

If every bank that cashes a money order (whether it cashes it outside of Montreal or not) is to get a commission on it, I suppose the banks generally will adopt the plan of not issuing money orders except to reach points at which they would not be able to make their drafts payable, and that, it would seem to me, would be a pity.

I would like to know what is the feeling of the country managers, who are very largely represented here. My own impression is we should abolish the commission paid the banks and each of us pay the money orders without charge. I think in the end we would each be as well off as under the present system of dividing the commissions.

MR. FARWELL—I have felt all along it was a mistake to have this division of the commission; I think it will result in this, that the orders will not become popular, they will not be sent broadcast as the orders of the Express Companies are sent, and people will not see them except in cases where a bank can save a little commission by having them paid at another point. But if the commission went wholly to the issuing bank—it is not a large commission, hardly enough to divide with anybody—they would be issued very often, and issued in the place of drafts.

I think if the division of commission were abolished the matter would equalize itself, and that they would make just as much out of the money orders without division of commission as they do now with it. I certainly should be very glad to see the division of commission abolished.

THE PRESIDENT—The popularity of the money orders does not depend upon how the commission is divided.

MR. FARWELL—I do not know that. If they are seen floating around day by day, they must become popular, while, if they are seen but very seldom, they are curiosities.

THE PRESIDENT—They will only be seen if they are popular. I would be very much afraid that the larger banks would object to paying money orders without receiving a share of the commission. I can quite understand that a bank with one or two agencies would be quite willing to enter into an arrangement by which every other bank would pay its money orders without charge. Our own bank is not particularly interested in it, but I should think that a bank like the Bank of Montreal, the Bank of Commerce, or the Merchants Bank, would suffer by it.

MR. PLUMMER—We would not suffer as we do under the present system, which is to issue orders freely to all customers who want small drafts, without taking into consideration whether we have a branch at the point at which they are to be paid or not. If the system of division of commission be not