

would make some one responsible for its being carried out. He was convinced that either the Board of Trade or some public functionary ought to see that the proper returns were made, and that when they were made they were honest. He was sure that such a system would not only be advantageous to the companies but to the public when the public were assured that the assets of the company were what they professed to be.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

MONTREAL CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK.

The annual meeting of the Honorary Directors of this Bank was held at Montreal on the 5th April.

The Directors report a large increase of business during the past year, and to show the magnitude of their transactions, mention that the cash book adds up over a million and a half of dollars every month. The profits of the year were \$20,608.86, and out of this, \$6,035 was appropriated to various city charities.

The contract for their new building has been signed, and it is expected to be ready early next year. The hope is expressed that it will be considered as a credit to the institution and an ornament to the city.

The statement shows the amount due to depositors to be \$2,295,565.20; to minors and others, on the property of the bank, \$5,399.14; to sundry persons not depositors, \$7,379.13; to reserve fund, 177,669.75. On the credit side of the account are: City of Montreal, Provincial and Champlain and St. Lawrence Railroad, first mortgage bonds, \$480,351.66; Stocks of Ontario and City Banks, \$25,267.16; loans on short dates, with collaterals, \$1,077,364.80; property occupied by bank, and office furniture, \$25,267.45; amount due on sale of portion of above, \$2,453.32; property on corner of St. James and St. John street, for new building, \$29,126.48; deposits on call and interest in the banks of the city, \$844,197.35.

The total number of accounts open on the 31st December was 6,766.

The report having been adopted, Messrs. Henry Starnes, H. Mulholland, and H. Judah were elected as managing directors, W. Bristow and C. T. Palsgrave as auditors, and F. P. Pominville as honorary director.

At a meeting held immediately after, the Board of Directors unanimously elected the Hon. H. Starnes President, and the Hon. L. H. Holton Vice-President, for the current year.

Insurance.

FIRE RECORD.—Linwood, Ont., April 2.—House of Joseph W. Williams was consumed; loss \$900; insured in Beaver and Toronto Mutual for \$500.

Petrolia, April 8.—A fire broke out in the "Standard" oil works, owned by the Canadian Land and Mineral Company of London, England. The fire originated in a leaky still. The crude oil leaked out, and fire communicating, the still was speedily in a blaze, and spread to two other stills, which were partially destroyed, with the condensers. A large number of buildings, including the extensive treating house, barrel shed, paint house, settling tanks and sheds, factory for making tins for oil, and other buildings and machinery, were for a long time in great peril, but were saved by the heroic efforts of the fire company, and hundreds of willing workers. The loss will not exceed \$3,000 to \$4,000. Had the fire occurred at night, nothing could have saved the entire works, which are valued at \$25,000.

London, April 8.—An 800 barrel still, at the refinery of Messrs. Englehart & Co., exploded; loss about \$2,000.

Colborne, April 2.—The barn of Wm. Johnson, on the Brighton road, was destroyed by fire; it originated from a lantern. Insurance, \$200.

East Nissouri Township, April 3.—Barn of Mr. Clipperton, with contents, was consumed. Loss, \$800 to \$1,000; insurance, \$400.

Kingston, April 10.—A fire broke out in the carpenter shop of Thos. Overend, Brock street, and extended to a rough-cast dwelling occupied by Thos. Overend and G. W. Andrews. The Hotel Dieu Hospital had a narrow escape. Most of the furniture from the dwelling was saved in a damaged condition. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. The workshop was insured in the Western for \$2,000, and the dwelling in the Royal for \$2,400.

Oakville, April 11.—The steam saw-mill of Wm. McCravey was totally consumed by fire this morning at 4 o'clock. Loss about \$2,000.

Peterboro', April 9.—A correspondent writes, The building occupied by Dr. McCullough, as Drug shop, Lewis Merett, barber shop, and Timothy Cavanagh, as hotel, was totally consumed by fire, which was evidently the work of an incendiary, and originated in McCulloch's shop, no fire had been used in the shop all the day. Building owned by Samuel Dixon, and Robert Nicholls; Mr. Dixon's loss is covered by insurance; Provincial for \$800; Mr. Nicholls, \$200 in Commercial Union; Mr. Cavanagh for \$400 in Gore District; Merett no insurance; McCullough, \$600 in Gore District Mutual. Suspicion is directed against one of the parties who it is said has been unfortunate before with fire, but well insured.

WAR RATES.—An agent of one of the life companies in New York wrote to the home office a few days since, as follows: "One of our policyholders here, Mr. O'Sullivan, is a Fenian, and is looking towards the invasion of Canada, and wishes to know what the extra or war rates would be in case he should engage in an expedition of that kind." The question has been referred to the actuaries. We can decide it without the actuaries. The company interested should collect 100 per cent. of the sum assured, for if he once gets fairly on this side, he will never get back with either his head or his hide on. If he means those appendages to be safe, he had better leave them on that side of the lines.

Forty-one companies in all have made the deposit with the Government required by the Insurance Act.

The Quebec Gazette says, that Mr. Reverin, who for many years has been favorably known as Secretary of the Quebec Fire Insurance Company, has resigned that office, and accepted the agency of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company. We heartily wish Mr. Riverin every success in his new position. The situation vacated by Mr. Riverin in the Quebec Fire Office has been given to Mr. W. L. Fisher, who for the last fifteen years has acted as assistant secretary to that institution; and he is succeeded by Mr. C. Langlois, another employee of the Company.

THE TARIFF CHANGES.

The following resolutions were moved by the Hon. Sir Francis Hincks, in the Committee of Ways and Means, on Thursday night, the 7th April.

1st. That it is expedient to amend the Act, 31 Vic., Cap 44, and the tariff of duties and Customs contained in the Schedules annexed to said Act.

2nd. That it is expedient to repeal so much of the schedule A annexed to said Act, as imposes any specific duty of customs on animals, viz:—Horses, horned cattle, swine and sheep, which will become subject to customs duty of 10 per centum *ad valorem*.

3rd. That it is expedient to repeal so much of said schedule "A" as imposes any specific duty of customs on cigars and spirits, and substitute for such duties specific duties mentioned in the following resolution.

4th. That it is expedient to impose on the several articles hereinafter mentioned, specific and *ad valorem* duties of customs set opposite to each respectively—Cigars, per lb, 45c; coal and coke, per ton, 50c; salt, except salt imported from the United Kingdom or any British possession, which shall be free of duty, per bushel of 56 lbs, 5c; hops, per lb, 5c; vinegar and acetic acid, per gallon, 10c; rice, per lb, 1c; wheat, per bush, 4c; peas, beans, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, buckwheat, and all other grain, except wheat per bushel 3 cents; flour of wheat and flour of rye, per barrels 25 cents; Indian meal and oatmeal, and flour or meal of any other grain except wheat and rye, per barrel 15 cents; spirits and strong waters, viz:—spirits and strong water not having been sweetened or mixed with articles to the degree of strength that cannot be ascertained by Sykes' Hydrometer, for every gallon of the strength of proof by such Hydrometer, and so in proportion for any less strength than the strength of proof, and for every greater or less quantity than a gallon named; Brandy, Geneva, Alcohol, Rum, Gin, Tafia, Whiskey, and unenumerated articles of like kind, per gallon, 80 cents. Other spirits being sweetened or mixed so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained as aforesaid, namely:—Rum Shrub Cordials, Old Tom Gin, Schiedam-Schnapps Bitters, and unenumerated articles of like kind, per gallon, \$1 20 cents; Cologne water and perfumed spirits, not in flasks, per gallon, \$1 20; cologne water and perfumed spirits, when in flasks or bottles, thirty of such flasks or bottles, not containing more than one gallon for each flask or bottle, 4c; spirits and strong waters imported into Canada, mixed with any ingredient or ingredients, and although thereby coming under the denomination of proprietary medicines, tinctures and scent extracts, or any other denomination, shall be nevertheless deemed to be spirits or strong waters, and subject as with unenumerated spirits or strong waters, per gallon, 20c; fruits, preserved in brandy or other spirits, per gallon, 20 cents.

5. That it is expedient to amend Schedule B annexed to said Act, by adding the following articles to the list of goods paying 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, namely, animals of all kinds, except such as shall be imported for improvement of stock, which shall be admitted free of duty under regulations to be made by the Treasury Board and approved by the Governor-in-Council, fruits of all kinds, hay, straw, bran, seeds not classed as cereals, grease and grease scraps, vegetables, including potatoes and other roots, trees, and shrubs.

6. That it is expedient further to amend said schedule B by striking iron wire out of the list of goods paying five per centum *ad valorem*.

7. That it is expedient further to amend said schedule B by repealing so much thereof as imposes any duty of customs on tobacco, or on wines, or on packages, and substituting the following in lieu thereof, tobacco and snuff 12 1/2 per centum *ad valorem*, and 20 cents per pound; wines of all kinds, including ginger, orange, lemon, gooseberry, strawberry, raspberry, elder and currant wines, 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, and as specific duty 10 cents per gallon; 5 quart and 10 pint bottles to be held to contain a gallon.

8. That it is expedient to amend schedule "C" annexed to said Act, being the list of free goods, by substituting for the word salt under the head natural products the word salt when imported from the United Kingdom or any British possessions, and by adding under heading manufactures and products of manufactures book binders, millboards, and binders' cloth, iron wire and brass in strips, and iron in blooms and billets not puddled; by striking out of said schedule under the heading "drugs, dye-stuffs, oil, and colours, not elsewhere specified and substituting the words, colours and other articles when imported by room-paper makers and stainers to be used in their trade only.

9. That it is expedient further to amend said schedule C, annexed to said Act, by striking out