MONTREAL CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK.

The favour in which the Montreal City and District Savings Bank is rightly held by the public, is evidenced by the fact that General Manager Lesperance reports nearly 7,000 more depositors at the close of 1906, than a year previous—the number of open accounts on December 31 last, being 87,081, and the average amount due each depositor about $225.

The net profits for the year were $156,614.95, and the balance brought forward from last year's profit and loss account was $51,005.54, making a total of $207,620.49. From this amount there were paid two dividends to shareholders, and $100,000 has been transferred to reserve fund, increasing the latter to $900,000, leaving a balance at credit of profit and loss of $7,620.49, to be carried forward to next year.

The President, Hon. J. A. Ouimet, drew attention in his remarks to the fact that the bank is solely and absolutely a savings bank. Its business is strictly conducted in accordance with the laws regulating savings banks in the Dominion. It is the only bank incorporated under the Savings Bank Act which does business in the City of Montreal, and its charter under the act is so framed as to afford the utmost possible protection to depositors.

CANADIAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Canadian Bankers' Association held its regular quarterly meeting on Thursday last, in the Board room of the Bank of Montreal. Those present at the meeting were: Messrs. E. S. Clouston, of the Bank of Montreal, in the chair; B. E. Walker of the Commerce; D. T. Wilkie, of the Imperial; G. P. Schofield, of the Standard; H. Stikeman, of the British; T. Macdougall, of the Quebec; H. Prendergast, of the Hochelaga; W. B. Torrance, of the Royal; G. A. Balfour, of the Union; D. Coulson, of the Toronto; H. S. Strathy, of the Traders; H. J. Bethune, of the Dominion; E. F. Hebden, of the Merchants; George Burn, of the Ottawa; E. L. Thorne, of the Union, of Halifax; J. Elliot, of the Molsons, and J. Mackinnon, of the Eastern Townships. The issuing of money orders by the several banks was a chief topic for consideration. The majority are said to favour a continuance of the project, and the doing of everything possible to ensure the growing success of the system.

THE FREE ZONE WAREHOUSE at Bremen was the starting place for a fire which last week caused a loss of over $1,000,000.

Prominent Topics

Uniform Bill of Lading. The Journal of the Canadian Bankers' Association, in its interesting current issue, refers editorially as follows to a matter that is calling for much attention in the United States and Canada from shippers and railroads, and bankers as well:

The Board of Railway Commissioners of Canada have under consideration a draft of terms and conditions of carriage of goods by railway companies. The Boards of Trade throughout the Dominion have been requested by the Commissioners to forward any representations in regard thereto, and the shipper or owner of goods is thus given an opportunity to protect his interests.

Incidentally, the Canadian Bankers' Association has the proposed uniform bill of lading under consideration for the purpose of assisting shippers in securing such a contract with the transportation companies as will be in all respects reasonable and fair. To one clause of the draft of terms and conditions submitted by the railways to the Commissioners at Ottawa there is likely to be strong opposition, namely, the transfer of liability when a railway company has given to the shipper a through bill of lading. The editor of the Journal is in receipt of a letter from a Toronto barrister who, in referring to this condition in the contract as proposed by the railways, says:

"It does not seem right that a shipper in Halifax making a contract with the Intercolonial for the delivery of goods at Dawson on through Bills of Lading and a through rate, should be required to seek redress in the event of loss of goods against some obscure driver of a dog-sled in the Yukon District."

Tributes to Montreal and Toronto. In chronicling the McGill University fires, The Outlook, one of the leading weeklies of London, Eng., says: "One could have better spared any educational buildings in the world than the part of McGill University burned down by two successive fires. They were to scientific education what the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto is to surgery. They were erected by the beneficence of men to whom both Canada and the Empire owe much, and in their equipment the minutiae of the best schools in America and Europe were studied. Oxford has long been sighing for the opportunity to equip herself with such an instrument of scientific teaching, but we have no such generous patrons in the older countries, and our Government does not take their place."