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R. WILSON-SMITH,

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Effect of Forbidding Mutual Rates.

The United States Supreme Court has declared the Iowa law valid by which fire insurance companies are forbidden to enter into an arrangement as to mutual rates.

The effect of this decision will be to render all such arrangements in the United States illegal. The result can hardly fail to be exactly the reverse of what the promoters of such legislation allege to be their motive. They charge the companies with combining to advance and maintain rates at a higher figure than they would be were no such mutual arrangement in force. The rates fixed by an association of underwriters are based upon their combined experience. They thus approximate, as near as is practicable, to a scientific standard and there is no necessity for a margin being provided to cover the uncertainty that exist when each company relies wholly upon its own experience.

Redeemed Notes Not Destroyed.

A contemporary when referring to the destruction of bank notes when withdrawn from circulation stated that all notes when redeemed were destroyed. This will be news to bankers, who are redeeming their notes every day and re-issuing them although redeemed. The writer is evidently unacquainted with the meaning of the word "redeemed" in currency language, which is not, as he appears to suppose, a synonym for cancellation as a step to their being burnt. Every note received for value by the issuing bank is a "redeemed" note, until it is again put into circulation.

The notes of the Bank of England are an exception to this order as none of its notes are re-issued, however brief has been their active life. Indeed notes of the Bank of England may be issued, redeemed and cancelled without having left the bank's offices.

Insurance of the Daily Press.

It is well known in insurance circles how ill-informed are writers in the daily "Press" on insurance matters. Critics of both life and fire insurance go blundering along making statements and drawing conclusions which are as

devoid of foundation as the wildest romance. In fact, of daily press comments on insurance it may be said, "Are of imagination all compact."

One of the commonest ideas prevalent amongst these critics is that, the entire difference between the amount received for premiums and amount paid for losses is profit to the fire companies. That the business of fire insurance is conducted without any management expenses being incurred is an opinion almost universally held by fire insurance critics in daily papers.

Another idea which generally prevails is that the companies are not justified in preparing for conflagrations, or an epidemic of fires. A fire insurance company ought "to live from hand to mouth," laying nothing aside for contingencies, is a popular opinion. Had this policy been pursued no company would have been in existence today. No business man would approve of such imprudence, but the companies are denounced continuously for charging such rates as enable them to protect themselves and the policy-holders from being destroyed by conflagrations.

This lack of knowledge is lamentable but "worse remains behind." "The Spectator" declares that, while "the daily papers are extremely eager to print anything calculated to discredit insurance, if the companies wish to expose unwarranted attacks upon them the daily papers charge from one to two dollars a line for publishing their defence." That is a serious accusation which we cannot believe applies to the daily papers in Canada. It is the universal custom for all who are engaged in a business in which the loss ratio is incalculable to make provision for the uncertainty on a maximum scale. With fire insurance this is especially the case as the range of risk is so wide and the variations of experience are so numerous and so extended. A company operating in ignorance of the experience of other companies would be exceedingly imprudent were it not to charge such rates as would cover the range of risk, as assumed without knowledge of the average experience of the companies. A mutual understanding amongst underwriters, restrains any excessive rates being imposed by causing them to be based upon an extensive range of experience, upon an ascertained average rather than a supposition affected by over-caution.

THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY.

ITS DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPECTS IN CANADA; STEEL A FUNDAMENTAL NECESSITY OF MANUFACTURING; THE NEW ERA OF STEEL MANUFACTURE; ENORMOUS USE BY RAILWAYS; STEEL RAILS WANTED FOR 50,000 MILES OF TRACKS IN CANADA; NEW RAILROADS ENLARGING THE DEMAND; THE PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF THE WORKS AT SAULT STE. MARIE AND SYDNEY; CANADA WILL SUPPLY ITS OWN STEEL FOR RAILWAYS, SHIP-BUILDING, ETC.

No industries have in them so much of the elements of permanence and development as the manufacture of iron and steel. Many industries represent successive stages of a continuous, many sided process of production, as the spinning of yarn is one stage in the making of cloths.

The finished product of one industry is the raw material of another.

In regard to iron and steel, they not merely hold an analogous relation to other industries, but they are fundamental necessities for conducting every known process of manufacture. Hence it is that the iron and steel trades serve as barometers of trade, for in every department of industrial activity there is a demand for iron and steel perpetually, so that every favourable, or depressing influence in the sphere of manufacturing, or transportation, acts directly or indirectly, but unfailingly, upon the production of iron and steel.

These metals, or their equivalents, must have been in use in the earliest ages. The sculptured works of remotest antiquity evidence the action of tools of the steel class in hardness and sharpness of edge.

The development of the production of iron in the old world is divisible into the charcoal-furnace period, and the coal-furnace period. As regards steel the main divisions are the time prior to the Bessemer process, and the time since that invention. "Coming events cast their shadows before" as was shown by several improvements in the manufacture of steel. But Bessemer did for steel making what Hargreaves and Arkright did for the manufacture of cotton.

A NEW ERA IN THE PRODUCTION OF STEEL.

Some years ago Mr. Bessemer invited a number of iron masters and others in the Black Country (South Staffordshire) to witness an exhibition of a new process of making steel. Under the shadow of a blast furnace, near Dudley, those invited were gathered in a wide ring around a huge tank into which flowed a stream of molten iron. This was attached to the "blower" of the furnace. Suddenly a volcano of brilliant sparks burst out from the tank, like a display of fireworks. This was the

result of injecting air into the molten iron, the oxygen of the air uniting with the carbon of the iron the excess of carbon escaped as a gas, thus enabling the steel maker, by the addition of any necessary quantity of speigel, to produce from the converters at will any quality of steel desired.

That spectacle was unique in the world's history. It was the dawn of a new era. By the cheapening of steel hundreds of millions were added to the world's wealth and its realizable resources. It would be difficult to exaggerate the enormous economic result of this triumph of science which gave a powerful stimulus to every known industry and created others, which are, to-day, amongst the leading factors in the creation of wealth.

Steel is not a natural but an artificial metal, it is highly purified iron, iron "Converted," as the term is, by a process of smelting by which steel is manufactured out of iron as the iron was produced out of crude ore.

Every tool in use, whose name is legion, every machine, from the watch to the turbine engine, every form of mechanical transportation, from the perambulator to the locomotive, has steel in its structure. Before Bessemer's day the rails on railroads were of iron, usually of a very high quality. But steel is now as low in price as high grade iron used to be. Indeed, any very wide difference no longer exists between the price of iron and steel, rails are therefore, now rolled out of steel which is made of a suitable quality for this service.

As there are now 20,000 miles of railway in Canada laid with steel rails, of which about 1,000 miles are double track, some general idea may be formed as to the enormous quantity of steel used in our railways. Taking the main lines and the sidings, the length of steel rails laid down in Canada must be not far short of 50,000 miles if laid out in a single line. Besides these there are about 700 to 800 miles of electric railways in Canada which are laid to a considerable extent with steel rails. The Grand Trunk Pacific Railway will require steel rails to equip a track extending some 3,757 miles. As the development of the Northwest proceeds, there will be new branches built of this line and of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern.

CANADA WILL SUPPLY ITS OWN STEEL RAILS.

The supply of rails to meet the enormous demand for the Canadian Pacific and its branches, the Grand Trunk Pacific, the Intercolonial, the Canadian Northern and other lines in operation, in course of construction, and projected in this Dominion will have to be derived from Canadian rolling mills.

The leading commercial journal of the United States recently said:

"Canadian bounties and duties may and will serve as a barrier more or less complete between our American mills and this great project of 3,750 miles, the Grand Trunk Pacific."

Already orders have been placed with the Canadian mills for rails for 1906 delivery, to the extent of 200,000 tons. Of these orders the magnificent works at Sault Ste. Marie will execute 125,000 tons, and the Dominion Iron & Steel Company the balance; the present capacity of both plants is 300,000 tons annually, and it is likely their whole output will be used.

The productive capacity of the Sault Ste. Marie mills is enormous. The works comprise Bessemer Steel Plant and Rolling Mills, Blast Furnaces, Pulp Mill, Sulphite Mill, Iron Works, Car Shops, Vener Mill, Saw Mill, Charcoal Plant, Power Plant and Reduction Works. The turnover of these works for the year ending June 30, 1905, exceeded \$5,000,000, and is likely to exceed \$7,000,000 for 1906. The company operates 100 miles of railway. It owns 8 steamers whose aggregate capacity is 16,000 tons, which are employed in its own business. It derives its iron ore from its own mines, so that the entire processes of manufacture of steel products from the crude ore to the finished article, are carried on in the same works, under one management.

The imports into Canada of iron and steel in 5 past years were as follows:

| 1900. | 1901. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| \$29,300,073 | \$26,780,458 | \$32,973,602 | \$42,009,168 | \$41,152,780 |

Of rails and railway supplies the imports for some years have averaged from 3 to 3½ millions of dollars.

The whole of the iron and steel goods comprised in those imports are produceable in the works now being operated in Canada. The change coming over the steel trade in this country is shown by the exports of steel goods manufactured in the Dominion having increased from \$68,800 in 1890 to \$1,046,279 in 1904.

In Canada are illimitable supplies of iron ore, of fuel, of flux, of building materials, of water power, and conveniences of transportation. The demand for iron and steel enlarges with every step in the development of population, of manufacturing enterprise, and of agricultural progress.

Canada is bound to become one of the world's great steel manufacturing countries, and as the production of steel enlarges so will enlarge other industries which invariably develop alongside that of steel making.

RICHARD BIDDUEPH MARTIN ESQ., M.P., a director of the Sun Fire Office was created a baronet on the King's birthday.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

88TH ANNUAL MEETING; DIRECTORS' REPORT; LARGE PROFITS FOR YEAR; HEAVY BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD; STATEMENT SHOWS BUSINESS EXPANDING; QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS TO BE PAID; HEAD OFFICE BUILDING COMPLETED; LORD STRATHCONA RETIRES FROM PRESIDENCY; ELECTED HONORARY PRESIDENT; SIR GEORGE A. DRUMMOND, PRESIDENT, AND MR. E. S. CLOUSTON, VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER.

On the 4th inst. the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal held the 88th annual meeting of that institution. The Hon. Sir George A. Drummond, K.C.M.G., vice-president, presided in the absence of Lord Strathcona. A number of our leading citizens were in attendance.

The report of the directors was read by Mr. E. S. Clouston, general manager. The net profits for year ended 31st October, 1905, were given as \$1,638,650, to which \$583,196 being added, the amount brought from previous year, made a total of \$2,221,855. The distribution of this sum was as follows: two dividends were paid of 5 per cent. each, which took \$1,420,000, leaving \$801,855 as a balance to be carried forward at credit of profit and loss account to next year, 1905-6.

Since December, 1904, the assets and business of the People's Bank of Halifax have been acquired, with 26 branches. Sub-agencies have been established at Altona, Oakville and Logan Avenue (Winnipeg) in Manitoba, Enderby and Nicola in British Columbia, and Hochelaga (Montreal), and sub-agencies are to be opened at Fort Rouge (Winnipeg), and St. Anne de Bellevue.

The Head Office building, Montreal, is now completed and in occupation. The report announces that quarterly dividends will be paid in future, in March, June, September and December.

THE GENERAL STATEMENT

As at 31st October last, shows as in the following comparison with the figures of previous year:

| | 1904. | 1905. | Increase. |
|---|-------------|-------------|------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Capital paid up..... | 14,000,000 | 14,400,000 | 400,000 |
| Reserve fund..... | 10,000,000 | 10,000,000 | None. |
| Balance carried forward... | 583,196 | 801,855 | 218,659 |
| Circulation..... | 10,925,689 | 12,996,181 | 2,070,492 |
| Deposits not bearing int.... | 23,681,366 | 31,438,001 | 7,756,635 |
| Deposits bearing interest... | 71,113,046 | 87,725,211 | 16,612,165 |
| Gold and silver coin..... | 4,083,672 | 5,089,152 | 1,005,480 |
| Dominion notes..... | 4,468,798 | 7,221,980 | 2,753,182 |
| Total immediately available assets..... | 48,881,689 | 68,833,030 | 19,951,341 |
| Due by agencies, etc., in | | | |
| Great Britain..... | 3,555,929 | 3,745,653 | 189,724 |
| Due by foreign agencies... | 1,112,152 | 2,293,384 | 1,181,232 |
| Call and short loans in Gt. Britain and U. S..... | 24,499,623 | 37,961,908 | 13,462,285 |
| Dom. & Pro. G't. securities | 519,863 | 432,244 | Decrease. |
| R'way and other " " | 7,373,367 | 7,849,207 | 475,840 |
| Notes & cheq's of other bks. | 2,508,282 | 3,532,500 | 724,218 |
| Current loans & discounts. | 81,304,314 | 88,591,703 | 7,287,389 |
| Total assets..... | 131,166,768 | 158,232,409 | 27,065,641 |

The increase of over 2 millions in circulation, 24¼ millions in deposits, and 27 millions in current loans and discounts are very striking evidences of the expansion of business in Canada in the past year, of the confidence felt in this strong bank, and the popularity of the management. The additions made to the business of the Bank of Montreal between October, 1904, and October, 1905, were large enough for equipping a bank of ordinary size. Indeed, there are 15 of our banks whose discounts are less than the increase made in those of the Bank of Montreal last year.

The increase of \$24,368,800 in deposits is remarkable. The time is not distant since such an increase in one year by all the banks was regarded as a great advance. This bank has now \$94,794,412 of deposits, which is close upon the total amount of deposits held by all the banks 20 years ago.

The Bank of Montreal is, indeed, a great institution.

MR. E. S. CLOUSTON'S ADDRESS.

The General Manager in his address alluded to the large amount of immediately available assets held, \$68,633,030, which, though larger than necessary, it was desirable to have at command owing to the uncertain future of Continental finance, the conditions in Russia, and "the somewhat boom conditions on this continent." "It is well to be strong," said the General Manager.

He thought that with the addition of new banking capital and the increase of branches, it seems as if, for some time to come, the circulation provided will be sufficient for the needs of the country. The advantage of the Canadian system has been amply demonstrated during the late pressure for money. Notwithstanding the heavy demands to move the largest crop in our history, the interest rate to our people has remained normal. We have only to glance at the condition of affairs across the line to see what fluctuations in rates for money the public are subjected to under the system there in vogue.

Reference was made to the failure of the Yarmouth Bank from which no loss has occurred to the depositors and other creditors.

"The one word," said Mr. Clouston, "written large in the records of Canada this year is, 'Prosperity.'" "Never before have we had a twelvemonth of such universal prosperity, and it is during a year like this that every one should set his house in order. Collections should be pressed, and manufacturers should husband their resources and strengthen themselves in every way; for they are to a great extent prosperous by the grace of their neighbours, and when adversity comes to other countries, the American bargain counter will be opened in Canada, and our manufacturers and their employees will surely suffer."

ADDRESS OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT.

Sir George A. Drummond opened his address by referring to the decreasing value of money owing to the increasing accumulation of wealth in the country, the consequent increase of the number of banking companies and of their capital, and the resulting keenness of competition.

Proof of these conditions were offered as follows:

1st. As to the accumulation of wealth. The deposits in all the chartered banks in the Dominion, in 1870, were 49 millions of dollars, in round figures, omitting fractions of a million; in 1880, were 85 millions; in 1890, were 136 millions; in 1900, were 305 millions; in 1904, were 470 millions.

The Dominion Government Savings Bank held in the same year (1904), nearly 62 millions, making bank and Government deposits 532 millions.

2nd. As regards banking facilities. Five new banks have gone into operation since 1900, with an authorized capital of \$9,000,000. Five have been absorbed into other banks, but their capital presumably remains, under other control, and one bank, referred to by the general manager, with a capital of \$300,000, has failed. It may also be mentioned that charters have been obtained from Parliament during the last three years of eleven new banks, with a capital of \$19,000,000.

As regards our own bank, it has been the care of the directors to advance with the times, and I give you a few figures to show the progress which it has made.

In 1863 the capital was \$6,000,000; assets, \$15,252,000.

In 1905, the capital was \$14,400,000; assets, \$158,470,000.

Our branches, which in 1863 numbered 29, are now 100.

Sir George condemned the reckless fashion in which Canada's lumber resources are being used up. He referred to the increase of Manufactures as creating a home market for produce that was most marked. In this city and neighborhood a great number of large factories are springing up, and whatever may be said of our tariff, it unquestionably has had the effect of inducing the manufacture in this country of goods previously imported, with all the advantages of increased employment and circulation of money in this country.

"A number of these manufactories are branches or offshoots off industrial organizations in the United States."

The sum of \$75,000,000 be estimated as distributable among the small population in the Northwest as proceeds of this year's crop, and gave the area from which this wealth was drawn as under 10 per cent. of the agricultural land available for settlement.

The meeting passed a resolution complimentary to the staff.

Interest Earnings of Life Insurance Companies.

Prepared by THE CHRONICLE, MONTREAL.

CANADIAN LIFE COMPANIES.

| COMPANY. | Rate. | Mean Amount of Assets. | | | Interest Earned. | | | Rate. | | |
|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------|------|
| | 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Canada..... | 4.47 | \$ 24,368,383 | \$ 25,679,260 | \$ 27,163,638 | \$ 1,087,321 | \$ 1,160,435 | \$ 1,230,832 | 4.46 | 4.52 | 4.53 |
| Confederation..... | 4.56 | 8,282,528 | 8,894,642 | 9,506,652 | 380,130 | 421,096 | 457,640 | 4.59 | 4.73 | 4.81 |
| Continental..... | 6.27 | 137,625 | 224,656 | 295,208 | 5,914 | 9,958 | 13,313 | 4.30 | 4.43 | 4.51 |
| Crown..... | 5.02 | 78,158 | 82,774 | 108,195 | 2,376 | 2,514 | 3,356 | 3.04 | 3.04 | 3.10 |
| Dominion..... | 5.36 | 616,248 | 724,373 | 841,345 | 31,668 | 37,795 | 46,679 | 5.14 | 5.22 | 5.54 |
| Excelsior..... | 4.94 | 470,901 | 560,119 | 677,986 | 28,702 | 33,414 | 43,608 | 6.10 | 5.97 | 6.43 |
| Federal..... | 6.80 | 1,401,321 | 1,593,216 | 1,818,313 | 68,692 | 77,484 | 94,550 | 4.90 | 4.86 | 5.20 |
| Great-West..... | 3.94 | 1,235,058 | 1,673,018 | 2,154,268 | 84,676 | 110,429 | 150,955 | 6.86 | 6.60 | 7.01 |
| Home..... | 5.24 | 380,431 | 401,847 | 445,102 | 16,302 | 15,080 | 13,275 | 4.29 | 3.75 | 2.98 |
| Imperial..... | 5.59 | 1,339,342 | 1,630,537 | 1,971,375 | 69,902 | 85,089 | 103,788 | 5.22 | 5.22 | 5.26 |
| London..... | 4.77 | 1,154,156 | 1,320,099 | 1,483,362 | 65,583 | 73,933 | 83,301 | 5.68 | 5.60 | 5.62 |
| Manufacturers..... | 4.98 | 3,828,141 | 4,462,693 | 5,263,150 | 193,296 | 214,501 | 253,215 | 5.05 | 4.81 | 4.81 |
| Mutual of Canada..... | 3.35 | 5,773,208 | 6,493,471 | 7,341,373 | 288,624 | 325,922 | 373,093 | 5.00 | 5.02 | 5.08 |
| National..... | 4.45 | 149,284 | 198,976 | 265,285 | 5,619 | 7,699 | 10,068 | 3.76 | 3.87 | 3.80 |
| North American..... | 4.11 | 4,547,284 | 5,117,373 | 5,711,141 | 211,351 | 251,354 | 267,722 | 4.65 | 4.91 | 4.69 |
| Northern..... | 3.94 | 252,556 | 309,141 | 381,998 | 11,955 | 14,305 | 21,223 | 4.73 | 4.63 | 5.56 |
| Royal-Victoria..... | 4.72 | 291,434 | 334,671 | 376,727 | 10,726 | 13,619 | 14,752 | 3.68 | 4.07 | 3.92 |
| Sovereign..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 161,357 | ..... | ..... | 7,651 | ..... | ..... | 4.74 |
| Sun..... | 4.72 | 12,081,022 | 13,904,650 | 16,014,181 | 588,488 | 676,844 | 747,520 | 4.87 | 4.87 | 4.67 |
| Union..... | ..... | ..... | 113,198 | 132,900 | ..... | 3,969 | 4,230 | ..... | 3.51 | 3.18 |
| Totals..... | 4.66 | 66,386,980 | 73,718,614 | 82,113,556 | 3,151,329 | 3,535,440 | 3,940,671 | 4.75 | 4.80 | 4.80 |

BRITISH LIFE COMPANIES

| COMPANY. | Rate. | Mean Amount of Assets. | | | Interest Earned. | | | Rate. | | |
|--------------------|-------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------|------------|-------|------|------|
| | 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Pelican & B.E..... | 3.93 | \$ 15,150,909 | \$ 19,729,372 | \$ 24,576,566 | \$ 593,589 | \$ 975,887 | \$ 943,570 | 3.92 | 4.95 | 3.84 |
| London & Lanc..... | 3.94 | 8,360,396 | 8,920,573 | 9,486,236 | 338,259 | 363,792 | 370,392 | 4.05 | 4.08 | 3.90 |
| Standard..... | 4.23 | 51,229,789 | 53,010,928 | 54,574,264 | 2,094,926 | 2,197,111 | 2,326,550 | 4.09 | 4.14 | 4.26 |
| Totals..... | 4.14 | 74,741,094 | 81,660,873 | 88,637,066 | 3,026,774 | 3,536,790 | 3,640,512 | 4.05 | 4.33 | 4.11 |

AMERICAN LIFE COMPANIES

| COMPANY. | Rate. | Mean Amount of Assets. | | | Interest Earned. | | | Rate. | | |
|--------------------|-------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------|------|
| | 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Etna..... | 4.26 | \$ 60,143,432 | \$ 64,318,547 | \$ 69,447,571 | \$ 2,554,542 | \$ 2,838,248 | \$ 3,024,471 | 4.25 | 4.41 | 4.35 |
| Equitable..... | 4.24 | 335,912,421 | 360,435,245 | 386,863,525 | 14,068,214 | 14,714,774 | 16,639,314 | 4.19 | 4.08 | 4.30 |
| Metropolitan..... | 4.65 | 79,066,790 | 94,902,733 | 114,031,190 | 3,430,265 | 4,308,148 | 5,079,169 | 4.34 | 4.54 | 4.45 |
| Mutual..... | 4.09 | 360,862,342 | 385,412,335 | 414,708,990 | 14,629,775 | 16,637,698 | 17,861,700 | 4.05 | 4.32 | 4.31 |
| New York..... | 4.10 | 299,851,859 | 329,913,735 | 362,828,420 | 13,150,789 | 14,616,207 | 15,574,915 | 4.39 | 4.43 | 4.29 |
| Prov. Savings..... | 4.35 | 5,136,842 | 6,180,021 | 7,006,713 | 315,875 | 424,647 | 452,818 | 6.15 | 6.87 | 6.46 |
| State..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,519,877 | ..... | ..... | 195,789 | ..... | ..... | 7.77 |
| Travelers..... | 4.72 | 27,468,959 | 2,9663,590 | 32,854,258 | 1,342,021 | 1,454,308 | 1,631,806 | 4.89 | 4.85 | 4.97 |
| Union Mutual..... | 4.03 | 9,031,350 | 9,643,746 | 10,340,650 | 381,113 | 405,394 | 437,389 | 4.22 | 4.20 | 4.23 |
| United States..... | 5.00 | 8,276,276 | 8,442,811 | 8,648,571 | 419,428 | 444,389 | 450,965 | 5.07 | 5.26 | 5.21 |
| Totals..... | 4.20 | 1,185,750,271 | 1,289,212,762 | 1,409,249,677 | 50,292,022 | 55,843,723 | 61,348,336 | 4.24 | 4.33 | 4.35 |

The Right Hon. Lord Strathcona was elected honorary president; Sir George A. Drummond, K.C.M.G., president, and Mr. E. S. Clouston, vice-president, who has our congratulations on being advanced to this eminent position.

FIRE PROTECTION OF MONTREAL.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

A meeting of members of the Montreal Board of Trade was held on 5th inst., to consider the fire insurance situation in this city as presented in the report of a special committee appointed to investigate the existing conditions, to interview the Canadian Underwriters' Association, and the City Council and to report thereon. Their report was laid before the Council of the Board of Trade some days ago, a result of which was the meeting held on 5th inst., at which the President, Mr. W. I. Gear, took the chair.

Mr. F. H. Mathewson, first vice-president and chairman of the special Committee of the Board of Trade, stated that efforts to secure a reduction in fire insurance rates had failed as the underwriters affirmed that with their past experience of losses they could not reduce rates until there was an improvement in the city's protective system.

Mr. Mathewson advised the Board of Trade to devote its attention to the City Council, where the trouble was, and use its influence to force that body to effect the improvement recommended by the committee and endorsed by the underwriters. He moved a resolution urging the City Council to make the needed improvements in the city's fire protective service, so as to reduce the number of fires and lead to a decrease in rates of insurance.

After some discussion a resolution was moved by Mr. F. H. Mathewson, and seconded by Mr. J. B. Learmont, and adopted unanimously as follows:

"Whereas it has been reported that the recent additions to the fire protective system have not been sufficient to keep pace with the ordinary growth of the city;

"And whereas all indications point to further extensive growth in population, buildings and area;

"And whereas it is the opinion of this meeting that further extensive additions to the fire protective system should be made, by the erection of more station houses, the purchase of additional appliances and the strengthening of the fire brigade;

"Be it resolved, That this board strongly urges upon the City Council the importance of carrying out the above mentioned recommendations, and of taking at the same time, such measures for the improvement of the handling of the fire brigade as will result in diminishing the number of disastrous fires that have taken place in this city, which have resulted in the burdensome increases in the rates charged by the insurance companies.

"And further resolved, that a special committee, representative of the council of the Board of Trade and of the different commercial interests of this city, be appointed by the council of the Board of

Trade to further investigate the relative position Montreal occupies as regards the insurance rates, losses, and fire equipments, since the Board of Trade fire, as compared with other cities, and that the insurance companies be asked to appoint representatives to confer with same committee."

Mr. R. Wilson-Smith, then moved, seconded by Mr. A. A. Ayer, as follows:

"Whereas, this city is growing rapidly, and its area is soon to be largely increased by the annexation of outlying municipalities;

"And, whereas, the present pumping facilities at the low level pumping station are totally inadequate for the needs of the city;

"Be it resolved that this board urgently recommends for the early consideration of the City Council the importance of providing further pumping capacity, in addition to the steam pump shortly to be installed so that the future growth of the city may be anticipated, and such provision made so that at all times, and under all conditions, there shall be available a reserve pumping capacity of not less than 50 per cent."

He drew attention to the seriousness of the situation in respect to water supply. If one of the pumps broke down there might be a water famine. He compared the money spent by Montreal on the fire brigade with the expenditures of Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Jersey City, and Minneapolis, from which he inferred that Montreal either underpaid her men very largely and did not get the equipment necessary, or, this city's fire equipment was comparatively not equal to that of some cities in the United States. The increase in fire brigade had not kept pace with the city's development. In 1894 the taxable property was \$135,000,000, and in 1904, \$163,000,000. The revenue in 1904 was \$2,743,335 against \$3,695,256 in 1904. The population in last 10 years had risen from 234,000 to about 350,000, including suburbs. Such increases were far in excess of those shown in the fire equipment services. In the congested district of Montreal he was informed the losses had exceeded the receipts of premiums in last 10 years. He considered that it would pay merchants in the congested district to authorize the City Council to obtain a loan of about \$1,000,000 to provide a high pressure system for that district and levy a special tax, therefore, to be spread over a long term of years.

He suggested a tax of $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent. on real estate to find more revenue. This would yield about \$400,000 a year and with 10 per cent. on the annual increased valuation of real estate which the city is now empowered to borrow and which realizes between \$200,000 and \$300,000 per annum should give sufficient revenue for the needs of the city.

Mr. R. Wilson-Smith's motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ames made some remarks on the finances of the city. Resolutions were moved and seconded respectively by Messrs. E. H. Copeland and J. Williamson, J. C. Holden and W. S. Paterson, con-

denning and protesting against the delay in erecting the Berthelet fire hall, in providing for supervision of electrical installation, for the safe storage of explosive, for enforcing buildings by-law. Mr. G. F. C. Smith moved, and Mr. F. H. Mathewson seconded a resolution approving of the by-law for removing over head wires and urging its prompt enforcement.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

RESIGNATION OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT.—For a length of time past there have been rumours regarding the Balfour Ministry's intention to resign. A few months ago the Opposition demanded that this step be taken, or, that the Government declare its policy in regard to the Chamberlain movement. Though badgered and taunted night after night with charges of cowardice, Mr. Balfour refused to oblige his opponents by either resigning, or declaring his policy on the points at issue. It was evident that the Unionist party, which the Government represented, was split into two sections, the one favouring tariff concessions to the colonies that would discriminate against foreign countries, the other section standing fast by Free Trade and against any form of preference being established in favour of the colonies.

A VAIN EFFORT TO STAVE OFF THE CRISIS.—In the middle of last month Mr. Balfour delivered a speech at Newcastle which bore marks of most careful preparation. Its literary style is masterly, far above what is customary in political speeches. The intention of this address was avowedly to bring the Unionists into harmony, so as to restore the strength of the party. Mr. Balfour, while apparently objecting to protection as a general principle, declared that there were conditions existing which demanded some action to safeguard certain industries from disastrous foreign competition. His argument was a most ingenious appeal to Unionist Free Traders to cease wrangling and close up their ranks in order to preserve the party from going to pieces.

Brilliant as was this speech it fell flat and elicited a counter appeal from Mr. Chamberlain, who boldly bade the Free Trade Unionists to stand aside and let the movement towards an Inter-Imperial trade arrangement advance.

This is regarded as having led to the resignation of the Government, as, against Mr. Chamberlain's opposition, or without his support, it was hopeless to anticipate the union of the Unionist party, which for lack of union, was fast losing power and prestige.

THE NEW PREMIER AND HIS PARTY.—Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, who has undertaken to form a ministry, has a task before him which would be a severe test of the highest order of statesmanship.

He is the nominal head of a group of politicians who are as divided as their opponents. There are four distinct sections of the Liberal party, whose fusion is necessary for the success of the new Government. If the leaders of those divisions and the leaders of the sections in the Opposition ranks decline to coalesce the Imperial House of Commons will be demoralized as never before.

The present House, however, will be dissolved. What the "cry" will be is not known, one will have to be invented, but probably out of the turmoil of the coming General Election, there will be a House of Commons evolved which will be divided by clearly defined lines.

THE PROVINCIAL STAMP TAX.—The late General Grant is reported to have said that, the best way to get rid of a bad law is to enforce it, the idea being that the more an obnoxious law is enforced the more effective will become opposition to it. The Provincial Stamp Tax is being enforced and the more its operation becomes known and the wider it extends, the stronger becomes the feeling against this impost. "Familiarity breeds contempt" says an old motto. Certainly familiarity with the stamp tax deepens the conviction that it is a most unwise, most arbitrary interference with a legitimate class of business which is of great advantage to this city and province. The idea of it seems to have been suggested by the old toll-gate system under which every passenger in a vehicle was compelled to pull up at a gate and pay a toll before being allowed to pass to completion. At toll-gates the passenger stands on the floor of the Stock Exchange and demands a toll on every transfer before it is allowed to pass to companies. At toll-gates the passenger returning on same day was exempt, but stocks, or bonds sold and taxed in the morning are again taxed if re-sold in the afternoon, thus, the same securities are liable to be and are taxed repeatedly. Viewed in whatever light it may be presented the stamp tax on transfers is indefensible by any economic argument. It is a very close approach to the confiscation of a part of the *principal* of what is taxed, which is universally recognized as the most objectionable feature of any form of taxation.

THE BANK OF NEW BRUNSWICK'S shareholders will shortly be asked to authorize the increase of the capital paid-up from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. Half of this addition is to be offered, if approved by the shareholders, at 205, the present price being 200. This bank has a reserve fund of \$775,000, which equals 155 per cent. of the paid-up capital.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.—He declared that certain officials at the head of large insurance companies, "take small note of the ethical distinction between honesty and dishonesty; they draw the line only this side of what

may be called "law honesty," the kind of honesty necessary to avoid falling into the clutches of the law." The remedy he declared was, "an aroused public conscience, a higher sense of ethical conduct in the community at large and growth of a spirit which condemns all dishonesty whether in rich or poor, whether bribery or blackmail." This is very true as far it goes but is too general and too vague to have much value.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE was discussed by the president in its bearing upon the action of European governments towards the Republics on this side the Atlantic, which do not pay their debts. For a foreign government to seize the territory of any such State would be an infringement of the Monroe doctrine, yet the President does not wish that doctrine to shield a defaulting South American Republic from the action of its creditors. He, therefore, wishes the United States to effect an arrangement for compelling any such defaulting State to pay its obligations.

But, what a state of things does all this disclose in regard to countries whose securities are offered in the Canadian market! Securities which are issued by Governments who will not pay interest or principal until their Custom Houses are threatened with capture!

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF BOARD OF TRADE.—This committee will make a further investigation of the city's fire protection, with reference to the rates of insurance. The members are:—Messrs. F. H. Mathewson, chairman; R. M. Ballantyne, J. J. McGill, Albert Hebert, Norman Wight, George B. Fraser, L. E. Geoffrion, G. A. Kohl, J. T. Marchand, A. J. Hodgson, C. C. Ballantyne, and G. W. Stephens.

THE METROPOLITAN BANK will pay a dividend of 2 p.c. for the past quarter, on 2nd January next.

THE BANK OF HOCHELAGA is about to erect a building in Winnipeg for the use of its branch in that city.

WEDDING BELLS.—The engagement has been announced of Mr. J. Elmsly, the popular superintendent of the Bank of British North America, to Miss Clunie Ramsay, daughter of Mr. W. M. Ramsay, director of the Standard Life Assurance Company. This announcement has been received with much gratification by the hosts of friends of Mr. Elmsly and Miss Ramsay. We tender our congratulations.

CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.—The chairman and secretary of the insurance committee of this Association are evidently of a captious turn of mind. They write another letter to THE CHRONICLE quoting an extract from their letter and THE CHRONICLE article in parallel columns calling attention to the fact that their letter

referred to "*The Inspectors employed by the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association*," whereas our article called them "*Inspectors of the Insurance Companies*" and the "*Companies Inspectors*," in which we stated that the latter are not only allowed, but *do* suggest improvements in fire protection. Whether you call them Inspectors of the Underwriters' Association or Inspectors of the Insurance Companies, is trivial, and has no practical bearing on the question at issue.

MONTREAL'S WATER SUPPLY.—We quite agree with the Chairman of the Health Committee, Ald. Dagenais, that the water supplied to the citizens cannot possibly be as bad as some critics endeavour to represent it. Probably the best evidence of this is the fact that the health statistics of Montreal compare favourably with those of other cities notwithstanding that we have so many institutions here to which sick persons and young children are sent from various parts of the country. If the mortality amongst infants be deducted, we venture to say that Montreal's mortality would be found exceedingly favourable, notwithstanding that medical specialists are on a still hunt for microbes. Of course, we should all like to see a system of filtration installed, for we desire to have the very purest and best water that can be supplied, but we must deprecate the publication of sensational and absolutely incorrect statements regarding the unwholesomeness of the Montreal water supply. What part does drainage, ventilation and overcrowding play in connection with the health of a city? There is one thing certain, whether microbes are healthy or unhealthy, the citizens of Montreal are a healthy people. If one is to believe the West-mounters their water supply is infinitely worse than that of Montreal, notwithstanding the extraordinary fact that statistics prove that the municipality has the lowest mortality rate of any community on the continent of America or elsewhere, with one or two exceptions. Perhaps those who so strongly condemn the quality of the water base their remarks more on popular gossip than from practical experience.

THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE OF THE MONTREAL CITY COUNCIL is at present busy preparing some amendments to the charter. What a pity it is that the City Council by its action in opening the door for further street widening, gave the opportunity to interested parties to secure legislation in connection with the opening and widening of streets which will mean a large expenditure. Under the old charter the city was not compelled if they had no funds in hand to go on with any further appropriations, for the expropriation business of Mont-

real has been the cause of her present debt being so large. It would be far more in the interests of the city to expend the funds in keeping our streets in proper condition and placing the city's fire protective system on a more efficient basis. The City Council should remember that the consolidated debt of the city should not, under any circumstances, be increased, and any further money that is required should be raised by a special tax spread over a number of years. In the meantime, the city might borrow the funds necessary and repay it by this means. This tax would be sufficient to pay both principal and interest of the amount borrowed. Montreal to-day is a city of sufficient wealth and resources to pay its way, and to our mind there is no source of largely increasing the revenue which should be availed of, namely, an additional tax of $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 p.c. on real estate. This would give over \$400,000 a year for administrative purposes, and added to this a large amount of property at present exempted should contribute its fair share towards the maintenance of the services of the city and for the protection and value which it receives. Real estate in Montreal even with the additional $\frac{1}{4}$ p.c. which would make the tax $1\frac{1}{4}$ p.c., will not be as heavily burdened as similar cities either in Canada or the United States.

Again there is no reason why the city should not consider the desirability of taxing proprietors for laying permanent streets and sidewalks. This system prevails in most cities. The city might, of course, pay a proportion of the cost.

• • • • •

CORPORATE VOTES.—We are glad to see that the matter of granting votes to the heads of financial and industrial firms has been suggested. It is ridiculous to think that the heads or managers of the large tax paying institutions in Montreal have no vote in connection with the property which they represent.

• • • • •

QUARTERLY BANK DIVIDENDS.—The system of paying bank dividends quarterly has already been adopted by some of the banks, and we have no doubt that it will now commence to be general. Amongst the banks that have adopted this practice are the Bank of Montreal, Dominion Bank, Royal Bank, Molsons Bank, Sovereign Bank, Eastern Townships Bank. This move will make bank stocks even more popular than they are to-day.

• • • • •

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE has leased the south west corner of St. Catherine and Metcalfe streets in the Bellevue building, and will open an uptown branch as soon as the necessary alterations have been completed. This is probably one of the most convenient banking locations uptown.

• • • • •

THE NEW YORK INSURANCE INVESTIGATION still continues its course, and more resignations have taken place. It is now stated that the Hon. John A. McCall will resign from the presidency of the

New York Life, and Mr. Perkins, the vice-presidency. In our last issue we announced the retirement of President McCurdy, from the Mutual Life of New York. It is also stated that the Hon. Senator Depew has resigned from the Directorate of the Equitable.

* * * * *

THE MONETARY OUTLOOK.—Russian complications are becoming more serious every day, and what the outcome will be is difficult to foretell. In the meantime the situation is the cause of disturbance in money circles generally, and it is becoming more difficult every day to dispose of Russian securities. The trouble in connection with the low price of these securities is that the holders may have to sell good international stocks in order to take care of them. We do not suppose there are a great many of these foreign securities held in this country, but it would be well for financial institutions generally to seriously consider the desirability of investing as far as possible in home securities which come under their immediate supervision and respecting the values of which they have every means of securing information. It is not wise for institutions to invest a large amount of their trust funds in foreign securities. Past history should be sufficient to deter them from doing so. A large rate of interest may be attractive, but safety should always be the first consideration, more especially in connection with trust funds, for trustees have no right to invest in speculative securities simply because financiers and those who are specially interested in that sort of business do so.



EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK.—A full report of the annual meeting of this prosperous bank, with a review will appear in our next issue. The statement is highly favourable.



FIRE AT DAVIS CIGAR FACTORY, MONTREAL.

A disastrous fire occurred on the 5th instant, and gutted the interior of the factory on Beaver Hall Hill, occupied by S. Davis & Sons, cigar manufacturers.

The following companies are interested:

| | Stock | Machinery | Fixtures |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Etna | \$2,205 | \$221 | \$74 |
| Alliance | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| British America | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| Caledonian | 1,912 | 441 | 147 |
| Commercial Union | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| Guardian | 6,618 | 661 | 221 |
| Hartford | 2,205 | 221 | 74 |
| New York U. Agency | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| North Brit. & Mer. | 8,000 | .. | .. |
| Northern | 2,205 | 221 | 74 |
| Norwich Union | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| Phoenix of London | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| Queen | 4,411 | 442 | 147 |
| Royal | 6,617 | 661 | 221 |
| Western | 4,853 | 485 | 162 |
| Loss Total..... | \$65,500 | \$6,000 | \$2,000 |

ON BUILDING.

Union Assee. Society..... \$23,000
Loss about \$10,000

QUERIES' COLUMN.

In order to furnish our readers with information we propose to devote this column to replies to correspondents. Letters should be addressed to "THE CHRONICLE, Enquiry Department, Montreal."

Answers will only be given to such communications as bear the writer's name, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and only to questions referring to matters of general interest in regard to which the Editor of Queries' Column will exercise his own discretion.

1505.—W. J. B., Ottawa.—Cotton futures or purchases for future delivery are traded in by Montreal brokers through the New York Cotton Exchange. Cotton is dealt in by the bale of 500 lbs. to the bale and quoted by the pound. Every point advance equals five cents a bale, and every advance of 100 points or one cent is equal to five dollars a bale.

1506.—F. A. S., Montreal.—The certificate for stock in the name of a married woman should not be made out to "Mrs. Jane Jones" but to "Jane Jones." If drawn in the former manner, however, the certificate should be endorsed in the same way, although the designation "Mrs." is no part of a signature.

1507.—H. M., Montreal.—Will the examination now going on in New York, into the affairs of the large life insurance companies have any tendency to reduce the profits on an endowment policy with profits, that has some years to run yet, in one of the companies that is under examination? there is an impression abroad, that such will be the case on all endowment policies with profit to a considerable extent.

Reply.—We see no reason why this should be the case—on the contrary, we believe it will tend to better returns, inasmuch as not only will expenses be reduced, but the irregular practices brought to light will be done away with and so conduce to the benefit of policy-holders. There is no ground for thinking that the profits will be any less than they have been.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m., December 6, 1905.

The present outlook is for a dull market for the rest of the month, as prices of the standard issues seem low, it is not likely there will be much further decline. It is of course possible that the impetus of buying may come into the market earlier than expected. At the present moderate level for securities, any demand for stocks is likely to involve a decided advance in prices as there is a scarcity of stocks offering for sale. Montreal Cotton and Detroit Railway showed strength during the past week, the former in particular made a decided advance and touched the highest price for this year. Mackay Preferred and Montreal Power, which have both reacted in price, were in good demand at the lower figures, and the buying in both stocks seemed to be good. Mackay Common was easier on the declaration of 1 per cent. for the half-year. The recent movement to further depress Lake of the Woods Common seems to have been discontinued, as decided resistance was developed at the lower level to which the stock was forced. For a well established 6 per cent. in-

dustrial, Lake of the Woods Common anywhere around 92 should be an attractive security either for speculation or investment. Nova Scotia Steel Common has maintained its recent advance fairly well, although closing over a point lower than the highest of the movement. A moderate amount of stock seems to be hanging over the market at about the present quotation. Montreal Power has fluctuated around 88½ during the last few days, and although there has been no recognized effort at support, the natural good buying which developed on the decline has held the stock firm around the figure. For anyone with a little patience, Montreal Power should be attractive at the price now ruling.

The rate for call money in Montreal is now generally 5½. In New York the ruling rate for call money to-day was 21 per cent., the highest of the day being 25 per cent. The quotation for call money in London to-day was 2½ per cent.

The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:—

| | Market. | Bank |
|----------------|---------|------|
| Paris..... | 3 | 3 |
| Berlin..... | 4½ | 5½ |
| Amsterdam..... | 2½ | 3 |
| Brussels..... | 37.8 | 4 |
| Vienna..... | 4½ | 4½ |

C.P.R. improved in price and sold up to 175½, reacting and closing with 173¼ bid, a net decline of 1½ points from last week's closing quotation. The stock was not actively dealt in and only 722 shares figured in the week's business. The earnings for the last nine days of November show an increase of \$261,000.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the last nine days of November show an increase of \$72,697. The stock quotations as compared with a week ago are as follows:—

| | A week ago. | To-day |
|------------------------|-------------|--------|
| First Preference..... | 112½ | |
| Second Preference..... | 103 | |
| Third Preference..... | 56½ | 56½ |

Montreal Street Railway on transactions involving 282 shares closed with 231½ bid, a decline of ½ point for the week. The earnings for the week ending 2nd inst. show an increase of \$6,561.03 as follows:—

| | | Increase. |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Sunday..... | \$5,471.60 | \$ 698.26 |
| Monday..... | 7,935.27 | 890.41 |
| Tuesday..... | 7,630.73 | 1,376.42 |
| Wednesday..... | 7,509.23 | 614.51 |
| Thursday..... | 7,849.62 | 933.27 |
| Friday..... | 7,663.81 | 961.01 |
| Saturday..... | 8,511.28 | 1,087.15 |

Toronto Railway was dealt in to the extent of 128 shares and closed with 104 bid, a decline of ½ point from last week's closing quotation. The earnings for the week ending 2nd inst. show an increase of \$7,375.52 as follows:—

| | | Increase. |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Sunday..... | \$4,004.40 | \$ 726.40 |
| Monday..... | 7,579.35 | 875.99 |
| Tuesday..... | 7,580.29 | 858.60 |
| Wednesday..... | 8,083.80 | 1,343.75 |
| Thursday..... | 7,718.16 | 1,001.13 |
| Friday..... | 7,841.12 | 1,098.38 |
| Saturday..... | 9,557.27 | 1,371.27 |

There were no transactions in Twin City this week, nor in fact has there been a sale during the last fortnight.

and the stock closed with a nominal quotation of 114 bid, a further decline of 1/2 point for the week.

* * * *

Detroit Railway has improved in price and sold up to 98 1/2, closing with 94 bid, a net gain of 1 full point for the week. The stock was quite active and 2,305 shares were dealt in. The earnings for the last nine days of November show an increase of \$13,375.

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The sales in Halifax Tram this week brought out 55 shares, and the stock closed with 101 bid. The last transactions were made at 104.

* * * *

Toledo Railway closed with 32 bid as compared with 32 1/4 a week ago, and 560 shares changed hands during the week, most of the sales being made at 33.

* * * *

Havana Common advanced to 38 and closed with 37 bid, a gain of 3 points for the week on sales of 1,375 shares. In the Preferred stock there was only one transaction, 25 shares changing hands at 78 1/2.

* * * *

R. & O. on sales of 74 shares for the week closed with 68 bid, unchanged from a week ago.

* * * *

Montreal Power closed with 88 1/2 bid, and was the most active stock in this week's market, 2,484 shares being dealt in. The stock shows a decline on quotation of 1 full point for the week under this liquidation, but closed firm.

* * * *

Mackay Common closed with 51 bid, a decline of 1 1/2 points from last week's closing quotation, and 937 shares changed hands. The Preferred stock closed with 71 1/4 bid, a decline of 1 3/8 points from last week's closing quotation on transactions of 2,054 shares.

* * * *

Dominion Iron Common on sales totalling 570 shares closed with 20 1/4 bid, a decline of 1/4 point on quotation for the week. The Preferred stock closed with 68 1/2 bid, a decline of 3/8 of a point from last week's quotation and 45 shares changed hands. The trading in the Bonds totalled \$12,000 and the closing bid was unchanged from last week at 84.

* * * *

Nova Scotia Steel Common figured in the week's business to the extent of 260 shares, and closed at a decline of 1/2 point for the week with 68 bid. In the Preferred stock 29 shares were dealt in, the last sale being made at 11 1/2. There were no transactions in the Bonds.

* * * *

Dominion Coal Common on sales of 185 shares closed with 77 bid as compared with 77 1/2 a week ago. There were no transactions in the Preferred stock nor in the Bonds.

* * * *

Montreal Cotton was traded in to the extent of 512 shares, and after selling up to 125, closed with 124 bid, a net gain of 6 points from last week's closing quotation.

* * * *

Lake of the Woods Common closed with 90 bid, and 30 shares were dealt in during the week, the transactions being made at 91 and 92 1/2. There was one sale in the Preferred stock, 10 shares changing hands at 111 1/2, but there were no transactions in the Bonds.

* * * *

Dominion Textile Preferred closed with 98 bid, an advance of 1 1/2 points on quotation for the week, and 163 shares were involved in the trading. The Bonds were not quoted at the close to-day.

| | Per cent. |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Call money in Montreal..... | 5 1/2 |
| Call money in New York..... | 2 1/2 |
| Call money in London..... | 2 1/2 |
| Bank of England rate..... | 4 |
| Consols..... | 89 1/2 |
| Demand Sterling..... | 9 1/2 |
| 60 days' Sight Sterling..... | 8 1/2 |

* * * *

Thursday, p.m., December 7, 1905.

The most interesting feature of to-day's market was the advance in Montreal Cotton which is now selling ex-dividend of 1 3/4 per cent. payable on 15th December. The stock was traded in broken lots of from 10 to 83 shares, and the total transactions of the day involved 216 shares. The opening sale was made at 125 1/4 and the highest was 132 for 10 shares. The stock closed with 130 X. D. bid and offered at 131 1/2 X. D. The rest of the market was firm, Montreal Power selling at 88 3/4, Twin City at 114 1/4 and Detroit Railway at 93 7/8 for the stock and between 93 3/4 and 94 for broken lots. Mackay Common was active and sold between 51 and 50 3/4, the last sales being made at the higher price, and the stock closed offered at 51 with 50 3/4 bid. A complete list of the day's transactions will be found below.

* * * *

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1905.

MORNING BOARD.

| No. of Shares. | Price. | No. of Shares. | Price. |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| 200 Twin City | 114 1/4 | 375 Mackay Com..... | 51 |
| 100 " | 114 1/4 | 150 " | 50 1/4 |
| 50 Toronto Ry | 104 1/2 | 20 Halifax Ry | 101 |
| 10 Mont. Power..... | 88 3/4 | 3 Merchants Bank.... | 160 |
| 2 " | 89 1/2 | 7 Bank of Montreal... | 255 |
| 100 " | 88 3/4 | 25 Montreal Cotton... | 125 1/4 |
| 25 Detroit Ry..... | 94 | 83 " | 130 |
| 125 " | 93 7/8 | 44 " | 131 |
| 2 " | 94 | 10 " | 132 |
| 15 " | 93 7/8 | \$800 Mont. Street Ry Bds | 104 |
| 475 Dom. Iron Com. . | 20 | 20 Dom. Coal Pfd..... | 117 |
| 5 Havana | 38 | 83 " | 116 1/2 |
| 75 Toledo | 33 | 95 Mackay Pfd..... | 71 1/4 |
| 20 " | 33 3/8 | 50 " | 71 1/2 |

AFTERNOON BOARD.

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------|
| 25 Power | 88 1/4 | 17 Textile Pfd. | 98 |
| 25 " | 88 3/8 | 54 Montreal Cotton... | 130 |
| 20 Mackay Com | 51 | 20 Mont. Street | 233 |
| 225 " | 51 | 50 Mackay Pfd | 71 1/2 |
| 25 " | 50 1/4 | 75 C. C. Cotton..... | 40 |
| 125 " | 51 | 100 Havana Com..... | 37 |
| 50 R. & O. | 68 | \$1,000 Textile Bonds (D) | 98 |
| 25 Detroit | 93 3/8 | \$3,000 Iron Bds | 84 1/2 |
| 1 Iron Pfd..... | 67 | \$1,000 " | 84 1/2 |
| 100 Toledo Ry | 33 3/8 | 4 Bank of Montreal | 255 |

The Lake Superior Corporation

(OF SAULT STE. MARIE.)

111 Broadway, - New York.

The interest due December 1, 1905, on First Mortgage and Collateral Trust Bonds of

THE LAKE SUPERIOR CORPORATION

will be paid on presentation of the coupons at

The American Exchange National Bank, New York City

JOHN F. TERRY, Jr., Treasurer.

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern, Duluth South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Twin City, Detroit United and Havana street railways, up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1903 and 1904, were as follows:

| GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Year to date. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| Oct. 31..... | \$29,643,616 | \$28,158,528 | \$29,722,417 | 1,563,889 |
| Week ending. | | | | |
| Nov. 7..... | 692,115 | 734,418 | 810,248 | 75,830 |
| 14..... | 717,862 | 732,137 | 793,366 | 61,229 |
| 21..... | 687,626 | 776,882 | 791,994 | 15,022 |
| 30..... | 827,397 | 977,859 | 1,050,566 | 72,697 |

| CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY. | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Year to date. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| Oct. 31..... | \$37,528,000 | \$38,979,000 | \$42,914,000 | \$3,935,000 |

| GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Week ending | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| Nov. 7..... | 1,014,000 | 1,122,000 | 1,302,000 | 285,000 |
| 14..... | 976,000 | 1,085,000 | 1,370,000 | 263,000 |
| 21..... | 910,000 | 1,071,000 | 1,334,000 | 263,000 |
| 30..... | 1,158,000 | 1,381,000 | 1,642,000 | 261,000 |

| NET TRAFFIC EARNINGS. | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Month. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Inc. |
| January..... | \$916,771 | \$357,652 | \$422,668 | \$65,010 |
| February..... | 742,741 | 82,541 | 302,171 | 219,606 |
| March..... | 1,258,564 | 850,854 | 1,182,827 | 331,973 |
| April..... | 1,493,173 | 412,533 | 531,806 | 119,273 |
| May..... | 1,383,357 | 1,391,565 | 1,387,935 | 3,630 |
| June..... | 1,246,055 | 1,449,911 | 1,637,778 | 188,126 |
| July..... | 1,318,527 | 1,449,652 | 1,791,046 | 263,716 |
| August..... | 1,434,102 | 1,527,930 | 1,791,046 | 263,716 |
| September..... | 1,202,266 | 1,268,808 | 1,776,010 | 507,202 |
| October..... | 1,654,027 | 1,566,114 | 2,274,071 | 707,957 |
| November..... | 1,477,981 | 1,660,575 | | |
| December..... | 1,581,145 | 1,662,669 | | |
| Total..... | 15,708,709 | 13,689,804 | | |

| CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY. | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|--|
| GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS. | | | | |
| July 1st, 1903 to | July 1st, 1904 to | | Increase | |
| July 10, 1904 | June 30, 1905 | | | |
| \$3,121,800 | \$3,871,800 | | \$747,000 | |
| Week ending. | | | | |
| Nov. 7..... | 98,400 | 114,500 | 16,100 | |
| 14..... | 96,700 | 133,600 | 36,900 | |
| 21..... | 95,400 | 131,800 | 36,400 | |
| 30..... | 120,100 | 186,900 | 66,800 | |

| DULUTH, SOUTH SHORE & ATLANTIC. | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| Nov. 7..... | \$47,385 | \$58,027 | ..... | ..... |
| 14..... | 45,975 | 48,041 | 63,028 | 14,987 |
| 21..... | 47,172 | 51,661 | ..... | ..... |

| MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY. | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Month. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| January.. | \$ 168,883 | \$ 182,386 | \$ 201,096 | 18,710 |
| February.. | 139,065 | 167,023 | 184,132 | 17,109 |
| March..... | 168,987 | 183,689 | 206,725 | 23,036 |
| April..... | 170,050 | 184,905 | 200,910 | 16,005 |
| May..... | 170,773* | 217,341 | 232,999 | 15,658 |
| June..... | 205,454 | 229,565 | 244,136 | 14,871 |
| July..... | 212,337 | 223,137 | 254,097 | 30,960 |
| August... | 208,586 | 226,764 | 257,461 | 30,699 |
| September. | 212,156 | 216,295 | 244,585 | 28,290 |
| October... | 204,452 | 219,633 | 246,606 | 26,973 |
| November. | 187,930 | 201,147 | 228,601 | 27,454 |
| December. | 187,780 | 208,428 | ..... | ..... |
| Week ending. | | | | |
| Nov. 7..... | 45,093 | 47,720 | 52,747 | 5,027 |
| 14..... | 44,194 | 46,952 | 52,884 | 5,932 |
| 21..... | 44,262 | 47,123 | 54,640 | 7,517 |
| 30..... | 54,381 | 59,352 | 68,330 | 8,978 |

| TORONTO STREET RAILWAY. | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Month. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| January... | \$ 161,938 | \$ 179,360 | \$ 196,970 | \$ 17,610 |
| February.. | 146,539 | 168,904 | 185,377 | 16,473 |
| March..... | 159,943 | 183,643 | 207,014 | 23,371 |
| April..... | 162,276 | 183,763 | 201,317 | 17,554 |
| May..... | 174,519 | 198,337 | 225,768 | 27,431 |
| June..... | 177,593 | 207,482 | 231,140 | 23,648 |
| July..... | 192,629 | 211,356 | 238,895 | 27,539 |
| August... | 185,822 | 217,887 | 250,580 | 32,943 |
| September. | 237,010 | 246,862 | 282,572 | 35,710 |
| October... | 183,810 | 202,344 | 230,295 | 27,651 |
| November. | 174,039 | 198,150 | 220,804 | 22,654 |
| December. | 199,115 | 213,662 | ..... | ..... |
| Week ending. | | | | |
| Nov. 7..... | 39,964 | 46,301 | 51,351 | 5,05 |
| 14..... | 40,012 | 44,387 | 53,426 | 9,029 |
| 21..... | 42,250 | 48,398 | 52,035 | 3,637 |
| 30..... | 51,783 | 42,054 | 66,992 | 5,538 |

| TWIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY. | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Month. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Inc. |
| January.. | \$310,084 | \$329,354 | \$349,469 | 20,111 |
| February.. | 280,947 | 310,180 | 310,811 | 9,634 |
| March..... | 317,839 | 338,580 | 359,884 | 21,304 |
| April..... | 315,465 | 332,615 | 352,779 | 20,114 |
| May..... | 337,699 | 358,344 | 387,645 | 29,301 |
| June..... | 346,018 | 365,897 | 389,120 | 23,229 |
| July..... | 362,702 | 383,224 | 437,239 | 49,015 |
| August... | 363,579 | 386,629 | 420,231 | 33,622 |
| September. | 370,349 | 371,476 | 452,284 | 80,808 |
| October... | 346,673 | 365,938 | 419,039 | 53,101 |
| November. | 333,424 | 352,433 | ..... | ..... |
| December. | 357,452 | 374,738 | ..... | ..... |
| Week ending. | | | | |
| Nov. 7..... | 78,087 | 81,702 | 97,417 | 15,715 |
| 14..... | 77,195 | 84,954 | 97,231 | 12,167 |
| 21..... | 78,330 | 81,231 | 95,718 | 14,487 |

| HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD. | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| Railway Receipts. | | | | |
| Month. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Inc. |
| January.. | \$10,867 | 10,677 | \$10,256 | Dec. 421 |
| February.. | 9,322 | 9,894 | 7,186 | " 2,705 |
| March... | 10,195 | 11,152 | 9,322 | " 1,830 |
| April..... | 10,533 | 11,145 | 10,516 | " 629 |
| May..... | 10,768 | 12,074 | ..... | ..... |
| June..... | 11,844 | 14,051 | 12,796 | " 1,255 |
| July..... | 15,942 | 17,528 | 17,284 | " 244 |
| August... | 16,786 | 17,402 | 17,754 | 352 |
| September. | 18,494 | 17,862 | 18,669 | 807 |
| October... | 12,055 | 12,434 | 12,833 | 399 |
| November. | 11,220 | 11,085 | ..... | ..... |
| December. | 12,160 | 12,163 | ..... | ..... |
| Week ending. | | | | |
| Nov. 7..... | 2,650 | 2,602 | 2,666 | 64 |
| 14..... | 2,612 | 2,571 | 2,536 | Dec. 35 |
| 21..... | 2,636 | 2,709 | 2,761 | 52 |
| 30..... | 3,321 | 3,203 | 3,452 | 249 |

| Lighting Receipts. | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Month. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Inc. |
| January.. | \$13,863 | \$ 16,317 | \$ 15,667 | Dec. 650 |
| February.. | 11,924 | 14,227 | 14,180 | " 47 |
| March..... | 10,523 | 12,718 | 12,719 | " 2 |
| April..... | 10,156 | 12,116 | 11,964 | " 151 |
| May..... | 9,020 | 9,756 | ..... | ..... |
| June..... | 8,368 | 8,998 | 8,905 | " 93 |
| July..... | 8,351 | 8,953 | 8,653 | " 300 |
| August... | 8,826 | 9,596 | 9,619 | 21 |
| September. | 10,781 | 11,720 | 11,976 | 266 |
| October.. | 13,186 | 14,209 | 14,230 | 81 |
| November. | 14,200 | 16,273 | ..... | ..... |
| December. | 16,611 | 17,684 | ..... | ..... |

| DETROIT UNITED RAILWAY. | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--|
| Week ending | 1904 | 1905 | Increase | |
| Nov. 7..... | 83,438 | 89,393 | 5,955 | |
| 14..... | 79,043 | 90,712 | 11,669 | |
| 21..... | 81,115 | 91,601 | 10,486 | |
| 30..... | 105,562 | 118,937 | 13,375 | |

| HAVANA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO. | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|----------|--|
| Week ending | 1904 | 1905 | Increase | |
| Nov. 7..... | 30,343 | 42,136 | 5,97 | |
| 17..... | 33,167 | 37,875 | 4,703 | |
| 20..... | 32,523 | 38,080 | 5,554 | |
| 29..... | 31,900 | 38,242 | 6,34 | |

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by R. Wilson-Smith & Co., 160 St. James Street, Montreal.
Corrected to December 6th, 1905, P.M.

| BANKS. | Closing prices or Last sale. | Par value of one share. | Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices. | Capital subscribed | Capital paid up. | Reserve Fund. | Per centage of Keet to paid up Capital. | Dividend for last half year | When Dividend payable. |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|---------------|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| | Asked. Bid. | \$ | Per Cent. | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | Per Cent. | |
| British North America | 135 | 245 | 4 44 | 4,866,666 | 4,866,666 | 2,044,000 | 42.00 | 3 | April |
| Canadian Bank of Commerce | 168 | 100 | 4 16 | 9,819,950 | 9,802,255 | 3,940,902 | 40.23 | 3 | June |
| Crown Bank of Canada | 100 | 100 | ..... | 781,900 | 713,143 | ..... | ..... | ..... | November |
| Dominion | 50 | 100 | ..... | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 3,900,000 | 110.66 | 2 1/2 | Jan. April July |
| Eastern Townships | 164 | 100 | 4 87 | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 60.00 | 4 | October |
| Hamilton | 100 | 100 | ..... | 2,422,300 | 2,428,350 | 2,428,350 | 100.00 | 5 | January |
| Rogers | 143 141 | 100 | ..... | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 1,200,000 | 60.00 | 3 1/2 | December |
| Home Bank of Canada | 100 | 100 | 4 82 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Imperial | 100 | 100 | ..... | 541,200 | 327,540 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| La Banque Nationale | 30 | 100 | ..... | 3,790,000 | 3,827,866 | 3,827,866 | 100.00 | 5 | June |
| Merchants Bank of P. E. I. | 32 44 | 100 | ..... | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 500,000 | 33.33 | 3 | December |
| Merchants Bank of Canada | 162 1/2 | 100 | 4 32 | 344,073 | 344,073 | 296,000 | 86.02 | 4 | January |
| Metropolitan Bank | 100 | 100 | 4 32 | 6,000,000 | 6,000,000 | 3,400,000 | 56.66 | 3 1/2 | July |
| Molsons | 227 1/2 224 | 1 0 | 4 40 | 1,000,800 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 100.00 | 4 | December |
| Montreal | 260 250 1/2 | 100 | 3 84 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 100.00 | 5 | January |
| New Brunswick | 100 | 100 | ..... | 14,400,000 | 14,400,000 | 10,000,000 | 71.42 | 5 | October |
| Nova Scotia | 272 267 | 100 | ..... | 500,000 | 500,000 | 800,000 | 160.00 | 6 | December |
| Ontario | 100 | 100 | 3 67 | 2,341,000 | 2,336,100 | 3,737,760 | 160.00 | 5 | July |
| Ottawa | 225 | 100 | 4 00 | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 650,000 | 43.33 | 3 | August |
| People's Bank of N. B. | 150 | 100 | ..... | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 100.00 | 4 1/2 | December |
| Provincial Bank of Canada | 100 | 100 | ..... | 180,000 | 180,000 | 175,000 | 97.22 | 4 | January |
| Royal | 221 220 | 100 | 3 63 | 845,537 | 823,324 | ..... | ..... | ..... | July |
| Sovereign Bank | 100 | 100 | ..... | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 1,050,000 | 42.50 | 3 1/2 | October |
| Standard | 50 | 100 | ..... | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 100.00 | 4 | December |
| St. Stephen's | 100 | 100 | ..... | 1,626,000 | 1,604,332 | 476,083 | 32.50 | 1 1/2 | August |
| F. Hyatt | 100 | 100 | ..... | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 100.00 | 5 | November |
| J. Johns | 100 | 100 | ..... | 200,000 | 200,160 | 45,000 | 22.50 | 2 | October |
| Toronto | 242 | 100 | 4 13 | 504,650 | 329,515 | 75,000 | 22.76 | 3 | February |
| Traders | 100 | 100 | ..... | 500,000 | 292,270 | 10,000 | 7.60 | 3 | August |
| Union Bank of Halifax | 100 | 100 | ..... | 3,400,000 | 3,421,865 | 3,721,865 | 110.00 | 5 | January |
| Union Bank of Canada X.D. | 148 146 1/2 | 50 | 4 72 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 1,100,000 | 36.66 | 3 1/2 | December |
| Western | 100 | 100 | ..... | 1,336,150 | 1,336,150 | 970,000 | 74.17 | 3 1/2 | October |
| MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS. | | | | 2,800,000 | 2,800,000 | 1,100,000 | 39.28 | 3 1/2 | August |
| Bell Telephone | 159 155 1/2 | 100 | 5 03 | 550,000 | 600,000 | 250,000 | 45.45 | 2 1/2 | October |
| Can. Colored Cotton Mills Co. | 41 38 | 100 | ..... | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Canada General Electric | 150 130 1/2 | 100 | 4 06 | 7,916,100 | 7,916,980 | 135,607 | 25.53 | 2 | January |
| Commercial Cable | 174 173 1/2 | 100 | 3 12 | 2,700,000 | 2,700,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | July |
| Detroit Electric St. | 94 94 | 100 | 5 31 | 1,475,000 | 1,475,000 | 260,000 | ..... | 5 | October |
| Dominion Coal Preferred | 117 116 1/2 | 100 | 5 98 | 101,400,000 | 101,400,000 | 15,000,000 | 14.75 | 1 1/2 | March |
| Dominion Textile Co. Com. | 80 77 | 100 | ..... | 12,500,000 | 12,500,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | June |
| do do Pfd. | 100 98 | 100 | 7 00 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | Sept. Dec. |
| Dom. Iron & Steel Com. | 20 20 | 100 | ..... | 15,000,000 | 15,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 70 68 1/2 | 100 | ..... | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Duluth S. S. & Atlantic | 20 | 100 | ..... | 5,000,000 | 5,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 49 39 | 100 | ..... | 12,000,000 | 12,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Halifax Tramway Co. | 106 101 | 100 | 5 66 | 10,000,000 | 10,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| International Coal Co. | 51 51 | 100 | 3 85 | 1,250,000 | 1,250,000 | 1,250,000 | 100.00 | 1 | January |
| do do Preferred | 71 71 | 100 | 5 40 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 90,474 | 18.08 | 7 1/2 | July |
| Laurentide Paper Co. | 90 80 | 100 | 6 66 | 219,700 | 219,700 | ..... | ..... | ..... | October |
| Laurentide Paper, Pfd. | 104 90 | 100 | 6 73 | 1,800,000 | 1,800,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Lake of the Woods Mill Co. Com. | 97 | 100 | 6 45 | 1,200,000 | 1,200,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 111 110 | 100 | 6 14 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Mackay Companies Com. | 51 51 | 100 | 3 85 | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 71 71 | 100 | 5 40 | 50,000,000 | 41,380,400 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Minn. St. Paul & S.S.M. | 141 137 1/2 | 100 | 2 85 | 80,000,000 | 35,988,700 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 100 | 100 | ..... | 7,000,000 | 7,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Montreal Cotton Co. X.D. | 130 124 | 100 | 5 38 | 7,000,000 | 7,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Montreal Light, Ht. & Pwr. Co. | 88 88 1/2 | 100 | 4 49 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Montreal Steel Work, Pfd. | 100 | 100 | 5 71 | 17,000,000 | 17,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Com. | 103 | 100 | ..... | 800,000 | 800,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Montreal Street Railway | 233 231 1/2 | 50 | 4 25 | 700,000 | 700,000 | 698,376 | 13.31 | 2 1/2 | March |
| Montreal Telegraph | 170 165 1/2 | 40 | 4 78 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| N. & W. Land, Com. | 410 | 25 | ..... | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 100 | 100 | ..... | 1,467,881 | 1,467,881 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| N. Scotia Steel & Coal Co. Com. | 69 68 | 100 | ..... | 3,090,625 | 3,090,625 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 100 | 100 | ..... | 4,120,000 | 5,000,000 | 760,000 | 15.00 | 6 1/2 | March |
| Ogilvie Flour Mills Co. | 100 | 100 | ..... | 1,080,000 | 1,080,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| do do Pfd. | 130 127 | 100 | 5 38 | 1,250,000 | 1,250,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Richardson & Ont. Nav. Co. | 69 69 | 100 | ..... | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. John Street Railway | 116 113 | 100 | ..... | 3,132,000 | 3,132,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Toledo Ry & Light Co. | 34 32 1/2 | 100 | ..... | 707,860 | 717,860 | 23,101 | 7.93 | 3 | March |
| Toronto Street Railway | 104 104 | 100 | 4 76 | 12,000,000 | 12,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Trinidad Electric Ry. | 95 90 | 4 80 | 5 26 | 5,000,000 | 5,000,000 | 1,464,136 | 8.10 | 1 1/2 | September |
| Twin City Rapid Transit Co. | 116 114 | 100 | 4 23 | 1,032,000 | 1,032,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Windsor Hotel | 105 95 | 100 | 7 61 | 16,511,000 | 16,511,000 | 2,163,507 | 14.41 | 1 1/2 | January |
| Winnipeg Electric Railway Co. | 192 175 | 100 | 2 60 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| ..... |  |  |  | 400,000 | 4,000,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

Quarterly. 1 Bonds of per cent. 1/2 Price per Share \$ Annual. 2 These figures are corrected from last Govt. Bank Statement, SEPTEMBER 10th, 1905.

STOCK LIST Continued.

| BONDS. | Lat-est quotations. | Rate of Interest per annum | Amount outstanding. | When Interest due | Where Interest payable. | Date of Redemption. | REMARKS |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jommercial Cable Coupon | 96 | 4 | | 1 Jan. 1 Apl. | New York or London..... | 1 Jan., 1907. | |
| Registered. | 96 | 4 | \$18,000,000 | 1 July 1 Oct. | | | |
| Can. Colored Cotton Co. | 98 | 6 | 2,000,000 | 2 Apl. 2 Oct. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 2 Apl., 1902. | |
| Canada Paper Co | 98 | 5 | 200,000 | 1 May 1 Nov. | Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal | 1 May, 1917. | |
| Bell Telephone Co | ..... | 5 | 2,000,000 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Apl., 1925. | |
| Dominion Coal Co. | ..... | 6 | 2,433,000 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Meh., 1913.. | |
| Dominion Cotton Co. | ..... | 4 1/2 | \$ 308,200 | 1 Jan 1 July | ..... | 1 Jan., 1916. | Redeemable at 110 |
| Dominion Textile Co. | Series A | 55 | 758,500 | ..... | ..... | ..... | Redeemable at 110 |
| do | do B | 85 | 1,116,500 | ..... | ..... | ..... | do 105 after 5 yrs |
| do | do C | 85 | 1,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | Redeemable at 105 |
| do | do D | 85 | 450,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... | Redeemable at 110 |
| Dominion Iron & Steel Co. | ..... | 8 1/2 | \$ 7,875,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal.... | 1 July, 1922. | Redeemable at 110 & accrued interest |
| Halifax Tramway Co. | ..... | 5 | \$ 800,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bk. of N. Scotia, Hal. or Montreal | 1 Jan., 1916.. | Redeemable at 102 |
| Intercolonial Coal Co | 106 1/2 | 5 | 344,000 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | ..... | 1 Apl., 1916.. | Redeemable at 102 |
| Laurentide Pulp | 108 | 6 | 1,112 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Montreal Gas Co | ..... | 5 | 1,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Montreal Light, Heat and Power | 100 | 4 1/2 | 880,074 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Company's Office, Montreal..... | 1 July, 1921 | ..... |
| Montreal Street Ry. Co | ..... | 5 | 7,500,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 July, 1932. | Redeemable at 105 |
| ..... | ..... | 4 1/2 | 292,000 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep. | Bank of Montreal, London, Eng. | 1 Meh., 1908.. | after Jan. 1st, 1911 |
| ..... | ..... | 4 1/2 | 681,333 | 1 Feb. 1 Aug. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Aug., 1922.. | ..... |
| ..... | ..... | 4 1/2 | 1,500,000 | 1 May 1 Nov. | ..... | 1 May, 1922. | ..... |
| Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. | ..... | 6 | 2,500,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Union Bank, Halifax, or Bank of Nova Scotia, Mont'l or Tr'r'to | 1 July, 1931.. | Redeemable at 110 |
| Ogilvie Flour Mill Co | 116 | 6 | 1,000,000 | 1 June 1 Dec | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 June, 1932 | after June |
| Rehellen & Ont. Nav. Co. | 103 | 5 | 471,580 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep. | Montreal and London..... | 1 Meh., 1915.. | Redeemable at 110 |
| Royal Electric Co. | ..... | 4 1/2 | \$ 130,900 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | Bk. of Montreal, Mont'l or London | Oct., 1914.. | Redeemable at 110 |
| St. John Railway | ..... | 5 | \$ 675,000 | 1 May 1 Nov. | Bank of Montreal, St. John, N.B. | 1 May, 1925.. | 5 p.c. redeemable yearly after 1905 |
| Toronto Railway | ..... | 4 1/2 | 800,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, London..... | 1 July, 1914.. | ..... |
| ..... | 106 1/2 | 4 1/2 | 2,509,983 | 28 Feb. 31 Aug. | Bank of Scotland, London..... | 31 Aug., 1921 | ..... |
| Windsor Hotel | ..... | 4 1/2 | 340,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Windsor Hotel, Montreal..... | 2 July, 1912.. | ..... |
| Windsor Elec. Street Railway | 107 | 5 | 3,000,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Jan., 1927.. | ..... |
| Toledo Ry. & Light Co | ..... | 5 | 700,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | ..... | 1 July, 1912.. | ..... |
| ..... | ..... | 5 | 5,185,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | ..... | 1 July, 1907.. | ..... |
| ..... | ..... | 5 | 4,000,000 | 1 Jan 1 July | ..... | 1 July 1909 | ..... |

[FIRE]

German American
Insurance Company
New York

CAPITAL
\$1,500,000
NET SURPLUS
5,841,907
ASSETS
12,980,705

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.

BANK OF MONTREAL

Proceedings at the Eighty-eight Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

Lord Strathcona's Retirement From Presidency Announced by Sir George Drummond.

The eighty-eight annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal, was held in the Board Room of the Institution, at noon, yesterday.

There were present: Hon. Sir George Drummond, K.C. M.G. Vice-President; Hon. Robert Mackay, Messrs R. B. Angus, E. B. Greenshields, A. T. Paterson, R. G. Reid, Hon. J. K. Ward, Dr. W. Gardner, Messrs G. F. C. Smith, F. S. Lyman, K.C.; Angus Hooper, George Durnford, Richard White, A. Piddington, Henry Dobell, John Turnbull, B. A. Boas, C. R. Black, Henry Morton, G. A. Greene, L. Sutherland, W. H. Evans, M. S. Foley, W. Stanway, M. O'Shaughnessy, W. D. Gillean, D. Morrice, A. G. Watson, G. H. Matthews, P. F. McCaffrey, J. Scott, W. B. Blackader, James Tasker, Percy R. Gault, and John Morrison.

On the motion of Mr. R. G. Reid, Sir George Drummond, Vice-President, was unanimously voted to the chair, in the absence of the President, the Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal.

On the motion of Mr. A. Piddington, seconded by Mr. Henry Dobell, it was voted: "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."

THE DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The report of the Directors to the shareholders at their eighty-eighth annual general meeting was then read by Mr. E. S. Clouston, General Manager, as follows:—

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the report, showing the result of the Bank's business for the year ended 31st October, 1905:

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 31st October, 1904 | \$ 583,196.01 |
| Profits for the year ended 31st October, 1905, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts | 1,638,659.40 |
| | <u>\$2,221,855.41</u> |
| Dividend, 5 per cent., paid 1st June, 1905 | \$700,000.00 |
| Dividend, 5 per cent., payable 1st December, 1905 | 720,000.00 |
| | <u>1,420,000.00</u> |
| Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward | \$801,855.41 |

Since the last annual meeting of the shareholders, the Bank has acquired the assets and business of the People's Bank of Halifax, with twenty-six branches. The Bank has also established since the last annual meeting, sub-agencies at the following points, viz.: Altano, Oakville and Logan Avenue (Winnipeg), in Manitoba; Enderby and Nicola in British Columbia, and Hochelaga (Montreal), and is about to establish sub-agencies at Fort Rouge (Winnipeg), and Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

The headquarters building on St. James Street is now completed and in occupation.

In response to the desire expressed by a number of our shareholders, the Directors propose that the dividend be paid quarterly, instead of half-yearly, viz., on the first day of March, June, September and December.

All the Offices of the Bank, including the head office, have been inspected during the past year.

STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, President.

The General Statement.

The General Statement at 31st October, 1905, is as follows:—

| ASSETS. | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Gold and Silver coin current | \$ 5,089,152.36 |
| Government demand notes | 7,221,980.75 |
| Deposit with Dominion Government required by act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation | 507,000.00 |
| Due by agencies of this bank and other banks in Great Britain | \$ 3,745,653.32 |
| Due by agencies of this bank and other banks in foreign countries | 2,293,384.18 |
| Call and short loans in Great Britain and United States | 37,961,908.00 |
| | <u>44,000,945.50</u> |
| Dominion and Provincial Government Securities | 432,244.56 |
| Railway and other Bonds, debentures and stocks | 7,849,207.04 |
| Notes and cheques of other Banks | 3,532,500.32 |
| | <u>\$68,633,030.53</u> |
| Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches | 600,000.00 |
| Current Loans and discounts in Canada and elsewhere (rebate interest reserved) and other assets | \$88,591,793.90 |
| Debts secured by mortgage or otherwise | 289,340.03 |
| Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for) | 118,245.05 |
| | <u>88,999,378.98</u> |
| | <u>\$158,232,409.51</u> |

| LIABILITIES. | |
|--|------------------------|
| Capital stock | \$14,400,000.00 |
| Rest | \$10,000,000.00 |
| Balance of Profits carried forward | 801,855.41 |
| | <u>\$18,801,855.41</u> |
| Unclaimed Dividends | 701.57 |
| Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st December, 1905 | 720,000.00 |
| | <u>11,522,556.98</u> |
| | <u>\$25,922,556.98</u> |
| Notes of the Bank in circulation | \$12,996,181.00 |
| Deposits not bearing interest | 31,438,001.32 |
| Deposits bearing interest | 87,725,211.07 |
| Balances due to other Banks in Canada | 150,459.14 |
| | <u>132,309,852.53</u> |

\$158,232,409.51

Bank of Montreal, Montreal, 31st October, 1905.

E. S. CLOUSTON, General Manager.

THE GENERAL MANAGER.

The General Manager then spoke as follows:

I purpose confining my few remarks to the balance sheet submitted to you, and to one or two matters more closely connected with banking, leaving the general condition of business in the country to be dealt with by the Vice-President.

The principal features in the statement are the increase, since last year, of \$2,000,000 in our circulation, an indication of the universal activity in business, and of \$7,750,500 in deposits not bearing interest; but of this latter a considerable proportion was a temporary deposit made at the end of our fiscal year, and since withdrawn. Our deposits bearing interest show a satisfactory increase of \$16,600,000. Our immediately available assets stand at \$68,000,000, a greater amount than, as a rule, we consider necessary, but in view of the rather uncertain future of continental finance, owing to the state of affairs in Russia and the somewhat boom condition in this continent, it is well to be strong, and in any case we are in a good position to take advantage of any desirable business offering. Our loans and discounts have increased \$7,000,000, accounted for partly by the increased demands of the commercial community, and partly by the absorption of the People's Bank of Halifax.

The low rate ruling for call money in England and the United States during our fiscal year affected our profits adversely, as we are obliged to carry a large proportion of our reserve in those markets; but of late there has been a decided improvement, which may be maintained during the winter.

Owing to the magnificent crop and the general activity in business, an unusual strain was placed on the circulation, but at the highest point attained by all the banks, about \$79,000,000, there was still a margin of \$4,500,000; and with the addition of new banking capital and the increase of branches, it seems as if, for some time to come, the circulation provided will be sufficient for the needs of the country. The advantage of the Canadian system has been amply demonstrated during the late pressure for money. Notwithstanding the heavy demands to move the largest crop in our history, the interest rate to our people has remained normal. We have only to glance at the condition of affairs across the line to see what fluctuations in rates for money the public are subjected to under the system there in vogue.

In March last, the Bank of Yarmouth failed under circumstances reflecting much discredit upon those responsible for its condition, and, for the first time since the incorporation of the Canadian Bankers' Association, that body had to exercise the power conferred upon it by Parliament in 1900, of assuming supervision of the affairs of a suspended bank.

The liquidator chosen by the Canadian Bankers' Association was subsequently appointed by the court sole liquidator. The results have been highly satisfactory, particularly when viewed in the light of what has followed former failures of Canadian banks. The winding up of the defunct bank has been conducted with remarkable expedition and economy, and the rights and interest of the creditors so well attended that the liquidator has been able, in nine months, to pay all of their claims, with interest added thereto. That no loss to the depositors and other creditors of the Bank of Yarmouth has resulted from this failure is, it must be admitted, largely due to the prompt and creditable recognition by its unfortunate shareholders of their liability for the utter insufficiency of assets to pay the debts of the bank in question.

An interesting event in financial circles was the offering here of a portion of the Japanese loan, the first time in the history of Canada of any foreign loan being issued locally, and, considering the short time at our disposal, the success was surprising.

In conclusion, I may say that the one word written large in the records of Canada this year is "Prosperity." Railways, manufacturing industries, merchants, farmers, all are prosperous. Immigration grows steadily; labor has full employment, and is well remunerated. Probably never before have we had a twelve-month of such universal prosperity, and it is during a year like this that everyone should set his house in order. Collections should be pressed, and manufacturers should husband their resources and strengthen themselves in every way; for they are to a great extent prosperous by the grace of their neighbors, and when adversity comes to other countries, the American bargain counter will be opened in Canada, and our manufacturers and their employees will surely suffer.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REMARKS.

The Vice-President, in moving the adoption of the Directors' report, said:

The position of the Bank is fully exhibited in the statements laid before you and the remarks of the General Manager. Following, however, the practice of many years standing, I venture to offer a few observations.

The remark has been made before, and is now repeated, that the profits of banking, and consequently the cost to the public of the use of money, are steadily decreasing. This is due mainly, I think, to the accumulation of wealth in the country, the consequent increase of the number of banking companies and of their capital, and the resulting keenness of competition. Proof of this is to be found in the following figures:

1. As to the accumulation of wealth. The deposits in all the chartered banks in the Dominion, in 1870, were 43 millions of dollars, in round figures, omitting fractions of a million; in 1880, were 85 millions; in 1890, were 136 millions; in 1900, were 305 millions; in 1904, were 470 millions.

The Dominion Government Savings Bank held in the same year (1904), nearly 62 millions, making bank and Government deposits 532 millions.

2. As regards banking facilities. Five new banks have gone into operation since 1900, with an authorized capital of \$9,000,000. Five have been absorbed into other banks, but their capital presumably remains, under other control, and one bank, referred to by the General Manager, with a capital of \$300,000, has failed. It may also be mentioned that charters have been obtained from Parliament during the last three years of eleven new banks, with a capital of \$19,000,000.

As regards our own Bank, it has been the care of the Directors to advance with the times, and I give you a few figures to show the progress which it has made:

In 1863, the capital was \$6,000,000; assets, \$15,252,000.
In 1879, the capital was \$11,999,000; assets, \$36,221,000.
In 1873, the capital was \$11,296,831; assets, \$34,252,000.
In 1887, the capital was \$12,000,000; assets, \$42,000,000.
In 1900, the capital was \$12,000,000; assets, \$46,165,000.
In 1905, the capital was \$14,400,000; assets, \$158,470,000.
Our branches, which in 1863 numbered 29, are now 100.

GENERAL TRADE OF THE COUNTRY.

A review in detail of the various trade and manufacturing industries may be summed up in the general report of almost unbroken prosperity. Probably never in Canada and the United States have crops of all kinds been better in quantity and quality.

In regard to one of our staple industries, the lumber trade, I am tempted to express the conviction that we are using up our resources in a most reckless fashion, certain to end disastrously, unless we take prompt steps to treat it as other crops, and replant on an adequate scale.

The increase of manufactures, thereby creating a home market for produce of every kind, is most marked. In this city and neighborhood a great number of large factories are springing up, and whatever may be said of our tariff, it unquestionably has had the effect of inducing the manufacture in this country of goods previously imported, with all the advantages of increased employment and circulation of money in this country. A number of these manufactures are branches, or offshoots, of industrial organizations in the United States.

The value of the home market is not sufficiently appreciated. If the statistics published by a recent writer be true, that "Western Canada produced two and a half times as much wheat twenty-five times as much oats, and thirty-four times as much barley as Canada exported."

The failures in Canada are considerably smaller this year than last, being 1904, \$11,182,223; 1905, \$9,511,472.

The feature of the year, however, is the splendid crop which has just been harvested in the Northwest Provinces and in Ontario. As regards the former, the most sanguine anticipations have been realized, and it seems beyond doubt that the following estimates of this season's crop in Manitoba and the Northwestern Provinces are conservative:

Wheat, 90 million bushels, worth on the spot, say, 65 cts.; oats, 65 million bushels, worth on the spot, say 35 cts.; barley, 13 million bushels, worth on the spot, say 30 cts.; flax, $\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels, worth on the spot, say, 80 cts.; rye, 1-3 million bushels, worth on the spot, say, 35 cts. In all, 169 million bushels of grain.

Of course, a proportion of these crops will be consumed by the farmer, as no doubt will all the root crops—of which potatoes alone are estimated at 8,000,000 bushels—as well as hay, but of these I take no account.

At the prices set down, it is not difficult to reach an approximate sum of 75 millions of dollars, or 15 million pounds sterling, to be distributed among a comparatively small population, and won from a soil which was considered barren, and surrendered to the wilderness only a few years ago.

In addition to the foregoing, and not included in the above estimate, 70,000 cattle were disposed of during the year in the Northwest.

Incidentally, I may mention that I am informed by expert millers, that this year's wheat is so good in quality that 7 per cent. less of it is required to produce a given quantity of flour than an average.

It is asserted that the area so far brought under cultivation does not, from the most accurate information obtainable, much exceed 5 per cent., and certainly it is well under 10 per cent. of the area available, and waiting for occupants.

In this connection I may quote here a sentence from an able and well qualified Government officer, who has just completed a wide survey of the Territories. He says:

"The immense wealth so long stored in the virgin soil of the great western country will be gradually developed, and the fact that Canada is destined to rapidly become one of the greatest food producing nations in the world will soon become apparent to all, in the volume of her exports.

The great extensions of the railway systems operating in this country, must not be passed over. The Canadian Pacific Company is spending vast sums in improvements and extensions. The Canadian Northern is pushing westward, while the Grand Trunk Pacific is preparing for an extension to the Pacific, and the Government of Canada has the necessary powers to duplicate the railway connection between Quebec and Winnipeg, and is now surveying the line.

With general political events we have nothing to do, except as regards their effect on our financial institutions. A note of thankfulness was heard when an end was put to the mighty war in the Farther East.

It was specially grateful to this community when a friendly understanding was reached between England and France, and we trust that the portentous cloud overhanging Russia may be dissipated by wise and liberal measures. Meanwhile, it remains an ominous factor, excepting the liveliest apprehensions among Russia's creditors, and the deepest interest in the whole civilized world.

I can only, in conclusion, echo the General Manager's advice, that the abounding prosperity of our country should be prudently accepted and used.

I move: "That the report of the Directors, now read, be adopted and printed for distribution among the Shareholders."

The motion was seconded by Mr. A. T. Paterson, and after some appreciative remarks by Mr. John Morrison, it was unanimously adopted.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.

The Vice-President then remarked I have now to ask you to consider amendments to the by-laws, which the Directors deem advisable. The first is an amendment to by-law No. 3, the alteration being to make the number of directors ten, instead of nine, as at present. Perhaps you are aware that up to the last session of Parliament, the General Banking Act only permitted the election of nine directors to any bank. They were not to be fewer than a certain number, and not more than nine. That has now been changed, and practically the number of directors is unlimited, if the Shareholders so desire. The proposal of the Directors now going out, is that the number be made ten, instead of nine; and the reason will appear a little later in the proceedings. I would, therefore, move:

"That, whereas it is advisable to increase the present board of nine directors to ten; by-law No. 3 is hereby amended by striking out the word 'nine,' as appearing in said by-law, and inserting in its place the word 'ten.'"

This was seconded by Mr. A. T. Paterson, and was unanimously agreed to.

The Vice-President—The next alteration is:

"Whereas it is advisable that power be given to the Shareholders to elect an honorary president, by-law No. 6 is hereby amended by adding to it the following words: "The Directors may also, at their said first meeting,

elect by ballot one of their number to be honorary president."

It is due to you to say that this has special reference to Lord Strathcona. He has occupied the post of President for eighteen years, and last year he expressed a desire to be relieved of it. The Directors were unwilling to have his name severed from the Bank which he had so long and usefully served. The creation of an honorary president was authorized in the amendment of the Banking Act, and under that authority this can now be done. I will, therefore, move that the resolution which I have just read be adopted.

This was seconded by Mr. A. T. Paterson, and was concurred in unanimously.

The Vice-President—It seems proper at this stage that the long and valued services of Lord Strathcona, in connection with this Bank, should be acknowledged by the Shareholders, and I have the honor and pleasure of moving, seconded by Mr. E. B. Greenshields, that a cordial recognition, in suitable terms, be sent to Lord Strathcona expressing the appreciation in which the Shareholders—and they include the Directors—hold him and his services to the Bank.

Mr. E. B. Greenshields—I have very much pleasure in seconding the resolution just proposed. We all feel that the Bank has been honored in the past by having Lord Strathcona as its president. When he first went to London as Canadian Commissioner, he hoped to be frequently on this side of the Atlantic and at our meetings; and it was with much regret that he found himself unable to be here as often as he had expected. Not only should his great services to the Bank be noted; but we also wish to put on record as shareholders of the Bank and as citizens of Montreal and the Dominion of Canada, our very high opinion of him as a man. We feel proud of having had him as president of this Bank, and it is with very great regret that we hear that the connection is to be to a certain extent severed. But we are all pleased that he is to remain with us as the Honorary President of the Bank, and that his name will still be associated with this institution. I know I express the feeling of every Shareholder when I say that we all have the greatest admiration for him in his public capacity as High Commissioner for Canada and appreciate all he has done for his country, but besides this we would like to assure him that he has a very warm feeling of personal regard for himself.

Mr. John Morrison—I give my cordial assent to the motion, for a more deserving gentleman it would be hard to find.

The motion was unanimously and cordially adopted.

THANKS ARE TENDERED.

Mr. B. A. Boas then 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. W. Stanway, and was carried unanimously:

Mr. E. B. Greenshields moved:

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to the General Manager, the Assistant General Manager, the Inspector, the Managers and other Officers of the Bank for their services during the past year."

In making the motion Mr. Greenshields remarked:

I wish to say that the opinion of the Directors is unanimous that in the General Manager, the Assistant General Manager, the Inspectors, the Managers and the other officers of the Bank we have a thoroughly efficient and reliable staff to carry on the work. I had the pleasure last year of meeting a number of the Managers, from Winnipeg to Victoria, and I also know many of those nearer Montreal. I am very much pleased always to see among them a fine "esprit de corps" that inspires the feeling that the Bank of Montreal is the institution to work for, and that ability and conscientious work will always be recognized and rewarded.

Hon. Robert Mackay seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. C. R. Black suggested that it would be in the interests of the Shareholders generally if the management would consider the mailing of cheques for dividends, as other banks did, now that the dividend was to be quarterly, instead of the Shareholders having to go to the Bank.

The General Manager—I will take that into consideration and see if it cannot be carried out.

I also beg to express my thanks on behalf of the Staff for the very kind way in which the resolution of thanks to them has been passed.

The Vice-President—The suggestion of Mr. Black will be referred to the Board.

Mr. John Turnbull moved, seconded by Mr. George Durnford:

"That the ballot now open for the election of Directors, be kept open until 2 o'clock unless 15 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 very cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman, who acknowledged the same.

THE DIRECTORS.

The ballot resulted in election of the following directors:

R. B. ANGUS.

E. S. CLOUSTON.

HON. SIR GEORGE DRUMMOND, K.C.M.G.

EDWARD B. GREENSHIELDS.

SIR WILLIAM MACDONALD.

HON. ROBERT MACKAY.

ALEXANDER T. PATERSON.

ROBERT G. REID.

JAMES ROSS.

RIGHT HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G.

Notes and Items.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending Nov. 30, 1905—Clearings, \$26,999,761; corresponding week 1904, \$26,726,638; corresponding week 1903, \$21,261,737. Total for week ending December 7, 1905, \$30,270,786; corresponding week 1904, \$28,541,151; corresponding week 1903, \$21,822,222.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending Nov. 30, 1905—Clearings, \$2,608,262; corresponding week last year, \$2,063,882.

IT IS SAID THAT IN LONDON there are 26,739 known lunatics. There must be nearly that number in this country writing on insurance for the daily papers.—"The Insurance Age."

COAL CONSUMPTION.—New York requires 15,500,000 tons of coal every year, 9 millions anthracite, 6½ millions bituminous. Montreal needs 150,000 tons of anthracite, and probably as much soft coal.

A PRESS QUESTION.—The "Journalist," New York, asks "Does the public want sense or sensation? Does a newspaper exist to tell the truth, or does its purpose lie in furnishing half truths, on founded inferences and whole lies for the delectation of a horror-loving public."

INSURANCE NO BONANZA.—So ardent a devotee of mutual fire insurance as Mr. Edward Atkinson, of Boston, is quoted by the "Insurance Age" as saying, that, in his opinion, the stock fire insurance companies have not been making any money on their business for some time. He does not think their charge for insurance is equal to the losses and the necessary expense of conducting the business.

BANK OF HOCHELAGA.—A Winnipeg wire reads: Messrs. R. Bickerdike, M.P., vice-president of the Bank of Hochelaga; Alphonse Turcott, Hon. J. D. Rolland and J. A. Prendergast, all prominent officials of the same institution, are here, paving the way for important extensions

of the bank's business, including the opening of branches in British Columbia. They also intend to secure a site on which to erect permanent quarters of their own.—"The News."

C.P.R. LAND SALES.—Over \$1,000,000 was realized by the land department of the Canadian Pacific Railway from the sale of Western holdings during the month of November. The number of acres disposed of amounted to 202,667, the price received being \$1,075,166, and average of \$5.31 per acre. During the same period the Canada Northwest Land Company sold 16,000 acres for \$106,800, an average of \$6.46 per acre.

AGENCY ESTABLISHMENT.—Solicitation, organization and administration are the distinctive features of agency establishment. Without a well-balanced combination of all these factors only an indifferent success is attainable. The ability to solicit is a personal power and lies at the foundation of agency work. To it must be added the capacity for organization, which is the process of gathering, training and holding a group of men possessing the qualities of salesmanship. To attain the mastery of these conditions precedent to success, therefore, must be the aim of every one who aspires to leadership in agency building. To accomplish he must indeed be in earnest; he must strip himself of all distracting interests and concentrate upon this one thing alone; he must be both a student and a worker; and he must be willing to dedicate years of patient and painstaking service as the price he pays for recognition of his developed powers in all the elements contributing to high-grade and well-rounded agency management.

The law of growth and trial, when fully apprehended, reveals the wonderful power of persistence to uncover results. One must know what he wants to do and then learn how best to do it. The viewpoint settled, he must hold continuously to the same objective. If he desires to acquire and utilize knowledge from which growth and increasing proficiency are expected, he must be saturated with facts pertaining to successful agency establishment, and must acquaint himself through observation and deduction with men, methods and conditions. He must be free in thought and action. To adopt the method of another is to strap a burden on the back, but to adapt one's purpose is to assimilate and grow.

If one yield a continued and loyal adherence to the law of trial or personal experience if his efforts are backed up and pushed on by an intense desire projected within the lines of common knowledge, guided by sound judgment and sustained by enlightened understanding, he will grow, expand his horizon and be lifted up on the wings of an eagle.

The man who assumes the work of agency building with reasonable hopes of success must be one who has pursued his work with ceaseless activity in varied forms to gain his strong and sure foothold and to command the trust and confidence of his association and coworkers. His record must be a demonstration of his ability to get results along right lines. His work must stand for truth and strength and his action for conservation and well-considered judgment.

They who succeed in agency work are not accustomed to quail and retire when obstacles rear their threatening forms. On the contrary, they possess the inflexible will, the unyielding tenacity and the fixed determination to find a way or make one through every difficulty presenting itself in the pathway to the end mapped out.

The above is quoted from Mr. Jas. B. Estee's address to agents.