

The Canadian-American Paper Money Experience

1782 – Present



Parallels in the Systems

- United States

- Private Banks from 1782-1866
- National Banks from 1863-1935
- Federal Government notes from 1861-1971
- Federal Reserve Bank system from 1913 to present

- Canada

- Private and provincially-chartered banks from ca. 1792-1945
- Province of Canada 1867
- Dominion of Canada from 1867-1934
- Bank of Canada 1935-present.

The United States – State Chartered and Private Banks 1782-1866



The United States – National Bank Notes 1863-1935



The United States – Federal Government notes 1861-1971



The United States – Federal Reserve Bank notes 1913 – Present



Canada

The Early Years 1790s -1866

Agricultural Bank - Toronto



- In operation 1834-1837
- First bank in Canada to pay interest on deposits and offer checking accounts
- Substantial losses as the partners had “left the country.”

Farmer's Joint Stock Bank-Toronto



- In operation from 1834 – ca. 1854
- Had branch in Green Bay, Wisconsin
- Wound up in the 1840s only to be reopened by parties who flooded both Canada and the U.S. with notes.

La Banque Nationale – Quebec City



- In operation from 1860-1925
- Merged, becoming part of Banque Canadienne Nationale (today, the National Bank of Canada)
- “Habitant” pictured on left

Eastern Townships Bank



- In operation 1855 – 1912
- Merged into the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1912

The Bank of Upper Canada - Toronto



- In operation 1821 to 1866
- Failed in 1866 due to imprudent real estate loans
- Heavy losses to depositors, stockholders, and noteholders



- A scarcer, but not uncommon, denomination for Canadian notes.



- Pictured at right is Prince Albert, Prince of Wales

Province of Canada notes 1867-1871

- First issued in January, 1867 and for a few years thereafter by the Dominion of Canada
- Denominations included \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, and \$500
- Replaced by Dominion of Canada notes, starting in 1871

Dominion of Canada notes 1870-1934

- First issued in 1870 (25¢ issue)
- Denominations included 25¢, \$1, \$2, \$4, \$5, \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1000 (plus larger denominations for bank-to-bank transactions called “Bank Legals”)
- Replaced by Bank of Canada notes in 1935
- The Dominion of Canada took a monopoly position in issuing \$1s and \$2s. Chartered Banks were first allowed to issue \$4s, although in 1880 they were further restricted to only denominations of \$5 or its multiples.

Dominion of Canada \$1 Issue



The “Golden Age” of Chartered Bank Note Issues

1870 - 1934

The Bank of Hamilton



- In operation from 1872 – 1923
- Merged into the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1923
- Bank Act of 1871, banned denominations less than \$4. Several banks issued odd denominations (primarily \$4s, but also including a few \$6s and \$7s)
- In 1880, Chartered Banks were limited to denominations of \$5 and its multiples



Mechanics Bank - Montreal



- In operation from 1865-1879
- Run by unscrupulous owners, the bank paid only 57.5¢ on the dollar



Royal Canadian Bank - Toronto



- In operation 1864-1876
- Bad loan and banking practices led to a forced merger with the City Bank in 1876 to become the Consolidated Bank of Canada.



*20*TWENTY*20*TWENTY*20*TWEN

Canada

No 248755

TORONTO

A

2nd Nov 1920.

On Demand



2248A

TWENTY

TWENTY

IMPERIAL BANK



OF CANADA

Will pay the bearer

on demand

TWENTY DOLLARS

20

TORONTO
1st Oct. 1902.



Pro. Genl. Manager.

H. S. ...
PRESIDENT

TWENTY

TWENTY

20

20

SPECIMEN





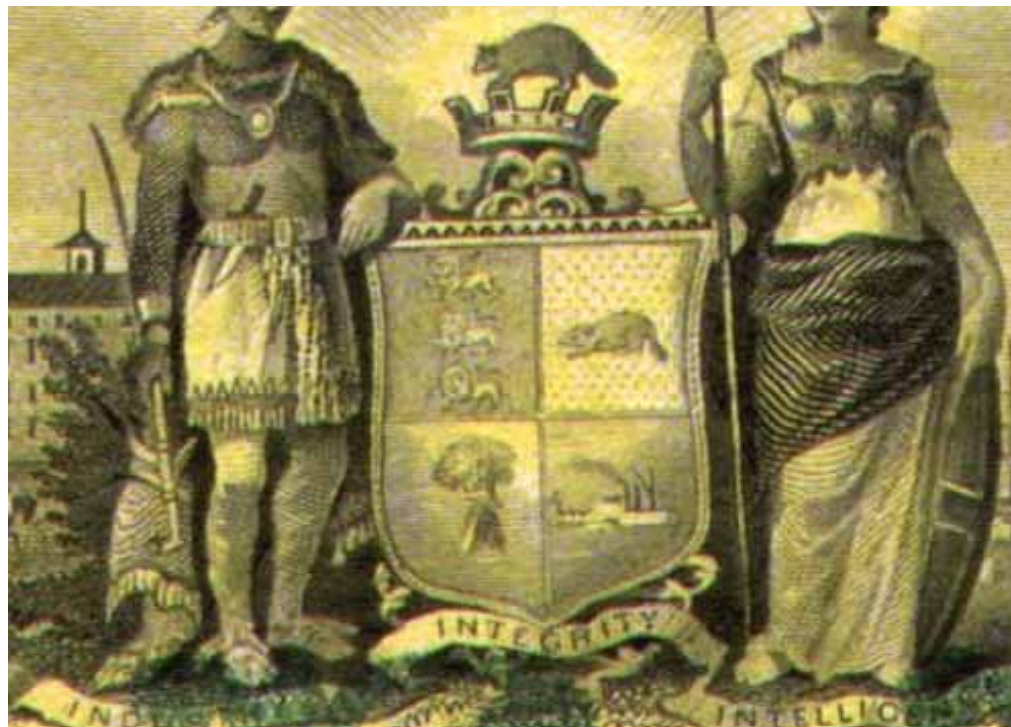
Bank of Toronto



- In operation from 1855-1954
- Merged with the Dominion Bank in 1955 to become the present-day Toronto-Dominion Bank

14394

Pay



Ten Dollars

ON DEMAND
D

Oct. 1st October 1929.

General Manager:

H. J. [unclear] President.

ISSUED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.



Union Bank of Newfoundland-St. John's



- In operation from 1854-1894
- Failed due to poor economy and bank run
- Notes were (and are) redeemable at 80¢ on the dollar
- \$2 denomination was ok since Newfoundland did not join the Canadian Confederation until 1949

SANTO DOMINGO

We promise to pay

T

CURRENCY

C. S. King

TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO

TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO 2 TWO





Halifax Banking Company



- In operation from 1825-1903
- Merged into the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1903



AT,

MERCHANTS' AND MECHANICS' BANK OF NEW YORK

Pay to the Bearer of this Note at their Bank in New York



Five Dollars

ON DEMAND



Bank of Ottawa



- In operation from 1874-1919
- Merged with the Bank of Nova Scotia in 1919



Canadian Bank of Commerce- Toronto



- In operation from 1867-1961
- Merged with the Imperial Bank of Canada in 1961 to become the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce







La Banque Nationale – Quebec City



- In operation from 1860-1925
- Merged into the Banque Canadienne Nationale in 1925



The Home Bank of Canada-Toronto



- In operation from 1903-1923
- Failed in 1923, paying off 35¢ on the dollar
- Monument honors the Battle of Ridgeway in 1866 – Fenian Raid into Canada

X

TWENTY

No

000000

THE NATIONAL BANK
WILL PAY TO THE

TEN DOLLARS
TEN DOLLARS
TEN DOLLARS



10



TORONTO

10

TWENTY

X

[Handwritten signature]

PRESIDENT



“Mutual Improvement”



Metropolitan Bank-Toronto



- In operation from 1902-1914
- Merged with the Bank of Nova Scotia in 1914

Bank of Hamilton



- In operation from 1872 – 1923
- Merged into the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1923

FIVE DOLLARS

4327*

OF DEPT

[Signature]

PRO CASHIER.

[Signature]

PRESIE

WESTERN BANK NOTE CO CHICAGO

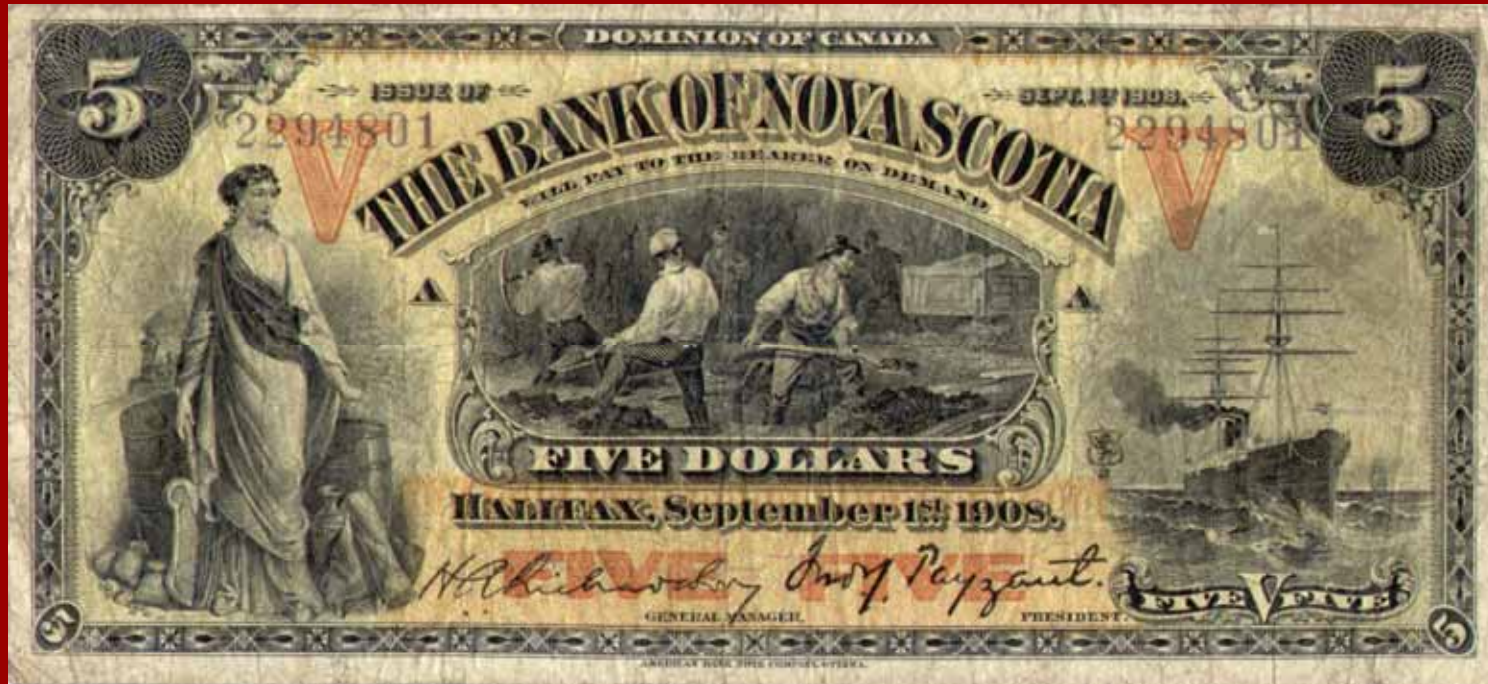
FIVE DOLLARS

CHICAGO





The Bank of Nova Scotia-Halifax



- In operation from 1832 to Present



Royal Bank of Canada-Montreal



- In operation from 1901-Present
- Today, one of the largest banks in the world



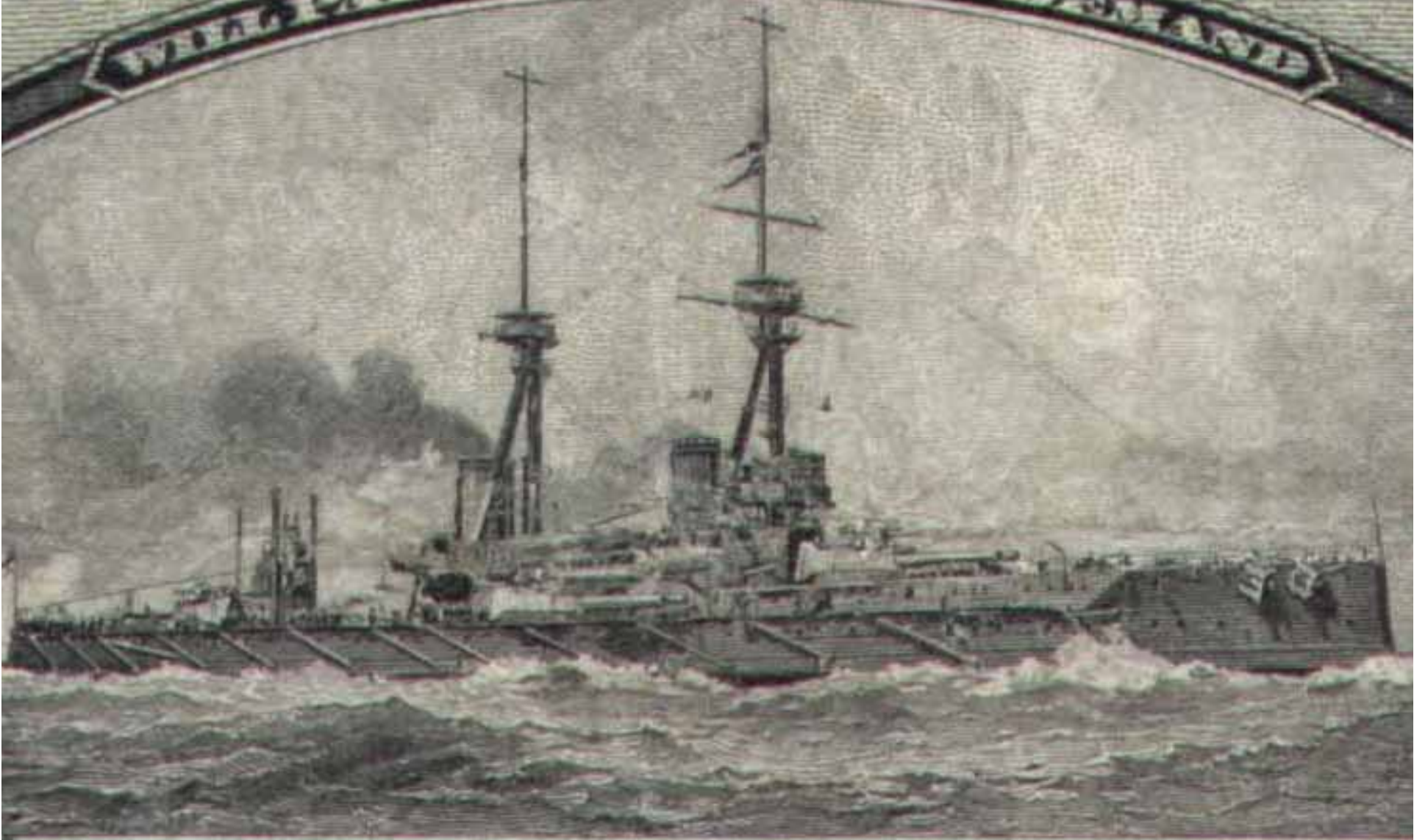


- The famous 1913 “Battleship Note” – H.M.S. Bellerophon
- The Bellerophon participated in the Battle of Jutland but did not figure in any prominent way.
- Scrapped in the 1920s as a result of the Washington Naval Treaties

NTREAL.

JAN. 2ND 18

WINDY TO BEAT PER ON D. BEASE



TEN DOLLARS

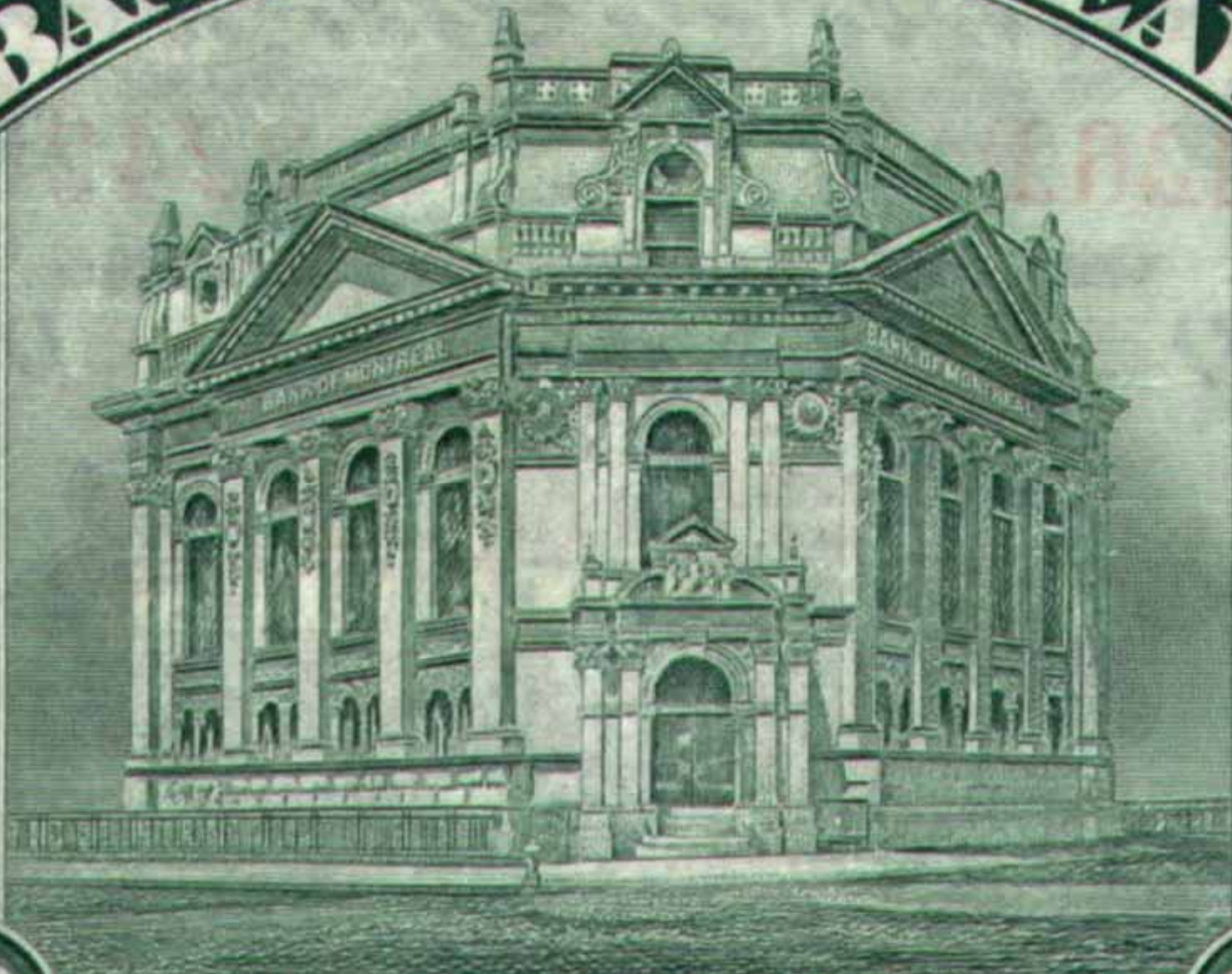
The Bank of Montreal



- In operation from 1822-Present



BANK OF MONTREAL



TORONTO BRANCH.

TEN DOLLARS

The Final Years - Small Size Issues

1934 - 1943

The Dominion Bank-Toronto



- In operation from 1869-1955
- Merged with the Bank of Toronto in 1955 to form the Toronto-Dominion Bank
- Small size note designs were usually made up of “two old guys in suits”





Canadian Bank of Commerce- Toronto



- Some suggest that this series of Canadian Bank of Commerce notes is reminiscent of the Educational Series notes issued by the United States in 1896



The Bank of Canada 1935-Present

- Canada's Equivalent of the Federal Reserve Bank in the United States
- Took over exclusive issue of Canada's paper money
- Chartered banks were to reduce circulation and were prohibited from issuing new notes after January 1, 1945.
- The last issue was put into circulation in 1943 by the Royal Bank of Canada

Bank of Canada Issues



Other “Stuff” to Collect...

- Checks and drafts
- Postcards and other postal history
 - Stereoviews
 - Bank tokens
- Design approval material

\$ 1.05/100 G
 VALLEYFIELD, P. Q. 3 Janvier 1921.

LA BANQUE PROVINCIALE DU CANADA

Payable à l'ordre de M. LaRue, Amal. ou au porteur la somme de 105 Piastres

LE GREFFIER DE LA COUR DE CIRCUIT DU DISTRICT DE BEAUGANNOIS

PAR: *[Signature]*

153 PAYABLE A MONTREAL

[Stamp: LA BANQUE PROVINCIALE DU CANADA, DEPT. D'AV. VALLEYFIELD, JAN 18 1921]

KING & YORK STS
 BRANCH Toronto 191 No

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

Pay to _____ or bearer \$ _____ Dollars

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

224
 1893 Ingersoll Feb 20th 1891

Merchants Bank of Canada.

Pay to the order of Mrs E. E. Oliver for _____ Dollars

William Stewart

15 ac

BANK OF MONTREAL

Picton, 22 Sept 1886

Your favor of 16 27 ult. is just received with stated enclosure.

Use O.V.L.F. for acknowledging letters.

[Handwritten signature]
MANAGER.



THE BANK OF MONTREAL
OF CANADA
HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO

WESTERN BRANCHES	
ALBERTA	
CALGARY	
CAMROSE	
CASTOR	
DIDSBURY	
EDMONTON	
ERSKINE	
GADSBY	
GLEICHEN	
HOLDEN	
STETTLE	
SASKATCHEWAN	
FORGET	SASKATOON
REGINA	ZEALANDIA
MANITOBA	
WINNIPEG	
BRITISH COLUMBIA	
VANCOUVER	

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS
\$6,550,000

TOTAL ASSETS, \$39,900,000
107 BRANCHES IN CANADA



EASTERN TOWNSHIP BANK, HEMMINGFORD, P.Q.



Bank of Hamilton Building, Moose Jaw.



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Manufacturers
MADE IN U.S.A. Publishers

1100

Meadeville, Pa., New York, N. Y.,
Chicago, Ill., London, England.

37116 Bank of Montreal and Corner of Main and
Portage Streets, Winnipeg, Man., Canada.

AVAILABLE OBJECTS MADE IN



F3277

For Approval



APPROVED. Dec 14/12
[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
 12/19-12

[Signature]

F327

For Approval



Jan

Alle

APPROVED.....

W. E. N. July 17/12 E. J. D.

10.7.12

Further Reading...

- *The Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Bank Notes, 5th Edition, R.J. Graham-Editor, 2006*
- *The Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Government Paper Money, 19th Edition, R.J. Graham-Editor, 2007*
- *Canadian Paper Money Journal (CPMS)*

“ O Canada !.... ”

