ANNUAL MEETINGS.

Company.	Date.	Time.	Place.
St. Stephen's Bank	May 16	3 p.m.	St. Stephen
Keystone Underwriting & Brokerage	May 17	9.30 a.m.	Toronto
Central Ont. Ry.	May 18	2 p.m.	Toronto

DIVIDENDS PAYABLE

Company	Rate Per Cent.	Term.	Payable.
Sterling Bank	1¼	quarter	May 17
B. C. Packers pref.	3½	half-year	May 20

RAILROAD EARNINGS

The railroad earnings for week ended May 7th, are as follows:—

	1910	1909	Increase
C. P. R.	$1,855,000	$1,329,000	$526,000
G. T. R.	822,937	714,028	108,909
C. N. R.	295,400	159,500	135,900
Montreal St.	79,121	71,030	8,091
Halifax Elec.	4,996	4,493	502

The progress made by the Halifax Tramway since its inception in 1896 has been steady and of a permanent nature. A comparison of earnings since 1904 is illustrative of the growing powers of the company.

	Gross Earnings.	Net Earnings.
1904	$379,465	$137,523
1905	370,369	108,774
1906	387,518	141,809
1907	405,452	146,508
1908	424,619	159,905
1909	447,580	177,974

In 1904, the percentage earned on the stock was 10.28—in 1909 it was 12.85. Both gross and net earnings show steady improvement in every year, except 1905, when, as the result of an unusually severe winter, traffic on part of the system was blocked for several weeks.

EXCHANGE RATES.

Monetary Times Office.
Friday, 1 p.m.

The following prices are supplied by Messrs. Glazebrook & Cronyn, 75 Yonge Street, Toronto:—

New York Funds	1/32 dis.
Sterling—60 Days' Sight	8 13/16
" Demand	9½ + 1/32
Cable Transefers	9 9/16 + 1/32
Rates in New York	
Sterling—60 Days' Sight	4.8380
" Demand	4.86 80/90
Call Money in Toronto	5½
Call Money in New York	
Bank of England Rate	4
Open Market Discount Rate in London for Short Bills	3⅛

CLEARING HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the figures for the Canadian Clearing Houses for the weeks ended May 13th, 1909, May 5th, and May 12th, 1910, with percentage increase:—

	May 13,'09.	May 5,'10.	May 12,'10.	
Montreal	$31,893,818	$40,618,221	$42,145,25[illegible]	+ 32.1
Toronto	27,745,779	32,936,411	31,780,834	+ 14.5
Winnipeg	13,458,310	18,006,965	17,128,131	+ 27.2
Vancouver	4,585,429	9,428,636	9,080,226	+ 98.02
Ottawa	3,740,531	4,243,722	3,883,386	+ 3.8
Quebec	2,250,907	*1,499,512	2,815,100	+ 20.6
Calgary	1,623,768	2,765,129	2,861,596	+ 76.2
Halifax	2,088,624	2,274,881	1,820,926	— 12.8
Hamilton	1,641,293	2,099,643	1,760,094	+ 7.2
St. John	1,377,249	1,475,199	1,435,640	+ 4.2
Victoria	1,365,357	1,818,821	1,718,938	+ 25.8
London	1,167,987	1,469,286	1,340,841	+ 14.8
Edmonton	822,321	1,381,539	1,255,453	+ 52.6
Total	$93,761,373	$120,016,965	$119,026,420	+ 26.9
Regina	....	813,872	738,245	....
Brandon	....	506,046	476,153	....

*5 days only—Ascension Day.

MYSTERIOUS QUEBEC FIRE

A recent fire on St. Malier Street, Quebec, whereby a shed was destroyed has given rise to a controversy between the owner of same, and the underwriters, among whom are the Commercial Union, Scottish Union and Phoenix of Hartford. Several insurance agents requested Mr. Cumings, valuator, to value the loss on a large quantity of silk, which was supposed to be in packing cases in the building. The value of the silk had been estimated at $25,000, upon which $22,000 insurance had been secured a couple of week ago. The valuator found upon investigation that the packing cases were still nailed down, but none of them contained the silk. Holes had been made in some of the boxes, in which cotton waste, with a strong odor of coal oil, had been placed. The proprietor of the building claims to be the loser by $25,000, but the insurance companies state that they will make no settlement, as there is no trace of the goods. The question arises whether or not burglars took possession of the silk and then set fire to the building to cover their crime. The litigation which will doubtless arise, will be followed with interest