

BANK OF MONTREAL.

The eighty-fifth annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal was held in the Board Room of the institution on Monday last.

There were present: Hon. George A. Drummond, Vice-President; Sir William C. Macdonald, Messrs. E. B. Greenshields, James Ross, Charles Alexander, W. H. Evans, T. Irving, F. S. Lyman, K. C., James Kirby, K. C., G. F. C. Smith, James Tasker, Henry Dobell, R. Hampson, Michael Burke, E. K. Greene, Lieut. Col. Prevost, A. W. Hooper, A. T. Taylor, Albert Piddington, M. S. Foley, D. Morrice, James Skeoch and John Morrison.

On the motion of Mr. F. S. Lyman, Hon. George A. Drummond, Vice-President, was unanimously voted to the chair, in the absence of the President, Rt. Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.

On the motion of Mr. Henry Dobell, seconded by Mr. James Tasker, it was agreed "That the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. F. S. Lyman, K. C., and G. F. C. Smith; and that Mr. James Aird be secretary of the meeting."

DIRECTORS' REPORT.—The report of the Directors to the Shareholders at their 85th annual general meeting was then read by Mr. E. S. Clouston, General Manager, as follows:—

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the 85th annual report, showing the result of the Bank's business of the year ended 30th April, 1903:—

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th April, 1902 ... \$ 165,856.09
Profits for the year ended 30th April, 1903, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts ... 1,813,483.66

Premiums on new stock	965,466.00
Dividend 5 per cent. paid 1st December, 1902	\$2,944,807.75
Dividend 5 per cent. payable 1st June, 1903	620,000.00
Account credited to Rest Account	1,000,000.00
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward	\$724,807.55

Since the last annual meeting, branches of the bank have been opened at Birchy Cove, Bay of Islands, Newfoundland; Raymond, Alta.; Colingwood, Ont.; Paris, Ont., and Spokane, Wash., U.S.

The Bank has acquired the property at the corner of Hollis and Prince streets, Halifax, and went into occupation in May last; and has also purchased the premises it has been occupying, under lease, at Amherst, N.S.

A special general meeting of the Shareholders was held on January 7, 1903, at which authority was taken for the following purposes:

To increase the Bank's capital by \$2,000,000 making it \$14,000,000.
To apply for an Act of Parliament to sub-divide the shares of the Bank into shares of the par value of \$100 each.

To appoint the first Monday of December as the date upon which the annual general meeting of the Shareholders of the Bank is to be held in future, instead of the Monday in June, as heretofore.

The Head Office and all the branches have passed through the usual inspection during the year.

STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL,
President.
Bank of Montreal, Head Office, 1st June, 1903.

THE GENERAL STATEMENT.

LIABILITIES.	
Capital Stock	\$ 13,379,240.00
Reserve	9,000,000.00
Balance of Profits carried forward	724,807.75
	\$ 9,724,807.75
Unclaimed dividends	8,940.01
Unclaimed dividends, Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st June, 1903	620,000.00
	10,348,747.76
Notes of the Bank in circulation	7,968,972.00
Deposits not bearing interest	21,699,154.27
Deposits bearing interest	71,698,765.04
Deposits due to other Banks in Canada	453,231.41
	101,820,122.72
	\$125,546,110.48

ASSETS.	
Gold and Silver coin current	\$ 3,196,245.10
Government demand notes	4,719,861.75
Deposit with Dominion Government required by act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation	360,000.00
Due by agencies of this bank and other banks in Great Britain	2,420,755.41
Due by agencies of this bank and other banks in foreign countries	4,552,248.82
Call and short loans in Great Britain and United States	24,043,278.00
	34,025,282.23
Dominion Provincial Government Securities	435,697.46
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and stock	8,136,235.53
Notes and Cheques of other Banks	2,032,005.14
	\$49,905,327.21
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches	600,000.00
Current Loans and Discounts in Canada and elsewhere (rebate interest reserved) and other assets	\$74,767,257.28
Debts secured by mortgages or otherwise	141,500.51
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for)	134,025.48
	75,042,783.27
	\$125,528,110.48

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.

Bank of Montreal,
Montreal, 30th April, 1903.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT.
Hon. George A. Drummond moved: "That the report of the Directors now read, be adopted and printed for distribution among the Shareholders."

It is usual, he observed, for the presiding officer to make some remarks at this particular stage of the proceedings, but in view of the fact that we shall have another meeting in six months, under the new and altered date, it seems to me unnecessary to detain you with any observations of mine. I can only say that the statement now in your hands, I am sure, one which you will all agree is extremely satisfactory. It shows the largest profits of any of the Bank's statements for the last twenty-five years, although some indication may be drawn from the fact that in earning that profit, the business of the Bank has enormously increased. In 1876, when the profit to which I have referred was realized, the assets of the Bank—an indication of the business done—stood at \$37,500,000, and to-day, according to

the statement in your hands, they stand at \$125,000,000; so that the old story is repeated, which is that to earn an equal amount of profit, you must now do a very much larger business; in this case, three times or more. With these remarks I put before you the motion I have already made.

The motion was seconded by Mr. E. B. Greenshields, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. B. A. Boas moved:—"That the thanks of the meeting be presented to the President, Vice-President and Directors for their attention to the interests of the Bank."

This was seconded by Mr. Charles Alexander, and was unanimously agreed to.

BY-LAWS ADOPTED.

It was moved by Mr. A. W. Hooper, seconded by Mr. A. T. Taylor:—"That by-law No. Three shall read as follows:—"

"III. For the management of the affairs of the Bank, the Shareholders, at each annual general meeting, shall elect, by ballot, a Board of nine Directors, who shall be capable of serving as Directors during the ensuing twelve months, or until they shall be replaced by their duly elected successors. Every such Director at the time of his election shall be, and during the then immediately preceding thirty days shall have been, and during his service as Director shall continue to be, the holder and absolute owner in his own and sole name and right (and not in any other right, or in trust for any purpose, person or party, or in trust simply), of not fewer than one hundred of the paid-up shares of the capital stock of the Bank. At every annual general election the outgoing Directors, and each of them, shall be eligible for re-election."

"And that by-law No. Eleven shall read as follows:—"

"XI. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, appoint local Directors for the management of the affairs of the branches of the Bank, and may fix their qualifications and remuneration, define their powers and duties, and revoke their appointment; but no such local Director shall at any time be appointed or serve as a local Director unless he be, and during his service continue to be, a holder in his own and sole name or right, nor in trust for any purpose, person or party, or in trust simply, of not fewer than twenty paid-up shares of the capital stock of the Bank."

This was unanimously concurred in, after which it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. R. Hampson, seconded by Mr. J. Kirby, K. C.:

"That by-laws Nos. III. and XI. as amended, shall go into effect on 1st September, 1903."

Sir William C. Macdonald moved:—"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the General Manager, the Inspector, the Managers and other officers of the Bank for their services during the past year."

This was seconded by Mr. James Ross, and was unanimously carried. The General Manager acknowledging the compliment.

Mr. John Morrison moved, seconded by Mr. Albert Piddington:—

"That the ballot now open for the election of Directors be kept open until 3 o'clock, unless fifteen minutes elapse without a vote being cast, when it shall be closed, and until that time, and for that purpose only, this meeting be continued."

This was unanimously concurred in, and a hearty vote of thanks was then accorded the Chairman, who acknowledged the same.

THE DIRECTORS.—The ballot resulted in the election of the following directors:—

R. B. Angus, Esq.
Hon. Geo. A. Drummond.
A. F. Gault, Esq.
E. B. Greenshields, Esq.
Sir William C. Macdonald.
A. T. Paterson, Esq.
R. G. Reid, Esq.
James Ross, Esq.
Rt. Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G.

Christian Manhood.

"Learn of Christ's example, tenderness and forgiveness, watch the little loves, the little courtesies, the little self-denials you make for friends or others. Be ready ever to extend them. Christian perfection is made up of little courtesies and trifles and self-denials; and I tell you a perfect Christian man is the noblest work of God."—Cardinal Gibbons.

The Horrors Of Thirst.

The following intensely interesting narrative of hardship and suffering in the lonely Australian wilderness illustrates in a vivid manner the dangers to which the pioneers subjected to in their work of exploring and prospecting for new Westralian Goldfields, is related by John Marshall, of Kalgoolie, late Hon. Secretary Westralian Gold-Diggers' Association in the "Wide World Magazine." To the average "Englishman who lives at home at ease" comparatively little is known of the difficulties, hardships, and dangers which gold-seekers have to endure in searching for, opening up, and developing new goldfields. No class of men has ever exhibited more enterprise and energy, more dauntless daring and resolute courage than the gold-diggers of the new countries of the world. The Australian miner is not given to "skite" or boast or complain about the dangers he passes through. He looks at them as part of the "day's work," and deeds of bravery are performed and hardships endured which, if they were known, would thrill the world with admiration and awe. As it is, they pass without surprise or comment, owing solely to the lack of someone to chronicle them.

The opening up of the Coolgarie Goldfields was accomplished under the greatest possible difficulties. The early prospectors had to travel over waterless wastes, and literally take their lives in their hands every time they left the few and isolated centres of population. And, alas! how many had to pay toll for their daring with their lives! The following thrilling story was told to me in the early part of 1894 on the streets of Coolgarie, where I met the mate (Patrick Hughes) who had been able to endure the hardships the best, but who bore even then the marks of the awful sufferings he had to encounter on the trip; his pinched face and deeply marked forehead speaking eloquently of the fatigue and agony he had gone through.

Two better fellows and more experienced bushmen than Patrick Hughes and Jack Fouracre, both of whom were "sand-groppers"—that is, native-born Westralians—never set out on a prospecting tour. With six good horses and well-lined saddle-bags, in splendid health and spirits, they left Coolgarie to take up and register the Diorite King, a now well-known gold mine, situate 195 miles from Goongahrie (now the township of Goongahrie) without any incident of note taking place. Here they registered the Diorite King at the Government office. Then, leaving the "Ninety Mile," they went sixteen miles to a condenser, where they watered their horses. After this they pushed on nine miles farther and struck camp, but were unable to obtain any water here. Next day they travelled twenty-five miles to a "gnama hole"—that is to say, a cavity in the rock into which the surface water drains when it rains—but they found to their surprise that it was nearly dry, only sufficient being left to give the horses a quarter drink each and themselves a little to make tea with. Jack Fouracre, however, was certain that about fourteen miles from where they were camped there was a large gnama hole which was full of water when he was there some months previously. This, he declared, would yield them all the water they required. The horses were beginning to get restless and uneasy, but there was nothing for it but to try and make the extra fourteen miles and get to water. When they reached the hole, however, they were horrified to find that there was not a single drop in it. Nothing now remained but to go ahead, which they did, till darkness set in; and they camped for the night on a big mulga flat. Long before daybreak they started for the head of what is now known as Granite Creek. Jack had only been once in that locality before, and the general impression then was that the creek—which was simply the bed of what was a water-course probably once every seven years—was about fifty miles long instead of being, as it has since been proved to be, only fifteen miles. Jack calculated that by striking across the country they would cut the bed of the creek, where, he thought, they would be sure to get water. The horses had travelled all day as fast as their weak condition and the intense heat would permit, but no appearance of

a dry creek was visible. The poor animals were terribly knocked up with their long day's journey, while the two men, being scarcely capable of standing, lay down to snatch a few hours' sleep during the cool of the evening. Whether it was owing to the want of water, and the fever induced thereby, Jack Fouracre, who up to this time had always taken the lead, and whose knowledge of bushcraft was considered absolutely reliable, appeared to have—to some extent at least—lost his memory for names and places, as he was not at all sure of his bearings. The matter was debated that night by the two mates, and it was agreed to get up early in the morning and try hard to make the head of the creek. The horses rambled about all night vainly looking for water, and the men were too much excited and thirsty to sleep well. Rising before day broke they ascended a hill some way off, and saw what they took to be a line of timber marking where the bed of the creek was supposed to be. This timber seemed about five miles distant. Hope again rose in their breasts, and, packing the horses, they set out for the creek. By this time the poor horses were scarcely able to move, as they had been nearly three days and nights without water. After hours of painful toil they neared the place they had taken for the watercourse, and Jack, who by this time was in a half-crazy condition, was certain the long-sought-for Granite Creek was close at hand. After almost incredible efforts they reached the spot where Jack thought they should find water, but instead they discovered, to their horror, that it was not the place they were looking for at all, and there was no trace of water to be found!

The plight the two mates now found themselves in may be better imagined than described. Buoyed up with the hope of obtaining plenty of water for themselves and their horses half crazy with thirst and heat, they had whipped up their wretched animals and exhausted themselves in their frantic efforts to get as quickly as possible to the supposed water.

The shock was too much for Jack Fouracre, in his weak and half-demented condition; and, cursing his ill-luck, he drew out his revolver to end his sufferings, as he saw no prospect of escape from the horrible death that was staring them in the face. Pat Hughes, however, who, from temperament and physical constitution, was better fitted than his despairing mate to stand the horrors of the situation, plucked the revolver from Jack's hand and called him a fool. Then he said, angrily, "I have followed you all over the bush, Jack Fouracre, but now you shall follow and obey me. We shall go back into the Granite Hills, and see if we can't strike some gnama holes." They rested for some time under a tree, and then tried to strike back into the hills. Presently they came across a buggy track, which had passed over there some months previously, and, after following it up for a bit, found to their despair and disgust that the tracks were going towards Mount Ida, and away from the place they wanted to go to. They then determined to proceed to Cutmore's Well, which they reckoned was about forty-five miles away, but was nevertheless the nearest water they could depend upon. By this time Fouracre was very ill indeed, and every now and then he had to leave his horse owing to the intense pain he was suffering. At last he fell right out of the saddle, and when Hughes went to him he said, feebly, "Pat, I am done!—fairly done! I can't go any farther! For God's sake give me my revolver and let me blow my brains out! Anything is better than this cruel, slow death!" Pat lay down gently and patiently beside his mate and tried to soothe him, but it was all to no purpose. The man was suffering dreadful agony and appeared to be dying. They had now been over three days and four nights without water, the heat being terrific. Despair was in their hearts; they were fairly exhausted, their tongues swollen, and their heads giddy and ringing with strange noises.

About 10 p.m. they determined to make one last desperate effort to find Granite Creek or perish in the attempt. They travelled all night by the compass. A fresh breeze was now blowing, and it was nice and cool. They made better headway than they had hoped for. When daybreak came they saw a line of timber about a mile and a half ahead, and Jack swore that it was Granite Creek, the goal which they had been so eagerly seeking. The horses, which had been crawling along at a snail's pace, began to pick up their ears and go forward more rapidly. In an hour and a half they reached the bank where Jack was certain water would be found, as he recognized what is now known to prospectors as the "Cement Hole." Taking a pannikin each, the two mates hob-

bled, as well as their tottering limbs would permit them, down to the bank of the creek. It was a last chance. If it failed they would not have waited for death. But lo! to their intense joy they found an abundant supply of precious water. Hughes, who was the least spent of the two, managed to crawl down from the ledge of the rock which fringed the water-hole, and dipping in his pannikin, he lifted it up full of water and drank it off. It needs an infinitely abler pen than mine to describe the man's sensations at that moment. He then filled and handed the pannikin to Jack, who was standing on the top shaking with excitement, and he also drained it off with feverish eagerness. As they quaffed the pure cool water it seemed as if it were nectar from the gods. The darkness and despair of hell seemed to lift, and a new earth was opened to them. Both men felt as if they could drink a bucketful, and yet still remain thirsty. They well knew, however, the evil effects likely to result from a surfeit of water after such a long thirst, and despite the maddening desire to drink more and yet more, prudence restrained them. New energy, life, and hope sprang up anew in their breasts. Their voices, which had sounded hollow, and were scarcely audible when they spoke to each other, now became comparatively clear and ringing. Next the horses, which had been tied up when they reached the water-hole, were given about three gallons each, and in a few hours they got as quench water as they could drink. A number of parrots were killed and a grand breakfast cooked, of which each man ate as much as his weakened stomach would permit, nearly all the food with the packs, having been left some distance back, two days and three nights before.

After getting their traps and "tucker" they rested for a few days, and two of their horses died, having succumbed to the hardships they had undergone. They then went on to the Diorite King, which they reached in safety.

But the "gruelling" Jack Fouracre had received through the privations and suffering he had endured had wasted him terribly, and he became very seriously ill. Pat found it necessary to bring him to Coolgarie on camel-back, and from there he was taken on to Perth, where he lay in the hospital for many weeks ere he recovered. Hughes himself also suffered a good deal, and it was some time before he was all right again. Although only a little over thirty years of age his hair turned quite grey within a few weeks of his trying experience. The last heard of Jack Fouracre was from Klondyke about six months back, when he wrote to his friends at Coolgarie stating that he was trying to get back to the "Golden West" again. Patrick Hughes is still battling it out at Kalgoolie, and a few months ago was a conspicuous figure in the celebrated "Ivanhoe Venture" troubles at that great mining centre.

The Parochial School.

The parochial school idea and religious system of education is winning friends daily, slowly but surely, among intelligent and well-meaning and fair-minded Protestants. This very fact should be sounded in every religious paper and magazine not only once, no, again and again in order to let the public know and understand that the Catholic Church always has and still has the correct idea and the only correct system of education. The Methodist Bishop, Dr. Boke Smith, of South Carolina, made this strong declaration at Jacksonville, Fla., when he said: "Intellectual culture by itself is the means of the development of rascality. Who break your banks? Who are the leaders of anarchistic movements? Are they the ignorant men of the country? No, they are the intellectual rascals, and the educated criminal is the most dangerous of all. No education deserves the name unless it has the moral side. The most powerful influence about the training of the child is the influence of the teacher. God save this country from godless teachers and God save the country from a purely secular education!"

Yes, let us have public religious schools for the children of those parents at least, and there are millions in this country, Catholic and Protestant, who are not contented and cannot be contented with our present godless system of education in our public schools—since it is a matter of conscience with Christian parents! Let us have public schools, public religious schools; public and religious in a way that will be just to all denominations!—St. Anthony's Messenger.