



A gallery of Canadian notables at the unveiling of a monument in Queen's Park, Toronto, to honor the late Sir James Pliny Whitney, one time premier of Ontario. In the group: Lieutenant-Governor Ross of Ontario, Viscountess Willingdon, the Governor General of Canada, Mrs. W. D. Ross, the Premier of Canada, Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King and Mrs. Howard Ferguson. Second row, centre: Premier Ferguson of Ontario



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TO J. W. McCONNELL, more than to any one individual, may be ascribed the unparalleled success of the Montreal Hospital Drive. A man of proven business capacity, of unflagging energy and of leadership, Mr. McConnell's vigorous chairmanship of the campaign raised \$4,750,000 in seven days.

When the plight of Montreal hospitals became definitely known the little band of men who do things in Montreal faced the facts squarely, then, being shrewd men of business, they chose a man whose generalship might inspire victory by his ability to co-ordinate those forces which invariably make for success. The lot fell upon Mr. McConnell. He never entertained a doubt about ultimate success. When the final returns were made known the Montreal Star hailed him as *The Conquering Hero*. In a remarkable career of business progress, J. W. McConnell has no finer work to his credit than this hospital chairmanship. Some one has written, "a man must have the will to succeed, the brains to plan

NORTHERN LIGHTS

Comment about Canadians & Events

what path he will follow, the energy to pursue it and the courage to batter down the discouragements that would block his progress."

This is commonplace enough, obvious enough and sounds reasonable, yet there are thousands of men who can amply fill all these requirements and yet cannot make large sums of money. J. W. McConnell has manifested the elements which make for the acquisition of material advancement. Here is a man who unostentatiously, but nevertheless quite definitely has within the period of little more than a decade swung into the forefront of Canadians. In the financial world he was known at the outset as a promoter of new enterprises, and through no fault of his own, some of his early promotions met with but scant success. Then of a sudden he found himself and beginning to show almost unerring good judgment in everything he touched was soon creating the foundation of an impressive fortune. Mr. McConnell is par excellence a money maker and for several years past no man in Canada has shown better judgment than he in sizing up those things which he might profitably touch, and what is equally vital, in leaving alone those things which should not be touched.

The light of publicity first played upon J. W. McConnell when in 1909 he wrested control of Montreal Street Railway from the late Senator Forget and associates. Montrealers at that time entertained the theory that control of the Montreal Street Railway could not be dislodged from its old moorings with a charge of

dynamite, but Mr. McConnell, who was in those days an absurdly young man to tackle a deal of such dimensions walked off with the road with comparative ease, and he did not consummate his objective in the dark either. He accomplished it in the open, right under the astonished noses of an experienced directorate, and from that time on the young man who won control of the road, found that Canadian financiers were figuratively speaking, "taking off their hats to him".

At the young and tender age of twenty-three when most budding business men are doing humdrum things and mighty few are showing definite initiative or constructive genius, J. W. McConnell, working for the Standard Chemical Company of Toronto, went to London, England, and pounded upon the door of the War Office. He was endeavoring to break through an antiquated maze of red tape, trying to convey the message of a proposition which might prove of utmost value to England if there ever came a war. Mr.



—Montminy et Cie
Premier Taschereau of Quebec



—Rice
Mr. J. W. McConnell of Montreal