It cannot be denied that in the general prosperity of the country we, as a bank, must also expand, and, while we are not rushing into every new field, the Directors are carefully considering every point and selecting such as they consider will prove sound and permanent. We have had under consideration, and have purchased a new site in Toronto. We have invested in good property there, and I am sure that the Shareholders will approve. In the property at the corner of Spadina Avenue and King Street, we have an excellent investment and a good class of tenants. We also purchased property in the electrical city of Niagara Falls, to meet the increasing demands of our business there, which realizes handsomely on the investment.

In the new districts of the Northwest we are pursuing the same careful policy in making extensions from time to time, and our investments in bank premises there have resulted entirely satisfactory to the Board.

Since our last meeting, indeed, shortly after we last met here, we lost one of our directors, A. B. Lee, Toronto, and our Board felt that the importance of having a representative in that important city should not be overlooked. The members of the Board and the Shareholders are to be congratulated upon the man whose services we were able to secure, Mr. C. C. Dalton, a gentleman who has made a success of his own business, and who, I am sure, will be approved of at this Annual Meeting.

I regret also that our friend and fellow-director, Cyrus Birge, met with a serious loss in the death of his wife, and it is due to him that the cause of his absence should be mentioned at this meeting, and our sympathy extended to him.

I need not speak of the loyalty of the Staff and General Manager, for the General Manager is as loyal to them as they are to him, and both are at all times loyal to the bank. I can assure you with great satisfaction, that the greatest harmony exists between the Board, the General Manager and the Staff.

For the six months since our last meeting, the Bank has paid a dividend at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, and I am sure that everyone will be satisfied with the half-year's results.

Mr. Gibson concluded by moving, seconded by Mr. John Proctor, the adoption of the report, which was carried.

Moved by Mr. Hendrie, seconded by Mr. F. W. Gates: "That the thanks of this meeting be given to the President and Directors for their services during the past half-year."

Both mover and seconder spoke in congratulatory terms in presenting the resolution, and the Chairman called upon Col. J. S. Hendrie to reply on behalf of the Board. As the youngest member of the Board, he was much pleased to reply to the resolution, particularly as it was moved and seconded by two of the oldest gentlemen present, and two of the original stockholders. He could not add much to what had been said, except a few words in regard to securities. He had submitted the American securities to a very high authority, and the report which he had received upon them was most satisfactory. It was to the effect that better securities could not be held.

Mr. Adam Brown moved, seconded by Mr. John A. Bruce: "That the thanks of this meeting be given to the General Manager, inspectors, agents and other officers of the Bank, for the efficient performance of their respective duties."

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and Mr. Turnbull replied.

On motion of Mr. Wm. Hendrie, seconded by Mr. F. W. Gates, and carried, the President was asked to cast one ballot for the Board of Directors, and the following were declared elected:—Messrs. Hon. Wm. Gibson, John Proctor, John S. Hendrie, M.L.A., George Rutherford, J. Turnbull, C. A. Birge, and C. C. Dalton.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, Hon. Wm. Gibson was re-elected President, and Mr. J. Turnbull, Vice-President.