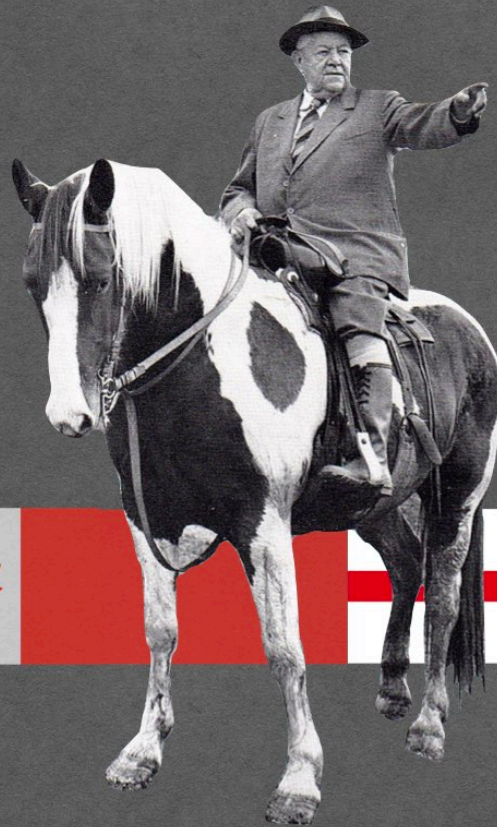


Joseph W. Hobbs

1891 - 1963

The Last Whisky Baron?



1891

1900

1963



Joseph W. Hobbs

The Last Whisky Baron?
A remarkable person in the whisky trade

Background

-1900

- Emigration to Canada
- Pilot training and WW1

1900-1918

- The move to Vancouver
- The business in Vancouver
- The First Trans-Canada Flight (Basil Hobbs)

1918-1932

The Prohibition

The Marine Building

- Rumrunning
- The ships
 - When Prince Albert cut the the Frisco Honolulu cable
- The Hobbs messages

PART 5

1932 - 1963

- Back in UK
- DCL and National Distillers - The cooperation plans that failed
- Ferrolene and the patent
- The Great Cattle Ranch
- Inverlochy Castle
- Torlundy and Ocean Mist
- Hobbs passes away 1963

The Distilleries (1930s)

- Glenury Royal
- Bruichladdich
- Glenlochy
- Highland Esk/North Esk/ Montrose/Hillside/Glenesk
- Benromach
- Fettercairn
- Strathdee

The Companies

- W.A Gilbey
- W.H Holt
- Associated Scottish Distillers (ASD)
- Train & McIntyre
- McNab Distilleries

The Distilleries (1944-)

- Glenmavis
- Lochside
- Ben Nevis

Ind. Whisky Assoc.

The Marine Building and Hollywood in Vancouver

As previously mentioned, Joseph Hobbs made a lot of money during the Prohibition.

Along with his schoolmate from Sault Ste Marie, Fred G. Johnston (CEO of G.A. Stimson's - an old bond house) he entered a project - The Marine Building. In April 1929, Hobbs became CEO of one of the subsidiaries and in charge of the project, which would become Vancouver's tallest building.

On the website <https://glenlochy.com/pages/12/70> there are more details.

A meeting with architects, city representatives and others is held. The report from the meeting is 274 pages long and Hobbs is very active during the meeting. He suggests garages under the building and has opinions about the placement of toilets.

Early on, the project has financial problems and Hobbs goes to England to find financiers, but can't find any:

"but had found Old Country investors cautious".

In March 1929, the mayor of Vancouver took the first sod and in October 1930 the building was inaugurated.

The financial problems continue and financial irregularities in the bond house Stimson are discovered. In January 1931, the management of the company, including Johnston, is arrested and he is sentenced to three years in prison.

Hobbs has already left the company and is not accused of any crime. However, he loses large sums of money in the project – exactly how much is unclear.

A seaplane and a Zeppelin to this day reminds of Hobbs.

In 1931, the divorce with Mabel Dell is finalized and he marries Evelyn Florence Appleyard from England.

Do not give up! Hobbs starts a new project. In 1932 he spends two months at Universal Studios, LA. The idea is to build a "Hollywood" in Vancouver, but the plans are never realized. He moves back to England and starts a new business in London.

All summaries are available here: https://www.repspect.se/joseph_hobbs_summary.html



An early architect's drawing of the Marine Building on Burrard Street, before the design was finalized. McCarter & Nairne, University of Calgary #MCA447-10.

7 per cent DEBENTURES

With denominations of \$100 or any multiple thereof; are first charge and carry the rights of purchasing at One Dollar per share, 20 no par value shares of the Common Stock of the Company for each \$100 subscribed.

The Debenture Holder should receive substantial interest on the Common stock, as values have increased since the first transactions were made.

6 per cent DEBENTURES

With denominations of \$100 or any multiple thereof; can be cashed at any time with accrued interest, providing 30 days' Notice is given to the Company.

Under this plan of Debenture you can obtain 6 per cent interest on your Savings, and practically, cash your Security at any time.

We believe that this plan of Investment will meet the requirements of the majority of Canadians, as it offers a high rate of interest without risk.

**The Marine Building at Vancouver
Is under construction. This is the largest
office building in Canada, west of Toronto.
The tower reaches 200 feet in height**

**Stimson's Canadian Development
Company Limited**

Head Office: Commerce and Transportation Building, Toronto

14 BRANCH OFFICES IN CANADA

Whitehorse Star - April 5, 1929

TORONTO, April 24.—Captain Joseph W. Hobbs, Vancouver, was today elected western vice-president of G. A. Stimson & Co., the oldest bond house in Canada.

The Province Sun - April 29, 1928



The Vancouver Sun March 12 1929 - Hobbs left

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President and Director:
LT. COLONEL FREDERICK GRAHAM JOHNSTON, M.C., Toronto, Ont.
President and Director of G. A. Stimson & Co., Limited

Vice-President and Director:
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Secretary-Treasurer and Director:
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Secretary-Treasurer of G. A. Stimson & Co., Limited

Stimson's Canadian Development Company Ltd.

Offers You Safety and Profitable Returns Through

THE MARINE BUILDING

VANCOUVER, B.C.

6%
Redeemable Debentures
(Non-transferable)
PRICE 100 TO YIELD 6%

INTEREST
 Interest payable semi-annually by cheque January 1st and July 1st each year. (Interest cheques payable at par at any chartered bank in Canada without deduction for exchange).

CAN BE CASHED QUICKLY
 This issue of Debentures is primarily intended to meet the requirements of investors who do not wish to invest their funds for a definite fixed period, but only for such length of time as may suit their convenience. The special feature of this Debenture is that the Registered holder can demand the return of the full face value thereof plus accrued interest upon giving 30 days' notice in writing to the Company.

CASH RESERVE
 While it is anticipated that a large proportion of the Company's investments will be in the form of fixed assets such as Revenue-producing buildings and real estate, it is intended that the Company will at all times retain a Reserve of Cash, readily negotiable bonds, etc. with which to redeem such debentures of this issue as may be desired by the holders thereof.

THE MARINE BUILDING

This building is being built on the corner of Hastings and Burrard Streets in the city of Vancouver, B.C. Its 20 storeys extend upward 200 feet. It will be the highest and largest office building in Canada west of Toronto.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS APPLY.

G. A. STIMSON & CO.

LIMITED
 THE OLDEST BOND HOUSE IN CANADA
 Offices in: TORONTO, MONTREAL, OTTAWA,
 VANCOUVER and CALGARY.
 Res. Manager, H. J. HOGAN, Calgary.
 909 Lancaster Building. M9665



THE MARINE BUILDING
 For 46 years every bond issued, recommended and sold by G. A. Stimson & Co., Ltd., has paid interest and principal when due.

7%
First Charge Fully Registered Debentures
PRICE 100 TO YIELD 7%

INTEREST
 Interest payable semi-annually by cheque January 1st and July 1st each year. (Interest cheques payable at par at any chartered bank in Canada without deduction for exchange).

MATURITY
 The principal money secured by these Debentures will be repaid together with interest on any date specified by the applicant on his original application for the same or on the death of the registered holder or on the death of the survivor of the joint registered holders whichever shall first occur. Thus enabling investors to invest their funds and to obtain repayment of the same upon any date they may name provided that such date is named on the original application for the debenture.

SECURITY
 These Debentures are secured by a First Charge upon all the assets of the Company and rank prior to the 6% Redeemable Debentures as well as to the common stock.

RIGHTS
 Subscribers to these Debentures will be given the privilege of purchasing at a price of one dollar per share 20 no par value shares of the common stock of the Company for each \$100 of this issue of Debentures allotted and issued to them. The directors, however, reserve the right to cancel this privilege at any time without notice and also the right to restrict the amount of Debentures to be issued to any subscriber and to reject any and all subscription books in whole or in part, to allow less than the amount applied for, and to close the subscription books at any time without notice.

MAIL THIS COUPON TO
G. A. STIMSON & CO., LTD.

909 Lancaster Building
 CALGARY, ALBERTA
 Please send me full particulars regarding the debentures of Stimson Canadian Development Co. Ltd. This does not obligate me in any way.

Name

Address

Calgary Herald April 27, 1929

Stimson's Development Co -Officers and Directors

New Money For Marine Bldg.
 It is reported that J. W. Hobbs, Vancouver manager of Stimson's Canadian Development Co., has announced a deal with Starrett Investment Corp. of New York for the financing of the Marine Building, Vancouver, a promotion of the former company. According to the announcement, \$1,000,000 in cash would be made available for completion of the building.

National Post April 17, 1930

The Vancouver Sun, October 7, 1931 - Johnson teft, Hobbs right

MARINE BUILDING SUPPLEMENT THE VANCOUVER SUN TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1930 MARINE BUILDING SUPPLEMENT

Marine Building Centralizes Trade of the Port of Vancouver

Photo by Leonard Frank

HEAD OF FIRM

LIUTENANT COLONEL J. A. JOHNSON, M.C.
 President of C. A. Stimson & Co. Ltd., who has been instrumental in the financing of the Marine Building.

VICE-PRESIDENT

LIEUT. COMMANDER J. W. HOBBS
 Vice president of C. A. Stimson & Co. Ltd., who has been an active factor in securing the Marine Building for Vancouver.

EVIDENCE of the growth of Vancouver into one of the world's greatest ports is forthcoming on every side, but it is doubtful whether there is any more prominent sign than that of the necessity which has arisen for finding adequate accommodation for those merchants who are connected with the foreign trade of the port. To meet this pressing need the Marine Building has come into existence. In 1928 when the project of its construction was first conceived by Lieut. Commander J. W. Hobbs of Vancouver, the Merchants' Exchange, the Board of Trade, and prominent firms and citizens endorsed it. Lieut. Colonel F. G. Johnson, president of C. A. Stimson & Co. Ltd., the oldest bond house in Canada, offered the firm's services in the financing of the building—and the proposal went on to fruition. The Merchants' Exchange and the Board of Trade gave their support by contracting to take quarters in the new building. Leading merchants followed suit and Vancouver now has a centralized building of exquisite design, built to meet the requirements of the trade, and wherein are housed many of the factors that have made Vancouver a world port. The need for centralization of the firms engaged in the export trade and shipping of the port has become increasingly evident and the opportunity now presents itself for all principal grain, shipping, lumber, insurance, import and export merchants to find such accommodation under one roof. A central position and proximity to the waterfront were two essentials for the location of the building, and in the Marine Building these have been attained. It commands an unrivalled scenic view of the harbor and city, and dominates the financial section of Vancouver.

Continued on Page 10



Seaplane- Photo: John Orr July 2022



Zeppelin - Photo Wikipedia - Alethe Winter 2006.



Marine Building - Private Collection

Police Seize Books In Vancouver Offices Of Stimson Companies

Stimson's Canadian Development Co. Premises
In Marine Building Scene of First Raid--
Documents Found There Impounded.

**MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE BLOCK
WAS NEXT ON VISITING LIST**

Special Constables Placed on Guard Following
Conference Between Representative of
Attorney-General Pooley and Officials.

**Richmond and
Burnaby Reeves
Are Returned**

Dickinson and Fiddes Are
Elected Coucillors in
West Vancouver.

CONFIDENCE in their 1930 admin-
istrations was expressed by voters

The Province January 18, 1931

Charged With Conspiracy



FOLLOWING recent bankruptcy proceedings involv- are (1) Laurence E. Clark, vice-president and general
ing G. A. Stimson companies, chief officials of the manager; (2) Frederick G. Johnston, president of the
firms were arrested upon charges of conspiracy by in- parent company, and (3) W. J. Dow, secretary-treasurer.
structions of the attorney-general's department. They

North Bay Nugget January 17, 1931

MOVIE INDUSTRY FOR VANCOUVER?

EMPIRE MADE FILMS MOVE TO AID PLAN

CAPT. J. W. HOBBS INTERESTED

A Vancouver syndicate, headed by Captain J. W. Hobbs, has for the past year been investigating the possibilities of establishing a motion picture industry here, Captain Hobbs told The Vancouver Sun today.

"Certain Hollywood picture interests have stated their willingness to contract for the purchase of the entire output of pictures of a studio established in Vancouver for release in all countries," he declared.

Captain Hobbs said he had no plans to announce yet as he has been waiting to see what the Imperial Conference would do to stimulate the moving picture industry in the British Empire.

IN THE FUTURE

He intimated, however, that he might have an interesting announcement to make in the near future.

J. Y. McCarter, architect, and R.

Has Idea



CAPT. J. W. HOBBS

CANADIAN MOTION PICTURES PROJECT

PLANS FOR \$3,000,000 STUDIO, "IF VAN- COUVER WANTS IT"—BRITISH FINANCING

Somewhere in Canada it is planned to build an ultra modern moving picture studio, fully equipped to produce talking pictures for circulation throughout the world, under the British Quota Law.

This is the assurance of J. Harold MacDowell, architect and accoustical expert of Los Angeles, who has arrived in Vancouver with definite plans and confidential reports to lay before the Empire Motion Picture Corpora-

J. W. Hobbs and R. Rowe Holland nearly a year ago.

"Their study of the situation was encouraged by the fact that Hollywood producers require more and more British-Empire-made film in order to get their own products admitted to Great Britain," states Mr. MacDowell.

"We are now convinced that the enterprise will be a success and are assured by Hollywood producers that the time was never more opportune for action than right now."

The Vancouver Sun December 24, 1932

The Vancouver Sun August 19, 1932