



ROYAL BANK

Teller

Railway strike strands McConnachie's band

The week-long rail strike at the end of August and the beginning of September caused little or no disruption to the bank's normal functioning.

For most of our staff as well, the strike was just a minor inconvenience. For N. McConnachie, manager at Estevan, Saskatchewan, it was a four-Aspirin headache.

Mr. McConnachie had spent his vacation chaperoning a marching band, composed of 60 Estevan teenagers, on a tour of the Maritimes.

They had participated in Charlottetown's homecoming celebration parade, and given concerts at Somerset, N.S. and at the Shediak lobster festival. They made it back as far as Ottawa before the trains stopped.

What do you do when you're stranded in Ottawa with 60 teenagers on your hands? Not to mention the 15 adults accompanying the band? Hurried contacts were made with the Centennial Commission,

which was co-sponsoring the tour.

The Commission came through with flying colours. The next day, a chartered airliner was waiting to fly them as far as Winnipeg. They arrived at the Winnipeg air terminal late at night, and a phone call had brought a small contingent of school buses to take them the last 300 miles to Estevan.

And Mr. McConnachie arrived home in plenty of time to return to work the next morning.

Royal honoured for conservation role

The Royal Bank was the sole Canadian organization among the six honoured last month by the Soil Conservation Society of America. J. R. Heron, editor of the bank's *Monthly Letter*, is shown with the award. In granting it, the society cited the August 1946 issue of the *Letter* as possibly 'the first authoritative voice in Canada raised in favor of soil conservation:



Hazelton: preservation of a vanishing culture

by Lois Light

Hazelton, in northern British Columbia, is probably one of the only towns in North America entirely surrounded by Indian reserves. Once the home of the Gytksan people, it is today an active little town, the hub of whatever industry there is in the area, and flanked on all sides by places with strange-sounding names, such as Kitwanga, Kispiox, Kitwankool, and Hagwilget. Nearly every window in town offers a view of the spectacular Rocher de Boule mountain, or the swift, tumbling Skeena River, the 180-mile artery that joins Hazelton to the sea.

In this island in the middle of reserve land, and with half their customers Indian, it was almost inevitable that the managers who come to the area would become involved with Indian culture. Donald Steele, manager of the branch from 1959 to 1961, was the first to take an active part in the restoring and preserving of the district's pristine Indian properties. Feeling strongly that artifacts should be left in their own environment, he talked local Indians into donating, selling, or

loaning their family keepsakes and treasures to the Skeena Treasure House, the museum which opened in Hazelton in 1960.

When Mr. Steele left Hazelton for Terrace, his interest in the museum went with him, and his search for priceless exhibits went on. When he left the area this spring for a position as an inspector with district headquarters in Vancouver, he left behind a record of indefatigable effort in helping preserve the way of the Tsimshian people. He still has one of the best and most complete collections of printed material about these people in existence.

Although no longer in the district, Mr. Steele maintains his connections through his position as vice-president of the Totem Restoration Society which he helped found.

Hazelton's museum project was begun in 1950, sparked largely by Mrs. Polly Sargent, whose husband's family have lived in the Hazelton area over sixty years. Fed by proceeds from dances, bingo games, and other local affairs, the museum's fund grew over the years until a final push in connection with

the B.C. centennial celebrations in 1958 enabled its realization. The exhibits were confined exclusively to artifacts made by the Tsimshian.

Tsimshian was the over-all name given to the three dialects spoken by the people who inhabited the Upper Skeena region—Tsimshian, Miska and Gytksan.

The museum building is a replica of a native community house, but without the fire pit in the centre or the smoke hole in the roof. It was built by native craftsmen, and its two large front doors are decorated with traditional native designs. At one side stands a Kitamuldo totem pole, carved by one of the unexcelled Nass River carvers. A prime example of their work—an 81-foot giant—is on display in Toronto's Ontario Provincial Museum. On the other side of the Hazelton museum is an Indian grave house. These were structures erected over the grave of a loved one, then filled with that person's belongings.

'You'd see everything in them from clothes to sewing machines,' explains the wife of a former

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Poles at Kispiox, before restoration. The poles were taken down, treated, and reset into concrete bases.

Client loses interest in century-old transaction

A customer at our Owen Sound Branch recently presented the debenture shown at the right, and asked whether it would be possible to redeem it. Issued to raise money for the County of Grey in the Province of Canada, the note is dated

January 28, 1859. (Grey is the county in which Owen Sound is situated. The Province of Canada was composed of Upper and Lower Canada, which after Confederation became the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.)

The debenture, in the amount of £250 at 6% annual interest payable semi-annually, was to mature in 1879. For some unknown reason, it was never redeemed, and apparently lay unnoticed among other old documents all these years.

In an attempt to discover if the debenture were still of any value, London Branch was sent a copy and asked to contact Glyn, Mills and Company, at whose 'banking house' the debenture was payable.

As it developed, our client was out of luck. A lawyer advised us that an 1899 statute absolved Grey County of responsibility for redeeming the debentures.

Which is unfortunate. If the principal and interest on the debenture had been continuously re-invested at the same rate, it would now be worth about \$419,012.85—a sizable sum, even with the dollar worth what it is today.

This debenture, issued in 1859, was presented to us recently for redemption. The spelling of 'Glynn Mills and Company' appears to be a printer's error. Glyn, Mills and Company is still a major British bank.

CGM's Conference gets underway

This year's Chief General Manager's Conference takes place at Head Office September 28, 29, and 30. Bringing together managers and senior officers from throughout the country, the annual conference reviews the bank's policies in nearly every sphere of operations.

Participants this year will num-

ber 68 from the various districts and about 30 from Head Office. They will hear reports and form discussion groups on such topics as staff, marketing, commercial-industrial development and branch operations. The discussion groups are encouraged to make suggestions and recommendations.



On-campus banking at Laurentian University

Students no longer have to leave campus to cash that proverbial cheque from home. At least not at Laurentian University, just outside Sudbury. The bank operates a sub-branch here which is probably unique in Canada, in that its office is located in a building on the campus itself.

The sub, which opened in January of this year, provides services to students and faculty members

between 11 and 1, Mondays and Fridays. Except for the rush period at the beginning of the school year, staff at the sub numbers two.

Enrolment for the 1966-67 term is expected to reach 1,200, and students at this year's six-week summer school numbered over 900. As a result, the sub is able to maintain its operations the year round.

Laurentian University has been in existence six years, and moved to

its present site, a few miles from downtown Sudbury, two years ago. The main buildings rise on a plateau with a commanding view of Lake Ramsey.

The bank has been associated with the development of the university since its foundation. Sudbury manager L. S. Martin was treasurer of the Founders' Fund, the money-raising campaign which got the university started.

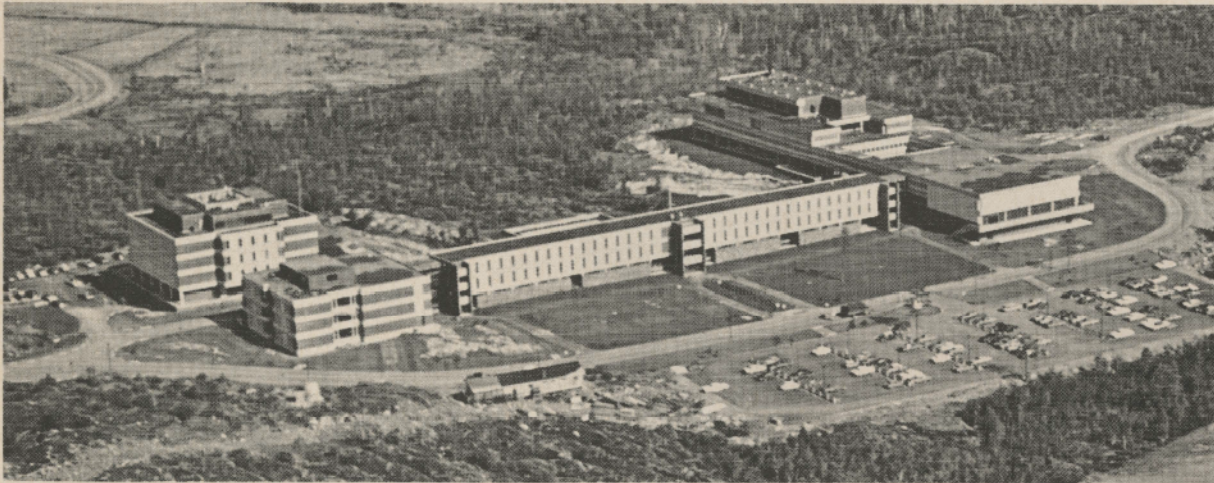


Officer-in-charge K. A. Culin. The sub is open four hours a week.



Teller Pauline Braun (right) with one of the sub's clients. She is fluent in French, which is spoken by a good number of the students.

An aerial view of the university. Laurentian was moved to its present site two years ago.



Picard appointed AGM

R. I. C. Picard

has been appointed an assistant general manager. He joined the bank in 1933, after graduating with an M.A. from McGill, and later served as assistant manager at Toronto. While serving with the R.C.A.F. during the war, he earned a Ph.D. from Ottawa University. He also acted as recording secretary at the founding meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organization. Rejoining the bank in 1945, he was appointed secretary. He will continue to act as secretary of the bank and secretary to the board of directors.



Final outcome never in doubt

The following bulletin was recently dispatched to branches in Manitoba district. It is rumoured to be the work of St. Boniface staffer K. I. Reeve.

Sargent Park on August 16th was the scene of a challenge fastball game between male staff members of the St. James branches and the branches in St. Boniface. In the interests of accurate reporting, the game must be described as loosely played, but it was not without its moments of brilliance. The final outcome was not really in doubt after the leadoff batter for St. Boniface, Menno Rempel, came to bat for the third time in the top of the first inning.

At the end of the first inning, St. James catcher Joe Doiron had to be aroused from a deep sleep. It ap-

pears he had closed his eyes so many times that his eyelids gave up. His snoring was what gave him away. St. James' first baseman Bill Mills was sporting a short beard. Observers said he was clean shaven when the inning began.

At one stage of the game the official scorer, Bill Vogen, St. Boniface, had the three mile extension cord of his adding machine disconnected and one team took the field after only two outs. A consultation between the experts present soon rectified the situation.

The base running was a sight to behold. Ian Reeve, St. Boniface, with a bit of quick thinking, stole second on a passed ball. The umpire, Bill Dunn, called ball four. Denis Gilmore darted home from third base only to be told that time had been called.

Slugger of the game was Bob Wilson of St. Boniface. His resounding triple amazed all present, including his teammates. There was a rumbling to the effect that he used a loaded bat.

Spectators were treated to a dazzling display of pitching by ringer Ed Janson, who threw his infamous 'dark one' at the participating managers. This performance was marred by cries of 'Illegal delivery'—from both benches. Plate umpire Jerry Brown showed remarkable reflexes in ducking pitches.

Estimated final score was St. Boniface 19, St. James 12. It was reported that drugstores in both cities were sold out of liniment by noon Wednesday.



Staff member wins CBA competition

E. R. Quilter (left), of the Toronto DGM's department, placed first in the Canadian Bankers' Association senior essay competition. In addition, he received a special award from the bank, presented here by assistant general manager H. E. Wyatt. Other winning essayists included P. A. Palmer, of Princess & Bagot, Kingston, and R. L. Jacob, of Crystal City, Manitoba, who placed second and third respectively in the junior competition.

Deaths

We regret to record the deaths of:

E. W. Berry
pensioner. He joined the Union Bank of Canada in 1913 and served at Regina for 35 years. He retired from Douglas St., Victoria in 1950.

A. H. C. Hammond
pensioner, on August 15. He served with the bank in London and Paris before he retired in 1958.

Forum notes

Halifax

Ladies' forum: The second meeting of the season will be held on October 14 at the Nova Scotian Hotel. Following the dinner, forum members will tour the CBC studios.

Hamilton

The first meeting of the year of the Hamilton & district men's forum will take place October 11 at the new Holiday Inn. Officers will be elected.

Montreal

The Montreal district ladies' forum will hold a dinner and fashion show October 4 in the auditorium at The men's forum will feature sports commentator Danny Gallivan as its first speaker on September 29. Special guest will be a player for the Montreal Canadiens.

Regina

The men's forum will hold its first meeting on October 11.

Vancouver

The district ladies' forum will hold a dinner and social hour in the lunchroom above Hastings & Homer Branch on October 18. Penny Wise, a noted home economist and freelance writer, will discuss her experiences as a world traveller. The district men's forum will hold a dinner and social hour on October 19. Guest speaker T. J. McKinnon, Western Canada's representative to Expo 67, will discuss the preparation being made for Montreal's world's fair. Election of officers will also take place.

Back to the drawing board

An American bank decided to update the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony at the opening of a new branch. *Banking* reports. The usual red ribbon was replaced by a strip of aluminum foil, and the gold-plated scissors by a portable laser (a device which emits an intense beam of light, hot enough to melt metal). The trouble is, it took the laser a full five minutes to cut through the aluminum strip.

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the Union Bank of Canada at Yorktown, Saskatchewan in 1902 and retired in 1940.

J. Wilson
pensioner, on August 5. He entered the bank in 1902 and retired as manager at Webb, Saskatchewan in 1936.

N. C. Urquhart, C.B.E.
vice-president and senior director, on September 3. He had been a director since 1942, and a vice-president since 1962.

A. R. Heiter
pensioner, on August 5. He entered the bank in 1892 and retired as manager of Victoria Branch in 1926.

W. G. Hurley
manager at Winnipeg, Grain Exchange Branch, on August 15. He entered the bank at Winnipeg in 1926, and came to the Grain Exchange four years ago.

J. G. H. Mason
pensioner, on May 19. He joined

A vanishing culture

Continued from page 1

branch manager. 'Sometimes there was pitifully little. There's nothing in any of them now, of course. Tourists and collectors have taken everything.'

On display, too, at the Museum is a Haida canoe Mr. Steele found in a barn at Kalum Lake. He tracked down the owner, who offered to donate it, and Mr. Steele hauled it to Hazelton on a trailer.

With the museum established, the preservation of what was left of the totem poles in the area became Mrs. Sargent's next project. In 1961 she and Mr. Steele, together with Stan Rough, another Indian-lore enthusiast, founded the Skeena Totem Pole Restoration Society.

A grant from the Koerner Foundation in Vancouver had financed the restoration of the Kitamuldo pole beside the museum. Now, recognizing the importance of the Tsmishian poles, the provincial government promised a grant to the Society, matching dollar for dollar up to a firm commitment of \$20,000, with the understanding that they would continue to support the work as long as it progressed.

The moving of the Kitamuldo pole from its original place in front of the House of the Kitamuldo at Hazelton involved permission of both the owners and the Indian Department, and negotiations took three years. And when the Indians insisted on the traditional feasting and festivities being celebrated for its erection, Mrs. Sargent and Mr. Steele were dismayed.

'That kind of expense could impoverish people who just couldn't afford it,' said Mrs. Sargent. 'Don and I almost gave up the project then and there.' Then she came up with an idea. If they restored a village at a time instead of a pole at a time, everyone would be involved and there would be nobody for the totems' owners to give a party for. Besides the stipulation of no feasting, it was agreed that the restored poles must be erected on their original sites, and that the person who owned them give his consent.

Of the 110 totem poles still in existence in the Upper Skeena, 65 were still standing and considered redeemable and worth preserving. To quote anthropologist Dr. Marius Barbeau, considered the foremost authority on totems: 'At its best, the excellence of their decorative style is nowhere surpassed by any other form of aboriginal art, and as an expression of native personality and craftsmanship they are impressive and unique . . . It is in their true home that these picturesque creations can be seen to best advantage.'

Of the many hundreds of poles that existed along the coast of B.C., on Vancouver Island, the Queen

Charlotte Islands and Alaska, few are left on their original grounds. Although some are claimed to be hundreds of years old, this is in fact impossible. The toll from deterioration is high. The poles are made of green cedar and, when they are put into the ground without preservative, their life span is usually around fifty years—less on exposed coastal areas where moisture is intense; more in inland spots where moisture is moderate and the soil a mixture of sand and gravel. This explains the fact that the only collection that still stands fairly intact is that of the Gytksan nation on the Upper Skeena around Hazelton, where the latter conditions exist.

Some poles were destroyed by the owners themselves during religious ceremonies under the banner of Christianity, but in truth the real meaning of the poles and their figures had escaped the evangelizing missionaries. As Dr. Barbeau points out, 'The figures consisted of symbols and illustrations, many of them comparable to our heraldry and others commemorating myths or tribal traditions. They were not pagan gods or demons, and they were never worshipped. They inspired veneration rather than actual religious devotion.'

Some of the poles were erected as memorials to the dead, corresponding to our tombstones. None of them were ever worked on by members of the family. They were carved by craftsmen, the very best that could be afforded by the grieving family. The size of the pole and the beauty of its figures proclaimed the fame of those it represented, and also their material wealth. Some of the most beautiful poles were made as house posts, in a manner illustrated by the poles at the front corners of the Skeena Treasure House Museum. The poles with the 'hole in the sky' were either for cross beams to be fitted into, or were door posts, the hole being the entrance, big enough for the occupants to crawl through but too small for an unsuspecting enemy to rush through if he were unfamiliar with its size.

The estimated cost of restoring a pole is \$650. The pole is taken down, cleaned, any rotted parts removed, thoroughly dried and then sprayed with a preservative solution. When it is raised again it is set into a concrete base. With periodic inspections and re-spraying when necessary, it is expected that the life of the ancient poles can be prolonged indefinitely.

Kispiox, ten miles from Hazelton, was the first village to have its poles restored by the Society. This summer work began at Kitwancool, an Indian settlement said to have the world's best remaining stand of

totems on their original site.

Some of the shorter posts were actual mortuaries, the body being placed in a hollow at the top and then sealed shut, in the same manner as some tribes placed their dead in a box at the top of a tree.

Dave Latimer, T. R. McDiarmid, and R. G. Gerrie are managers who followed Mr. Steele and became interested and involved in the Indian restoration programs. And B.C. district general manager W. D. H. Gardiner is a paid-up member of



A Chilkat blanket, woven of goat's wool and cedar bark. This one is in the lobby of the building which houses our branch.



Mrs. Sargent and Mr. Steele, with some of the Indian artifacts they have worked to preserve.



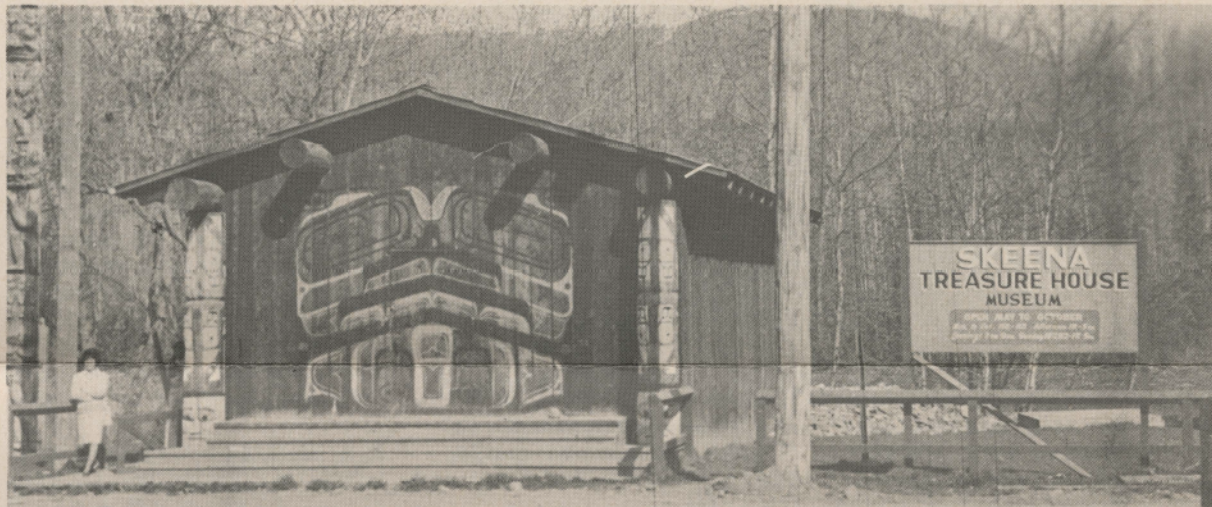
A ritual mask, in the Skeena Treasure House.

the Restoration Society — 'talked into it,' naturally, by Mr. Steele.

It is an unfortunate fact that too many people become conscious of history only when it is history, and too late to preserve the culture that went into its making. For today's young Indians, as for young people almost everywhere, their ancestral heritage has no special appeal in the modern setting to which they are trying to adjust. Many of the old songs and legends with which their background is coloured have been jotted down and translated, but many more will die with the old people unless a special effort is made to record them while there's still time.



One of the few grave houses still intact, in the burial grounds at Hazelton.



The Skeena Treasure House in Hazelton. At the left (partially hidden) is the restored Kitamuldo totem.

Branch briefs

Church Point, N.S.
Pensioner E. F. LeBlanc, who retired from Church Point Branch in 1957 and now resides nearby, works on a seascape. Oil painting has been his main activity since retirement, and he recently graduated from a three-year home-study fine arts course.

Cranbrook, B.C.
Cranbrook Branch took on a distinctive old-time air when our staff joined in the local 'Sam Steele Days' celebration.

Lima
Female staff members at Lima Branch, in their new uniforms. The three men in the photo are (left to right) R. K. Mennell, former manager, now assistant supervisor at Bogota, district general manager H. L. Mann, and new manager I. B. Reid.

Church Point, N.S.



Cranbrook, B.C.



Lima



It was a very good year...



Captain Linda Scofield hotfoots it for home in a game against the Bell Telephone 'Jelly Beans'.



Back-benchers: (in uniform) Cheryl Perrault, Madeleine Audet, Kathy Copland, Lise Paquin, Lucille Tremblay, and Monique Belanger. Not shown are Dorothy McDougall, Francine Blanchard, and Pat Broadley.



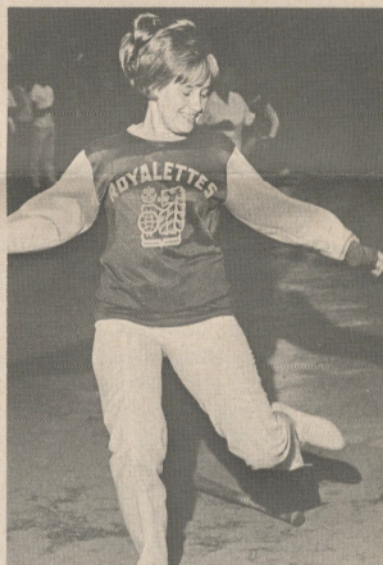
First-baseman Faye Wynd shows excellent form as she completes an out. The Royallettes hope to be ready to enter league competition next year.



The score is approximately 14-11 in the bottom of the fourth. The coaching staff appears worried.



Lise Paquin, the Royalette's ace pitcher, shows she is equally adept at the other end of the ball. The hit was good for two bases.



Royalette Kathy Angell skips home with the winning run. Unfortunately



... the other team was short-handed, and she was on loan to them at the time.

Retirements

F. W. Clark

manager at Windsor Branch, retired in August. He joined the bank in 1922, and served as manager at a number of Ontario branches. While serving at Stratford, Mr. Clark helped form the Stratford Shakespearean Foundation. Very active in community service work, Mr. Clark was given a dinner by members of the community. Presentations included a portable T.V. set.

R. W. Darou

manager at Rockwood, Ontario, retired on July 31. He entered the bank in 1923, and also served at Pembroke and Georgetown, Ontario. Mr. Darou is active in numerous church and community activities, and has a keen interest in lawn bowling and bridge. The staff held barbeque in his honor. Mr. and Mrs. Darou plan to remain in Rockwood.

H. S. Easter

manager of branch operations and staff training at Halifax, retired in August. He entered the bank in

1922, and served at several Montreal branches and at Head Office before going to Halifax in 1951. Mr. Easter is very active in church organizations and is an enthusiastic curler and gardener. The Easters plan to travel extensively in the U.S. and Canada.

W. H. Edwards

manager of the cable department at Toronto Branch, retired August 31. He entered the bank at Hillsburg, Ontario in 1926, and has served at several Toronto area branches. Mr. Edwards was presented with a cheque on behalf of the staff. The Edwards recently built a new home in Orangeville and are moving there this month.

J. A. Glendinning

manager at Rosetown, Saskatchewan, retired in August. He joined the Union Bank of Canada at Strassbourg, Saskatchewan in 1923, and served as manager at Gull Lake and Plenty. Mr. Glendinning is on the executive of the chamber of com-

merce and the Red Cross. At a staff party, he was presented with a lamp engraved with a summary of his banking career. The Glendinnings plan to live in Saskatoon.

E. G. Holliday

of London, England, retired in August. He entered the bank at London Branch in 1925. Presented with a cheque by his colleagues, Mr. Holliday travelled to Spain this month for a vacation. He expects to travel in Europe more extensively in the future. Mr. Holliday is a keen follower of cricket.

C. R. Johnston

of Saint John, N.B., retired in May. He joined the bank at Saint John Branch in 1927. A veteran of both World Wars, Mr. Johnston was decorated in World War I. Some 80 persons attended a party in his honour, at which time he was presented with a leather lazy-boy chair. Mr. Johnston enjoys gardening and reading.

S. N. Oliver

of Toronto Branch, retired in August. He joined the bank at Warkworth, Ontario in 1920, and served as accountant at several Ontario branches. He has been at Toronto Branch since 1946. He was presented with a cheque on behalf of the staff. Mr. Oliver plans to travel in 1967, and says that, in the meantime, he is going to sit on his front porch and watch the girls go by.

A. D. Robertson

inspector with the Toronto D.G.M.'s department, retired in July. He entered the bank at Ladysmith, B.C. in 1923 and served in the D.G.M.'s departments at both Vancouver and Toronto. His colleagues presented him with shares of the bank's stock. The Robertsons are vacationing in British Columbia.

R. G. Spittal

of our London, England Branch, retired on August 31. He entered the bank at London in 1927. Mr. Spittal was presented with a cheque by his colleagues. He plans to de-

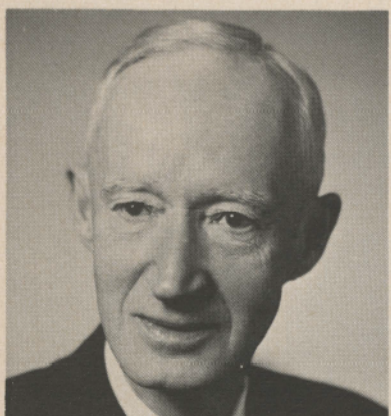
vote more time to his hobbies, which include music. In preparation for his retirement, Mr. Spittal moved to the West Coast of England a few years ago.

W. H. H. Walsh

savings manager at Montreal, St. Catherine & Stanley Branch, retired in August. He entered the bank at Montreal in 1924, and also served at Ottawa and Nassau branches. He has been at St. Catherine & Stanley since 1944. Mr. Walsh is active in community and church affairs, and organizes children's sports in his spare time.

Mrs. F. V. Williams

of St. Catherine & Greene, Westmount, retired on July 31. She entered the bank at Canora, Saskatchewan in 1925 and has served at several branches in Winnipeg and Toronto. She had been at St. Catherine & Greene nine years. Mrs. Williams is an avid tennis player and also bowls and plays golf. She plans to spend the winter in Florida.



W. H. H. Walsh retired recently as savings manager at St. Catherine and Stanley, Montreal.



H. S. Easter unwraps the camera presented to him by district general manager J. C. McMillan. Mrs. Easter sits at the right of Mr. McMillan.



F. W. Clark receives congratulations from vice-president D. S. Anderson (centre). Others are (left to right) district general manager T. F. Whitley, assistant general manager H. E. McClenaghan, and J. K. Moore, his successor at Windsor Branch.