## PRESENTATION AND DINNER TO MR. J. H. PLUMMER, LATE ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER OF THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

The staff of the Canadian Bank of Commerce have shown their high appreciation of the many good qualities of Mr Plummer, who is retiring from the service, by presenting him with a very handsome service of plate.

The presentation, which took place in Toronto on the 14th inst., was made by Mr. B. E. Walker, the General Manager, on behalf of the officers of the Bank. A few remarks were also made by two of the Directors and some of the older members of the staff, several of whom have been associated with Mr. Plummer in the service of the Bank for over thirty-five years. The gratifying feature about this presentation is that, out of a total staff of 630 men, practically the whole number joined in the movement to show their appreciation of Mr. Plummer and their regret at his severing his connection with an institution which he has aided, by his ability and sound judgment, in placing in such a strong position among the banks of Canada.

About 120 officers of the Bank were present when the presentation was made.

In the evening a farewell dinner was given to Mr. Plummer by the President and Board of Directors of the Bank. Senator Cox, President, who occupied the chair, dwelt on the valuable services rendered to the Bank by Mr. Plummer during his 28 years' connection with it, and the pleasant and harmonious personal relations which had at all times existed between Mr. Plummer and the Directors. Addresses were also given by B. E. Walker, E. Gurney, A. W. Smith and others. Among those present were: Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Mr. Goldwin Smith, Provost Macklem, Mr. D. D. Mann, Mr. S. Nordheimer, Rev. Dr. Warden, Rev. Dr. Griffin, Mr. Wm. Mackenzie, Mr. E. B. Osler, M.P., Mr. Crathern, Mr. Kingman and F. H. Mathewson, Manager of the Montreal branch; Mr. Alex. Laird, who succeeds Mr. Plummer; Mr. J. C. Kemp, Manager of the Toronto office, and some 50 out of town managers and other members of the staff. The guests numbered 102, and the function was a great success.

## CANADIAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Bankers' Section of the Board of Trade and the Montreal Clearing House was held on the 14th inst. The following is the report of the Chairman:

GENTLEMEN:—

From the annual statement of the Manager of the Montreal Clearing House already submitted to you, it will be seen that the clearings last year of the banks transacting business in Montreal indicate continued expansion of trade throughout the Dominion, activity of business at the Stock Exchange, and another bountiful harvest. In fact, the report of my predecessor in office, with its references to the progress and prosperity of the country during 1901, might well serve as the report of your chairman for the past twelve months.

If clearing house returns illustrate the fluctuations of trade, the figures now presented to you tell a story of prosperity in the Canadian metropolis, and it is pleasing to note that the returns of other cities show a corresponding increase.

The Bank of Montreal having consented to provide suitable quarters in the new premises of that institution for the Montreal Clearing House, I would suggest that the incoming committee make all the necessary arrangements for the removal of the Clearing House from its present location.

Following is a tabulated statement of the Montreal clearings for the last three years:—

| | 1900. | 1901. | 1902. |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | $62,853,000 | $71,115,000 | $ 76,995,000 |
| February | 54,250,000 | 51,138,000 | 74,009,000 |
| March | 54,882,000 | 69,580,000 | 79,989,000 |
| April | 55,915,000 | 69,132,000 | 106,427,000 |
| May | 62,332,000 | 84,507,000 | 101,028,000 |
| June | 65,543,000 | 79,746,000 | 90,827,000 |
| July | 61,293,000 | 80,198,000 | 89,071,000 |
| August | 58,229,000 | 71,723,000 | 91,712,000 |
| September | 57,686,000 | 73,368,000 | 100,015,000 |
| October | 65,983,000 | 78,250,000 | 107,848,000 |
| November | 68,656,000 | 85,581,000 | 92,701,000 |
| December | 63,311,000 | 75,141,000 | 88,348,000 |
| | $730,933,000 | $889,479,000 | $1,098,970,000 |

The following gentlemen were appointed to serve on the Committee for 1903:—Messrs. H. V. Meredith, F. H. Mathewson, W. M. Ramsay, E. C. Pratt C. A. Giroux, C. S. Hoare and T. F. How. Mr. E. F. Hebden was unanimously chosen as the nominee of the Bankers' Section for a seat at the Council of the Board of Trade, and Mr. T. F. How, the retiring Councillor, was elected Chairman of the Clearing House Committee.

From a tabulated statement prepared by the Manager of the Clearing House we gather the following items of interest:—During 1902 the average daily clearing was $3,591,427; the largest week (September 11), $27,534,669; the smallest week (January 30), $15,216,442; the largest day (October 9), $5,921,846; the smallest day (January 27) $1,697,221.

## AN ENGLISH RECORD CLEARING.

The Bankers' Clearing House of London, Eng., has just issued its annual statement.

The total clearings £10,028,742,000, is the largest amount passed through the House in any one year, and exceeds the total of 1901 (hitherto as in Montreal the record year) by £467,578,000.

THE HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, in announcing that Mr. Charles E. Chase and Mr. Richard M. Bissell have been elected Vice-Presidents of the Company, says in a circular: "Mr. Chas. E. Chase has been with the Company for twenty-two years, and for the last twelve years has filled the position of Assistant Secretary. Mr. Bissell is the son of Mr. G. F. Bissell, formerly General Agent of the 'Hartford's' Western department, and has been in the service of the Company for twenty years, and for the past six years has been of the firm of Cofran & Bissell, General Agents of our Western department."