the Bank of Montreal was marked by a distinct feeling of confidence in the general outlook in Canada.

Sir Charles Gordon, the President, in reviewing the principal developments of the year, said in part:—

"I am sure it will be very gratifying to the shareholders to learn that we have not suffered any losses from depreciation in the securities which the Bank holds as part of its assets. From this you will understand that great care has been exercised in our investments.

"The year under review has been a most difficult one not only for banks but for practically all classes of business, and this has been reflected in our profits, but nevertheless ample provision has been made for all losses and prospective losses.

"Examination of the figures of the foreign trade of Canada shows how large a part the item of wheat plays. No other single commodity approaches this cereal in volume and value; as a consequence, when crop failure occurs or prices fall below the line of profitable production, the whole business of the country is adversely affected. That has happened. The wheat crop of 1929 was short in quantity; the crop of 1930 faced low prices and a glutted market; and the foreign trade returns disclose the results of these unfavorable factors. To short crops and congested markets can be traced much of the reaction in general business, the decline in railway traffic, the diminished earnings of carriers by land and water, unemployment of labor and, above all, diminished purchasing power of the agricultural class.

"In summing up his conclusions, Sir Charles stated that "in this virile country of Canada with its abounding resources there can be no permanent depression. My own view is that when the turn comes Canada will be found leading the procession in the return to prosperity."

General Managers' Address

The address of W. A. Bog and Jackson Dodds, the General Managers, dealt more particularly with the report of the Bank for the past fiscal year. The report said in part:

"In times like the present it is inevitable that losses suffered through the heavy fall in prices must affect Banks at least indirectly. It is a satisfaction to be able to assure you that we have made ample provision for all losses and doubtful debts.

"You will note that the traditionally strong liquid position of your Bank has been maintained. This was accomplished without curtailing the credit requirements of our customers.

"A notable increase during the year in the number of small accounts in specially gratifying, as we have consistently emphasized the fact that the Bank of Montreal welcomes small accounts."

Owl Laffs

Unchanging

Its' a New Year greeting,
With a song of cheer.
It will seem, on meeting,
Like the same old year.

Mongst the changes fleeting
And the speech unfurled,
It's a New Year greeting—
To the same old world.

No, 1931 is not leap year. But we expect the mortality among bachelors to be just as heavy as it usually is in leap year. If love won't find a way, the girls will.

Another little thought for 1931: Let's quit condemning in others what we practice ourselves.

Little Thomas watched a telephone repairman climb a pole, connect a test set and try to obtain a connection with the switchboard. There ensued some difficulty. The youngster listened a few minutes, and then rushed into the house, exclaiming:

Little Thomas—"Mamma, come here quick. There's a man up on a telephone pole talking to Heaven."

His Mother — "What makes you think he's talking to Heaven?'

Little Thomas—" 'Cause he hollered 'Hello! Hello! Hello! Good Lord, what's the matter up there, can't anyone hear'?"

Diary of a College Graduate

June 23, 1930—Graduated to-day.

June 28, 1930—Looked for a $10,000 job.

July 20, 1930—Looked for a job at $100 a week.

Aug. 9, 1930—Looked for any kind of a job.

September 2, 1930—Still looking.

September 23, 1930—Went to work for my uncle for $75.00 a month.

The customer was busy sawing on the steak he had ordered, and he was having a difficult time.

Waiter (solicitously)—"Is it tough?"

The customer was exhausted. He turned to the waiter with defeat in his eyes and said:

Customer—"When I order beef and get horse, I don't care. But next time, take the harness off before you start serving."

No matter how brave a man is, there's a woman somewhere he's afraid of. Those who have had experience will testify that a woman may smile, and smile, and be unwilling still "She didnt' act that way the last time she was engaged."—Overheard remark. Most any wife gets suspicious if she sees her husband and his mother talking together in whispers. She suspects they are talking about her. Some women can make 25-cent coffee taste like 50-cent coffee and some women can make 50-cent coffee taste like 25-cent coffee. You have to do your own climbing. Opportunity is a ladder, not an elevator.

I met her in the garden,
The night was still as death.
I knew she knew her onions,
I could smell them on her breath.

First Salesman—"I'm broke. Can't sell my book."

Second Salesman — "What's it called?"

First Salesman—"The Art of Salesmanship."

Infamous Infinities of To-day

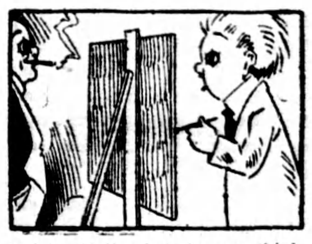
"Painless Dentists." "Easy Payments.'

Customer — "But you guaranteed that this watch would last me a lifetime."

"Jeweler—"I know—but you didn't look very healthy the day that you bought it."

Earth Seen Three Billion Birthdays

If the average life of a human being be taken as one second of a new time scale the earth is just passing its first birthday and the human race has been in existence only a part of one day, but the universe of strsa has been going on about as now for at least five thousand years. So Professor George von Hevesy of the University of Freiburg, Germany, concluded in his review of present knowledge of the age of the earth in the opening lecture of the George Fisher Baker Lectures in Chemistry at Cornell University, recently published by the New York City scientific periodical Science. Following many previous students of earth age, Professor Hevesy has calculated from the slow disintegration of radioactive chemical elements the time elapsed since individual specimens of minerals containing these elements were formed. Some such mineral specimens turn out to be well over a billion years old but the earth as a whole must be older still, since the planet's crust must have been in place and solid before these time-recording minerals could have been deposited in it. Accordingly, Professor Hevesy has extended these radioactive calculations to the whole material of the earth, obtaining a figure of about three billion years for the time since the planet existed as a ball of white-hot gas drawn out of the sun. Enormous as is this time by human standards, it is but a moment, he finds, in the age of the known universe, for astronomical calculations indicate that the average star has been in existence for between five thousand billion and ten thousand billion years.

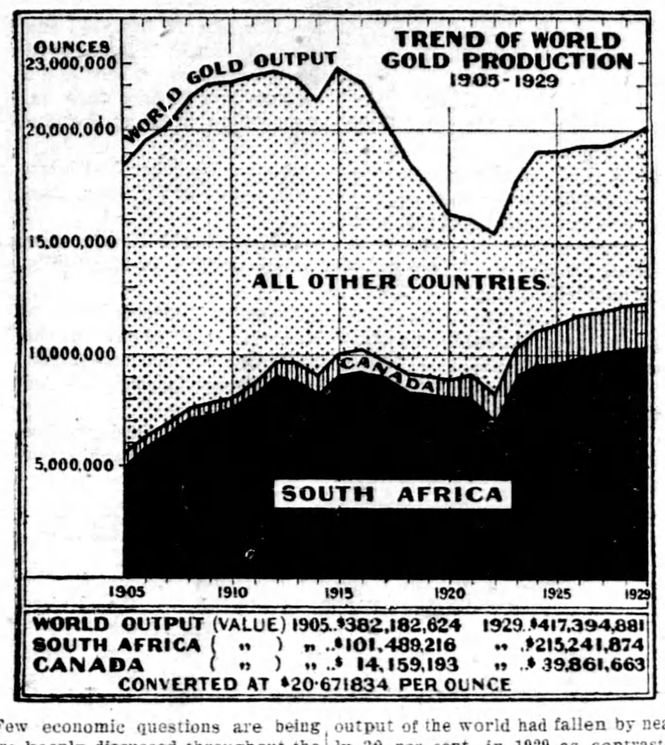


Artist: Well, what do you think of the idea?

Friend. It's not half as bad as it's painted.

Inhale Minard's Liniment for Asthma.

Canada's Increasing Importance In the Gold Mart of the World



WORLD OUTPUT (VALUE)	1905	$382,182,624	1929 $417,394,881
SOUTH AFRICA (")	"	$101,489,216	" $215,241,874
CANADA (")	"	$ 14,159,193	" $ 39,861,663

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Few economic questions are being more keenly discussed throughout the world to-day than that of the supply of gold for monetary use. In this subject Canada has a double interest—her interest as a gold-producing country and also as a trading nation vitally concerned with anything and everything that is fundamental to world prosperity.

While most of the discussion has centered upon the need for better distribution and use of the existing stocks of gold, there has been also a note of real anxiety over the possibility of an actual shortage of gold supplies. This anxiety arises from an anticipated early drop in South Africa's output. As the accompanying diagram indicates, the burden of maintaining the level of world gold production during the last twenty-five years has been borne in ever-increasing degree by South Africa. The total gold output of the world had fallen by nearly 30 per cent. in 1929 as contrasted with 1905.

One point of special interest from the Canadian standpoint is the fact that, in the writings of almost all students of the gold situation, little or no importance has been attached to Canada's rising output. It is true that the Dominion's production has never bulked largely in the world's total output, but it has grown, and is continuing to grow, substantially. With gold being produced in larger quantities either from gold properties or from huge ore bodies, in which gold is associated with other metals, it may well be that Canadian resources are destined to play a much more prominent part than has yet been foreseen, in offsetting the expected depletion of the South African goldfields and the threatened embarrassment of the world's monetary systems.

Watch For Early Symptoms Of Cancer—Then Act at Once

This is One of a Weekly Series of Health Articles Prepared By the Canadian Social Hygiene Council

Our last article told you something about cancer. To-day I propose to tell you how this disease can be fought.

If every individual in Canada could receive and follow the simple advice which is contained in this article the number of cancer deaths would be reduced by many thousands. In the first place let us frankly admit that doctors have not yet learned how to prevent cancer in the way they have learned how to prevent smallpox and typhoid and diphtheria. That, however, should not be too discouraging for they have learned how to treat early cases of cancer and how to treat conditions that look like cancer so that the former are cured and the cancerous condition prevented. Therefore the moral connected with this article is this: Watch for early symptoms of cancer and act at once upon the slightest suspicion of having found any.

First, in external cancer there is always a warning to be seen with the eye or felt with the finger. These first signs are moles or warts, little areas covered with a scab, a little lump or nodule beneath the skin or deeper, an unhealed wound. As a rule these things do not hurt, but that does not make it less dangerous, only a physician can state whether a wart or little lump is cancerous.

In connection with cancer of the lip and tongue there is always first on the lower lip or tongue some abnormal defect. If this warning is heeded and treatment given within a month or two the probabilities of a cure are almost perfect. In this connection ragged teeth and unclean mouths are known to frequently produce cancer. Keep your mouth clean and go to the dentist frequently.

It has been said that beautiful women rarely have cancer of the skin because they keep their skins clean. Cancer of the uterus kills many women. It would kill fewer if women would learn to visit their physicians immediately upon noticing any feminine irregularities. Cancer of the breast is not terribly dangerous if it is treated early. As soon as a little lump is noticed the physician should be made aware of it. If this is done early enough the possibilities of a cure are almost nine out of ten even should the lump prove to be a malignant form of cancer. In cancer of the breast every week's delay reduces the chance of recovery.

After one receives an injury to a bone it should be x-rayed if the swelling and discomfort do not disappear in a few weeks. It is most difficult to recognize the signs of internal cancer but persistent indigestion or a feeling of discomfort or a "new" feeling inside should be viewed with suspicion and the doctor consulted. One of the best ways of protecting yourself against cancer and the fear of cancer is to visit the family physician once a year for a thorough physical examination, whether one is sick or well.

Cheese Port

Odd-looking sleds piled high with balls of Dutch cheese ready for shipment at Alkmaar, Holland, to all parts of world. Twenty million pounds of cheese are sold each year at Allkmaar, one of most famous markets for cheese in world.

Origin of Pipe Organ Credited To Chinese

First Instrument Used By Chinese Resembled Modern Saxophone

The huge modern pipe organs used in churches and theatres probably owe their origin to a small Chinese mouth instrument in which bamboo tubes were used for pipes, and which somewhat resembled in appearance the modern saxophone, in the opinion of Dr. Berthold Laufer, curator of anthropology at Field Museum of Natural History.

Examples of these instruments which first appeared in very ancient times, but are still used to a limited extent in China, were collected by Dr. Laufer while on an expedition in China, and are now on exhibition at the museum. They are rarely heard nowadays, however, because of a curious superstition that a skilful performer becomes so wedded to his music that he is forever playing, to the exclusion of all other activities. This, the Chinese apparently fear, would prove inconvenient for the player and might become annoying to his neighbors.

Another thing that has caused the popularity of the instrument to wane in late years is the fact that because it is played largely by sucking the breath in, as well as by blowing, it causes inflammation of the bronchial tubes and diseases of the lungs, and it is said that no habitual player ever lives longer than forty years, Dr. Laufer states. This is a serious matter to the Chinese, to whom longevity is one of the fundamental ideals.

The mouth pipe organ, or "sheng" as the Chinese call it, consists of a bowl-shaped body of lacquered wood at the end of a tube with a mouthpiece, which gives it a resemblance to a large meerschaum pipe as well as to a saxophone. Seve teen bamboo tubes of varying lengths are inserted in the top of the body, which provides the wind reservoir. Thirteen of the tubes are fitted with free reeds similar to those used in grand organs today. Each of the tubes has a small hole just above the point where it enters the reservoir.

The harmonium, or small organ with free reeds but without pipes, was the first occidental development from this instrument, says Dr. Laufer. The principle of the free reed became widely known in Europe through the introduction of the Chinese reed organ at the end of the eighteenth century. Prof. C. G. Kratzenstein invented the harmonium after examining a sheng t to his native city. The first instrument of this type was the Pan's pipes of the ancient Greeks, which consisted of a set of pipes of different length bound together and made to sound by the player's breath. About two centuries B.C. a device was invented for forcing air into the pipes by water power, and keys were added to open and close the pipes. The hydraulic organ was common among the Greeks and Romans. Centuries later the bellows came into use, instead of water power, to furnish air. An organ built in the tenth century for Winchester Cathedral in England had a bellows so powerful that 70 men were needed to pump it. In the organs of today the power that pumps the bellows would be equal to 50 or even 100 horsepower. Yet so improved is the mechanism of the keyboard that the touch of a finger is all that is required to open the pipe-valves. The greatest changes are due to the use of electricity. So much of the machinery is now operated by electricity that the inside of the organ looks like a telephone exchange.—The American Weekly.

Flightless Planes To Usurp Small Golf

Chicago.—In the States, amusement park owners, now that miniature golf is launched, are now planning to feature flightless airplanes.

When summer comes again the would-be aviator may be able to taste the thrills of taking the stick and putting himself through a few barrel rolls and nose dives, all without leaving the ground.

One of the models looks for all the world exactly like a real airplane, with propeller, wings, rudder, landing gear, and evidently the only thing that keeps it from soaring into the sky is the pneumatic pedestal on which it is supported.

"But get into the cockpit,' an attendant urges. "Flip a quarter into the coin release box. Get the rush of air from the whirling propeller, electrically driven. Grasp the stick. Instantly the plane zooms, banks, turns or dives, all as you handle the stick."

Chief among them, however, is the Flight Tutor, which looks less like an airplane, but acts more like one, as it has more freedom of movement, actually allowing a barrel roll. According to its makers, the Flight Tutor has been tested and adopted by the United States Army Air Corps as standard equipment for student pilots, and has been installed at government training fields and at Curtiss airports.

Hands of invisible spirits touch the strings of that mysterious instrument, the soul, and play the prelude of our fate.—Henry W. Longfellow.

Minard's Liniment for all Pain.

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New Air Service Over Continent

Passenger Routes Include Flight Between Montreal and Miami

New York.—Co-ordination of an extensive network of airways, including passenger services from Montreal to Miama and across the continent to Los Angeles, with stops at Dallas, Fort Worth and El Paso, will be effected under an agreement between the Eastern Air Transport and two divisions of American Airways, operation unit of Aviation Corporation, it became known here on Dec. 3. It provides for co-ordination of schedules at Atlanta and Newark.

These new schedules will make it possible for passengers to travel by air port starts its daily passenger service from Atlanta to New York in eight and a half hours when Eastern Air Transover that route. Passengers may then continue north to Boston by airplane, or after an overnight stop, to Albany or Montreal.

When the Eastern Air Transport opens its Miami extension on Jan. 1, air traffic from Boston and Montreal, as well as from Atlanta and the southwest, will be co-ordinated with Pan-American Airways' 22,000-mile all air system through the West Indies and Central and South America.

Simultaneously reports from Miami told of the inauguration of a new mail and passenger air route from Cuba to Cristobad by way of Kingston, Jamaica by the Pan-American Airways. The new service, which was said to involve the longest regularly scheduled over-water flight in the history of aviation, was inaugurated by a 22-passenger flying boat which covered the 647 mile distance from Kingston to Cristobal, entirely out of sight of land, in 5 hours and 50 minutes. The entire trip was without difficulty, the reports said, and there were only slight variations from schedule at any point.

Arctic's Prize Beauty Rewarded With Mirror

Winnipeg. — Enoosiak, 24-year-old brunette, is the reigning beauty of the Arctic. Andrew Brown, the big face and figure man of the north, selected this brown-eyed, brown-skinned Eskimo girl from an entry of two dozen in the first beauty contest ever held inside the Arctic Circle.

From Baker Lake, little trading post on Chesterfield Inlet, just a thousand miles north of Winnipeg, came word of Enoosiak's triumph. "Shining Star," her name, means, and proudly, for the first time in her life, she can survey her prize-winning features. A mirror was her reward, the first she had ever owned.

You have probably noticed in paying certain bills that all robbers do not wear masks.

TAXIDERMIST AND FURRIER SUPPLIES

OLIVER SPANNER & CO., LTD., Dept. S 26 Elm St., Toronto.

Our new Catalogue showing artificial eyes, furriers' supplies, trappers' supplies, now ready. Send for free copy.

In Winter

Outdoor work and play often give rise to sprains and frost bite. Keep a bottle of Minard's by you to rub on the affected parts.

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

READ OF A CASE LIKE HER OWN

Decided to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Moncton, New Brunswick—"Before my last baby was born I was very weak, nervous and discouraged. I saw an advertisement in the paper about a woman who had been like me so I bought a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I took three bottles and it carried me safely through that critical time. I have three children to care for and I feel well and strong. I have told two other women about your medicine."—MRS. GUS ARSENAULT, 82 Albert Street, Moncton, New Brunswick.