Bank of Montreal's Strong Position

At the annual meeting of the Bank of Montreal, held at the Head Office on December 2, a large and representative gathering of shareholders expressed their unanimous approval of the statement and report of the directors for the fiscal year ending October 31.

The balance sheet showed that the total assets amounted to $792,-800,000, compared with $759,100,-000 a year ago.

Profits, after deducting Dominion and Provincial Government taxes, amounted to $3,005,212 as compared with $3,204,369 in 1934 —a decrease of $119,000, over half of which is due to the increase in Dominion and Provincial taxes.

Sir Charles Gordon, president, in his address, said he was sorry interest on bank deposits was cut from three to two per cent. This, he said, was rendered necessary by the pressure of the Government and the Central Bank for lower rates on Government loans.

"These low rates," he explained, "have resulted in a drastic cutting down on the earnings of the chartered banks, which have been forced to reduce their rates to depositors. Based on the results of the Bank of Montreal, it means that the depositors in all Canadian banks are receiving some $17,000,000 less per annum than they did when the rate was 3%. In a sense this reduction may be regarded as a form of concealed taxation. I think that the sooner the public is educated to these facts, the better. Every man and woman should realize that no matter whether taxes are paid directly or not, no citizen escapes paying his share of the cost of government."

General Manager's Address

Mr. Jackson Dodds, joint general manager, in explaining the various items in the Bank's statement, referred to the failure of the lowering of the interest structure of the country to stimulate borrowing of money for productive and constructive purposes, remarking: "Lenders naturally shortened the terms of their commitments. They would not risk long term investments at low rates in the face of experiments of one kind and another, whether monetary, economic or socialistic. Until confidence is inspired by the adoption and carrying out of sound policies, the balancing of budgets by effecting economies and by the reduction of taxes, long term investments will be postponed and business recovery retarded.

"Taxation," he proceeded, "is primarily intended to cover state and municipal essential expenditures. That we have drifted a long way from the original intention is becoming more and more apparent. The burden of taxation imposed by our numerous governing bodies has grown to the point where it consumes capital resources, saps energy and enterprise, discourages industry, production and construction, and thereby increases unemployment. Taxing bodies are beginning to realize that, unless taxes are reduced by effecting economies in public expenditures, the source of taxation will ultimately be dried up."

Hiring Fairs in Wales

Making Of New Work Contracts Accompanied By Festivities

The last three weeks in November are notable in Wales. During these weeks the annual "hiring fairs" are held, and farm and other employes start on a new year. The mountain villages of Wales celebrate the coming of the hiring fairs with the "Parting of the Ways" festival to mark the actual end of the yearly contract between the farmer and his hired hands and servants.

The occasion is similar to Hallowe'en in the United States before in some sections it became an excuse for hooliganism. Every one at the Welsh celebrations runs wild. Practical jokes are played, along with games such as ducking for apples. Boys and girls masquerade, and play tricks upon the oldsters sitting around peat fires.

The hiring fair is itself serious. For example, in the resort and university town of Aberystwyth farmers and young men and women servants come in for the fair and assemble under the Town Clock. During the morning they occupy themselves profitably by comparing notes with their friends on previous jobs. Meantime, the employers trade information in the same way.

It is considered an honor to be hired early in the day. As soon as a bargain is struck, the servant involved leaves the Town Clock, signifying that he no longer is on the market. The contract between farmer and hired hand is considered binding as soon as the "ern" (a small amount of money) has changed hands. Wages are partly based on the barter system. The hired hand agrees to accept a pig or other stock, or a patch of land to tend, as a part of his wage.

They Look a Lot Better

(From the Peterborough Examiner)

"But don't you think they look a lot better?"

That was the answer of one exhibitor at the horse show in Toronto when he was discussing the matter of "setting" or "arching" the tails of show horses. By this process the tail stands up for about five or six inches, a thing which by nature it was never intended to do. This arching is achieved by cutting the tendons on the under side and inserting a bustle. For something like 20 days the tail of the horse has to be kept exactly the same position, and there are times when the first operation does not give the desired arch. Then it has to be done over again. There is injury done to the tail of the horse by cutting the tendons. Even after healing has taken place the tail becomes flabby, and the strength and vigor which should be there to battle against flies and such is not present, nor can it be restored.

For 15 years or more the custom has been growing in United States but it has been slow to make its appearance in Canadian stables. Our people do not approve of it; they say plainly it is a cruel thing to do to a horse, and it is.

But there is the answer to all the argument: "But don't you think they look a lot better?" Yes, there are men who are certain they can always improve on what Nature has done. There are men who might look a good deal better if certain operations were performed on them. Some of them bulge much in the middle and probably they would look better if they were placed in a slicing machine and a goodly portion of their protruding waistline were cut off. It would hurt, but "they would look a lot better."

May Defeat Rust

Apex, Thatcher, and one variety known only by the number 716. These names may mean little to Canadians, but they will mean a great deal to Western Canada because they are varieties of wheat which will resist rust. Rust took 100,-000,000 bushels off the yield in Canada in 1935. One westerner informed us within recent weeks that for the first time since 1928 it looked as though he was going to have a crop this year. Then came the rust and he had virtually nothing. He saw the black spots come on the stems of his grain, watched them grow and develop and sap the strength so the head fell over and failed to fill out.

Apex wheat was sown in Southern Saskatchewan this year in a district where rust was bad, and it showed a yield of 24.2 bushels per acre, and the straw was bright and clean. Marquis wheat grown in the same area yielded only seven bushels to the acre.

Finding a wheat which will resist rust is a better plan than trying to do away with rust, because we doubt if that ever will be accomplished. It is agreed by scientists that rust breeds on the barberry bush and the eradication of barberry would be a large order.

If Apex wheat does what is claimed for it, then it would make an added yield in a bad rust year equivalent to the product of 4,000,000 more acres of land. Better still it would give the farmers of the West a sense of security which they do not possess now. Up to the present all the farmer could do when his fields were attacked by rust was to watch the progress of his own defeat. — Peterborough Examiner.

Very seldom does temptation overtake a man who is running away from it.

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Issue No. 50 — '35

SCOUTING Here · There Everywhere

A brother to every other Scout, without regard to race or creed

The next World Boy Scout Jamboree, it has been announced officially, will be held in Holland, in the summer of 1937. The formal invitation was received at the International Bureau, London, from His Excellency, Admiral J. J. Rambonnet, Chief Scout for Holland, along with assurance of the support of the Dutch Government. To the announcement Imperial Scout Headquarters adds an invitatiion to British Empire contingents to visit the Home Land on the way to or from the Netherlands.

* * *

An interesting series of tableaux depicting high lights in the life of a Wolf Cub and a Boy Scout were a feature of the programme put on by the 99th Toronto (Danforth Baptist) Scout Group for the benefit of a large gathering for their sixth annual Parent's Night. Interesting displays included miniature models of the troop's summer camp, constructed by the various patrols.

* * *

A memorial plaque to the unknown Boy Scout whose good turn in England to the late William D. Boyce, Chicago publisher, brought Scouting to the United States, was dedicated on the State House lawn at Columbus, Ohio, as part of the 21st birthday celebration of the Boy Scouts of America. The ceremony included an address by Governor Davey. The inscription on the tablet reads: "Dedicated to the Unknown Boy Scout, 1910-1935, in England, Whose Good Turn Brought Scouting to Millions of American Boys. Sponsored by Central Union Area, Boy Scouts of America."

* * *

"In these times I do not think there is any other movement that greater possibilities for good than the Boy Scout Movement." — Sir Francis Floud, British High Commissioner to Canada.

* * *

That the Rover (senior Scout) branch is rapidly growing in Toronto is indicated by a list of new crews recently formed in the district. Most of them are connected with churches The list: 5th Toronto Rovers, Riverdale Presbyterian; 30th, St. Columba United; 46th, Humewood School; 112th, St. Barnabas' Anglican; 119th, Church of the Messiah, and 124th, Eaton Memorial Church.

* * *

A party of Scouts, Cubs and leaders of Dalhousie, N.B., paid a visit to Campbellton, to make the acquaintance of members of the four new local troops. The visitors put on a number of demonstrations.

* * *

A record attendance of nearly 200 Scouters, reports showing 47 active Scout Groups, presentation of awards and trophy, and an address by Sir Francis Floud, K.C.B., British High Commissioner to Canada, marked the annual meeting of the Ottawa District Association. A popular award was the presentation of a Medal of Merit to Rev. Fr. Hebert, in recognition of the important part played by him in the development of Scouting amongst French-Canadian boys in the Capital district.

HAVE YOU HEARD

THAT DREAMY LOOK

He had a far-off look in his eye, and a really conscious air—A lover or poet, you might surmise, with that very curious stare. But, as he passed the conductor by, he relinquished that look of care. He was merely trying to seem as if he'd already paid his fair.

* * *

Waffles—Doctor Pilling, I understand, is very wealthy. How can a doctor make so much?

Syrup — Doctor Pilling is very lucky. He is the owner of a big oil well.

Waffles — Ah, I see. He makes money from the sick and the well, too.

* * *

A local sheik thoughtlessly gave his sweetie a German Police Dog for a Christmas gift and the dog won't let him go near her house, much less do any necking.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were returning home one moonlight night after a strenuous day's shopping.

Wife—Oh, John, what a lovely moon!

Hubby (absent - mindedly) — Yes, how much is it?

* * *

We heard a man say he's got over believing in arguing because he never won anyway.

* * *

Relax—So Jefferson made a fortune?

Reflex—Yes. He invented a chocolate bon bon with a lettuce center for women on a diet.

* * *

Mrs. Spendmore—I had men running after me long before I married you.

Husband—Yes, and they would be running after you now if I didn't pay your bills.

* * *

The baby that cries in the theatre should be named "Good Idea", because good ideas should be carried out.

* * *

Buyer—I sent my little boy for two pounds of candy and you sent only a pound and a half.

Retailer—My scales are correct madam. Let's weigh the boy!

* * *

The man who used to take his sweetheart a dozen orchids, now lugs home to her two chocolate eclairs.

* * *

Caller—Is Mrs. Roddybush in?

Girl—If you're one of the ladies that's going to play bridge with her she's at home. If you ain't she ain't.

* * *

The best "Maiden Speech" we ever listened to was this:"You'll have to ask my papa."

* * *

Moe—That person who tells us our faults is our best friend.

Less—You're right. But he won't be long.

Most Valuable Feed Element

"Means to Ensure Safety of Milk" Presented by Doctor Gordon Bates—Stresses Pasteurization

TORONTO.—In a lecture delivered recently before the Ontario Milk and Cream Producers in convention here, Doctor Gordon Bates, general director of the Health League of Canada, speaking on "Means To Ensure Safety of Milk As A Food", Doctor Bates cited these facts:

One quart of milk, costing approximately 12c a quart is equal in food value to one pound of steak, average cost of 22c; two eggs, average cost 33 cents; 3¾ pounds of codfish, average cost forty cents; two and a half pounds of chicken, average cost fifty cents.

Continuing Doctor Bates pointed out that milk contains vitamin A, the vitamin promoting health and nutrition; vitamin B, protecting the human body against beriberi; vitamin C, which protects the body against scurvy and occurs in milk in a moderate and variable amount, making it necessary to supplement children's diet by average juice or tomato juice.

Vitamin D, which protects the child's body against rickets.

Vitamin E, the reproductive vitamin, is present only in small quantities.

"Milk is a food we cannot do without: it is a food we must have, this most valuable article of diet with its various contaminations has been responsible for more sickness and death than all other foods combined," said the doctor in making a plea for universal pasteurizing of milk throughout Canada."

"The indictment against carelessly handled and unpasteurized milk is terrific," observed Doctor Bates. In a study of 300 tuberculous children in Toronto it had been found that 15 percent of the extra-pulmonary type of tuberculosis (e.g. bone joint lymph nodes, kidney and skin) was due to the bovine type of tubercle bacilles. All the cases of infection with the bovine type had used raw milk and came from points outside Toronto. All milk distributed in Toronto is pasteurized."

Doctor Bates quoted Doctor Alan Brown, Physician-in-Chief to the Hospital for Sick Children as stating that during the past 20 years every drop of milk given to in-patients and out patients in that hospital had not only been pastteurized but inaddition boiled to still further improve its digestibility .Doctor Brown had also stated that pasteurization did not change the natural condition of the milk.

"The evidence is incontestable, where careful studies have been made." Doctor Bates quoted Doctor Brown as saying "that from 15 to 20 percent of bone, gland and abdominal tuberculosis in children is of bovine origin and that scientific pasteurization absolutely prevented tuberculosis of this nature and in addition prevents all milk-borne epidemics.

"The prevention of these conditions alone would save many lives, numerous cripples and much money for the taxpayer each year," said Doctor Bates.

"Those that object to pasteurization are without the scientific information on the subject, and merely take the stand that pasteurization alters the natural condition of the milk, which, of course, is not correct.

Take for instance, the experience in the City of Toronto, said the doctor. "Since inauguration of pasteurization of milk by the Corporation of the City of Toronto, nt a single case from within its borders of abdominal tuberculosis had entered the Hospital For Sick Children, and last year the Hospital gave treatment to more than 100,000 children.

"It has been said, with reservation that "the intelligence of a community is gauged by its infant mortality." "And it might well be added, by its absence of milk-borne infection."

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Some Folks Miss Christmas

Christmas, it has been said, is almost as much a thing of the hearth as of the heart, and it is quite true that the Yuletide festival is essentially one to be observed in the firelight and laughter of the home. A Christmas which lacks the joy of the family gathering, the customary pleasures of the heavily laden table, the jolly games that are indulged in by old and young alike, can scarcely be called a Christmas at all. And yet there are hundreds and perhaps thousands of men (and to a smaller extent, women) who have to forego the real Christmas of hearth and home, for the sole reason that the ordinary machinery of workaday life cannot be closed down entirely, no matter how insistent the call of the gaily decorated homes, and the pleasures of the firelight and the festive board.

The railway companies, for example, have to run trains through the night of Christmas Eve, so that exiles may reach their homes and the millions of worded greetings and Yuletide gifts may reach their destinations "on Christmas Day in the morning." In the ordinary way this would mean that many conductors, drivers and firemen would be away from their homes when their trains had arrived at the distant terminals.

The heaviest tasks of their whole year however fall upon shoulders of the postmen at Christmas. In large towns it is possible for the post-office to enjoy at least a fair share of the Christmas mirth but in country districts many postmen have a long round. Then there is also the telephone service to be maintained so that a good proportion of the operators have to be on the job while the more fortunate people are merry making to their heart's content.

In small towns and villages, it scarcely affects anybody else if some of the inhabitants desire to pay visits to friends. In towns, however, this movement of people necessitates a transport service, and so, for at least six hours, many streetcar men and taxi drivers have to make happiness for themselves at the wheel or inside their vehicles.

In restaurants and cafes' some of which have to be open as usual at Christmas, there are waiters and waitresses and members of the kitchen staff at work providing for the people who either have no homes or who, for some reason are away from them for Christmas Day.

At the hospitals and especially in the children's wards, nurses are busier than at any other time for the patients must be more than usually well cared for in view of the fact that they are compelled to spend Christmas in a hospital ward instead of a more familiar living-room at their own homes. Quite a number of people go to bed on Christmas Eve without knowing how circumstances may compel them to employ the waking hours on the following day. Doctors, for instance, may have to spend the whole day away from their families, if the state of their patients is such as to make this necessary.

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Feet On Desk Good For Brain

Increases Flow of Food — Erect Posture Produces "Perpetual Cerebral Anaemia

HAMILTON, N.Y. — Justification for the man who likes to work with his feet on his desk was suggested recently in experiments at Colgate University showing that feet higher than the head posture speeds mental work. He may be taking an easy way to get more blood to his brain.

A few months ago Dr. Donald A. Laird, Colgate's professor of psychology, found that office workers slowed down mentally after a heavy lunch more than after a light one. He suspected that the explanation might be that the digestive process was drawing blood from the brain.

TEST PROVES CONTENTION

To test this, he had six young men do mental arithmetic while lying on cots, alternatively tilted so that their heads were a foot lower than their feet and a foot higher.

They made 100 successive mental additions in each position. With heads low, and ear flushing showing more blood to the head, they were 7.1 per cent faster and 14.1 per cent more accurate.

"The erect position of human beings," said Dr. Laird "apparently gives them a moderate but perpetual handicap of cerebral anaemia, a handicap which may probably be accentuated by unwise eating when mental work is to be done."

Dr. Laird suggested that Rodin's statue of the Thinker, with bowed head, might be a natural gesture of escape from this handicap.

"Some of the implications," he explained, "are profound. The superior size and structure of the human brain may be an evolutionary overcompensation to make up for this slowing and the inaccuracy the upright position brought in its wake.

"Sleep itself may be more important for man than for the higher animals because the horizontal position permits an increased blood flow through the brain."

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