

1900.

30TH APRIL.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

*Statement of the result of the business of the Bank for the year ended
30th April, 1900.*

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th April, 1899	\$ 1,102,792.72
Profits for the year ended 30th April, 1900, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts..	1,524,388.08
	\$ 2,627,180.80
Dividend 5 per cent., paid 1st December, 1899.....	\$ 600,000.00
Dividend 5 per cent., payable 1st June, 1900.....	600,000.00
	1,200,000.00
Amount credited to Rest Account.....	1,000,000.00
	\$ 427,180.8

NOTE—*Market price of Bank of Montreal stock, 30th April, 1900,—262 %*
(equal to \$524. per share.)

(same date last year, 251 %.)

GENERAL STATEMENT.

30th April, 1900.

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock	\$ 12,000,000.00
Rest	\$ 7,000,000.00
Balance of Profits carried forward.....	427,180.80
	\$ 7,427,180.80
Unclaimed Dividends	2,212.01
Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st June, 1900	600,000.00
	8,029,392.81
	\$ 20,029,392.81
Notes of the Bank in circulation	\$ 6,161,649.00
Deposits not bearing interest	10,709,069.34
Deposits bearing interest	41,936,536.97
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	15,549.28
	58,822,804.59
	\$ 78,852,197.40

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver coin current	\$ 2,303,209.19
Government Demand Notes	2,814,430.00
Deposit with Dominion Government required by Act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation,	300,000.00
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Foreign Countries	\$ 11,640,790.26
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Great Britain	4,008,131.55
	15,648,921.81
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities	518,642.39
United States Railway Bonds	1,570,365.25
Notes and cheques of other Banks	1,571,052.97
	\$ 24,726,621.61
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches.....	600,000.00
Current Loans and Discounts, (rebate interest reserved) and other Securities and Assets	\$ 53,430,332.13
Debts Secured by mortgage or otherwise ..	52,659.67
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for)..	42,583.99
	53,525,575.79
	\$ 78,852,197.40

BANK OF MONTREAL,)
MONTREAL, 30th April, 1900. }

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.

1900.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1900-01.

RT. HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G., *President.*

HON. GEORGE A. DRUMMOND, *Vice-President.*

A. T. PATERSON, Esq.,

E. B. GREENSHIELDS, Esq.,

SIR WM. C. MACDONALD,

R. B. ANGUS, Esq.,

A. F. GAULT, Esq.

JAMES ROSS, Esq.

R. G. REID, Esq.,

REPORT

OF THE

DIRECTORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

AT THEIR

82nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

HELD JUNE 4th, 1900.

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the 82nd Annual Report, showing the result of the Bank's business of the year ended 30th April, 1900 :

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th April, 1899	\$1,102,792 72
Profits for the year ended 30th April, 1900, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts	1,524,388 08
	<hr/>
	\$2,627,180 80
Dividend 5 per cent., paid 1st December, 1899	\$600,000 00
Dividend 5 per cent., payable 1st June, 1900	600,000 00
	<hr/>
	1,200,000 00
Amount credited to Rest Account	1,000,000 00
	<hr/>
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward	\$ 427,180 80

Since the last Annual Meeting of the Shareholders, a Branch of the Bank has been opened at Sydney, N.S.

A Branch Office has been opened in the leased premises of La Banque Ville Marie, on the corner of Wellington and Centre Streets, Point St. Charles, Montreal.

With deep regret the Directors have to record the death of their esteemed colleagues, Messrs. Hugh McLennan and W. W. Ogilvie, the former of whom had been a member of the Board for upwards of seventeen years, and the latter for upwards of five years.

The vacancies on the Board have been filled by the election of Messrs. James Ross and R. G. Reid.

All the offices of the Bank, including the Head Office, have been inspected during the past year.

STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL,
President.

BANK OF MONTREAL, }
Head Office, 4th June, 1900. }

THE GENERAL STATEMENT.

30th April, 1900

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock.....	\$12,000,000 00
Rest.....	\$ 7,000,000 00
Balance of Profits carried forward.....	427,180 80
	\$ 7,427,180 80
Unclaimed Dividends.....	2,212 01
Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st June, 1900.....	600,000 00
	8,029,392 81
	\$20,029,392 81
Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 6,161,649 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	10,709,069 34
Deposits bearing interest.....	41,936,536 97
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	15,549 28
	58,822,804 59
	\$78,852,197 40

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver Coin Current.....	\$ 2,303,209 19
Government Demand Notes.....	2,814,430 00
Deposit with Dominion Government required by Act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation	300,000 00
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Foreign Countries.....	\$11,640,790 26
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Great Britain.....	4,008,131 55
	15,648,921 81
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities.....	518,642 39
United States Railway Bonds.....	1,570,365 25
Notes and cheques of other Banks	1,571,052 97
	\$24,726,621 61
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches	600,000 00
Current Loans and Discounts, (rebate interest reserved) and other Securities and Assets.....	\$53,430,332 13
Debts secured by mortgage or otherwise.....	52,659 67
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for)	42,583 99
	53,525,575 79
	\$78,852,197 40

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.

BANK OF MONTREAL,
MONTREAL, 30th APRIL, 1900. }

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

82ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE,

ON

MONDAY, 4TH JUNE, 1900.

HON. GEORGE A. DRUMMOND, IN THE CHAIR.

On motion of Mr. JOHN CRAWFORD, HON. GEO. A. DRUMMOND, Vice-President, was unanimously voted to the chair in the absence of the President, THE RIGHT HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G.

Moved by Mr. G. F. C. SMITH, seconded by Mr. HENRY DOBELL,

“That the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. F. S. Lyman, Q.C. and W. J. Buchanan; and that Mr. James Aird be the Secretary of this meeting.” Carried.

Moved by the VICE-PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. A. T. PATERSON,

“That the Report of the Directors, now read, be adopted and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.” Carried.

Moved by Mr. DONALD MACMASTER, Q.C., seconded by Mr. F. T. JUDAH, Q.C.

“That the thanks of the meeting be presented to the President, Vice-President and Directors for their attention to the interests of the Bank.” Carried.

Moved by Mr. JOHN CRAWFORD, seconded by Mr. B. A. BOAS,

“That by-law No. 9 be amended by striking out the word ‘fifteen’ in the second line of the by-law, as printed, and inserting in its place the words ‘twenty-five.’” Carried.

Moved by Mr. JAS. ROSS, seconded by Mr. R. G. REID,

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

Moved by Mr. E. RAWLINGS, seconded by Mr. ANGUS W. HOOPER,

“That the ballot now open for the election of Directors be kept open until 3 o'clock, unless fifteen 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.” Carried.

On the motion of Mr. JOHN MORRISON, seconded by Mr. JOHN CRAWFORD, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman, who acknowledged the same.

The Scrutineers reported the election of the following gentlemen as Directors of the Bank for the ensuing year:—

MR. R. B. ANGUS,

SIR WM. C. MACDONALD,

HON. G. A. DRUMMOND,

MR. A. T. PATERSON,

MR. A. F. GAULT,

MR. R. G. REID,

MR. E. B. GREENSHIELDS,

MR. JAMES ROSS,

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

1900

BANK OF MONTREAL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held 4th June, 1900.

(From THE GAZETTE, June 5th, 1900.)

The eighty-second annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal was held in the Board Room, at one o'clock yesterday.

There were present: Hon. George A. Drummond, Vice-President; Sir William C. Macdonald, Messrs. A. T. Patterson, E. B. Greeshields, R. B. Angus, A. F. Gault, James Ross, R. G. Reid, directors; Donald Macmaster, Q. C., John Crawford, G. F. C. Smith, R. W. Shepherd, F. T. Judah, Q. C., B. A. Boas, E. Rawlings, W. J. Buchanan, M. Burke, F. S. Lyman, Q. C., J. Trydaves, F. H. Simms, A. W. Hooper, H. Mason, Richard White, A. T. Taylor, W. R. Miller, H. R. Drummond, Bartlett McLennan, M. S. Foiey, James Tasker, H. Gordon Strathay, W. J. Morrice, Henry Dobell, Sir Thomas Hughes, Hector MacKenzie, Nicholas Murphy, Henry Barbeau, David McFarlane, Charles M. Holt, W. H. Evans, John Morrison.

On the motion of Mr. John Crawford, Hon. George A. 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. G. F. C. Smith, seconded by Mr. Henry Dobell, it was agreed: "That the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. F. S. Lyman, Q. C., and W. J. Buchanan, and that Mr. James Aird be the secretary of the meeting."

THE REPORT.

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

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the eighty-second annual report, showing the result of the Bank's business of the year ended 30th April, 1900:—

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th April, 1899.....	\$1,102,792 72
Profits for the year ended 30th April, 1900, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts.....	1,524,388 08
	\$2,627,180 80
Dividend 5 per cent., paid 1st December, 1899.....	\$600,000
Dividend 5 per cent., payable 1st June, 1900.....	600,000
	1,200,000 00
Amount credited to Rest Account.....	1,000,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward.....	\$427,180 80

Since the last annual meeting of the Shareholders, a Branch of the Bank has been opened at Sydney, N. S.

A Branch Office has been opened in the leased premises of La Banque Ville Marie, on the corner of Wellington and Centre Streets, Point St. Charles, Montreal.

With deep regret the Directors have to record the death of their esteemed colleagues, Messrs. Hugh McLennan and W. W. Ogilvie, the former of whom had been a member of the Board for upwards of seventeen years, and

the latter for upwards of five years.

The vacancies on the Board have been filled by the election of Messrs. James Ross and R. G. Reid.

All the offices of the Bank, including the Head Office, have been inspected during the past year.

STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL
President.

Bank of Montreal,
Head Office,
4th June, 1900.

THE GENERAL STATEMENT.

The general statement at 30th April, 1900, was as follows:

LIABILITIES.		
Capital Stock.....		\$12,000,000 00
Rest.....	\$ 7,000,000 00	
Balance of Profits carried forward.....	427,180 80	
	\$ 7,427,180 80	
Unclaimed Dividends.....	2,212 01	
Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st June, 1900.....	600,000 00	
		\$8,029,392 81
		\$20,020,392 81
Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 6,161,640 00	
Deposits not bearing interest.....	10,700,069 34	
Deposits bearing interest.....	41,036 536 07	
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	15,549 28	
		\$58,522,864 59
		\$78,852,197 40

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver coin current.....	\$ 2,303,209 19	
Government Demand Notes.....	2,814,430 00	
Deposit with Dominion Government required by Act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation.....	300,000 00	
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Foreign Countries.....	\$11,640,790 26	
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Great Britain.....	4,008,131 55	
	15,648,921 81	
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities.....	518,642 39	
United States Railway Bonds.....	1,570,365 25	
Notes and cheques of other Banks.....	1,571,052 97	
		\$24,726,621 61
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches.....		600,000 00
Current Loans and Discounts, (rebate interest reserved) and other Securities and Assets.....	\$53,430,332 13	
Debts secured by mortgage or otherwise.....	52,659 67	
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for)....	42,583 99	
		\$53,525,575 79
		\$78,852,197 40

BANK OF MONTREAL,
MONTREAL, 30th April, 1900.

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.

THE GENERAL MANAGER.

Mr. Clouston then said:—

In the statement submitted to you today the principal changes which have taken place during the past year are: the liabilities column shows an

increase in circulation of \$700,000, and an increase of \$6,500,000 in deposits bearing interest; while on the other side there is a decrease of \$3,800,000 in the reserves held in Great Britain, and an increase of \$10,000,000 in loans. A considerable percentage of the lat-

ter increase represents a legitimate demand from commercial customers for advances, arising from the more active and expanding conditions of trade. The remainder is employed in special operations of a temporary character which will probably be closed out in the next few months.

Canada has good reason to be well satisfied with the results of business for the last twelve months. From every province of the Dominion, with the exception of British Columbia, come reports of universal prosperity, active trade, good crops, and generally speaking satisfactory prices. The lumber trade never was in better condition; while the dairy exports have only been limited by the extent of the cold storage accommodation, which is still insufficient for the growing wants of the trade. Railroad earnings were the largest in the history of Canada, and the year ends in a blaze of universal self-congratulation.

For the coming year there are some indications of over production. Stocks in the merchants' hands are too large, and in some districts collections are disappointing. In fact, at the moment there is something of a check, which, however, may prove highly salutary, if the commercial community will only proceed with caution till the new crop is assured and matters have adjusted themselves on a more satisfactory basis.

British Columbia has not shared in the general prosperity to the same extent as her sister provinces, owing to the effect of injudicious and ill-considered legislation. This has created a feeling of distrust abroad, and the in-flow of foreign capital, so necessary to the development of her immense natural resources, has been seriously checked.

The Finance Minister of Canada has introduced a number of amendments to the Bank Act, which are now before the House. They are the outcome of ten years' experience of the working of the present Bank Act, and will no doubt materially strengthen it, and make it a more workable measure. Full details of these amendments have appeared in the papers, and it is not necessary for me to refer to them here.

If there are any questions respecting the business of the Bank, I shall be pleased to answer them.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT.

Hon. George A. Drummond, said:—

I do not doubt you will receive with satisfaction the statements now laid before you and the explanations of the General Manager.

The profits have enabled the Directors to add one million of dollars to the rest, and pay the usual dividend of ten per cent. for the year. This rate of dividend has continued unbroken for twenty years, supplemented, however, in four of these years by a bonus. The addition to the Rest is fully justified, I think, by the changed conditions since the year 1884, when capital and rest first attained the proportions so long maintained of twelve and six millions respectively. In 1884 the combined capital, Rest and Profit and Loss account aggregated \$18,306,000; in 1900 they were, \$19,130,000. But the total liabilities to the public, which in 1884,

were \$25,941,000, had risen in 1900 to \$58,822,000. I by no means desire to convey the impression that the ability of the Bank to meet its engagements depends on the size of its Rest, but obviously an increase of the Rest is quite in order, and no doubt will meet with your approval, as an increased Rest not only gives additional stability but helps to steady the dividend.

A further comparison of our condition in the year 1884 with the present time, is interesting and instructive. As already said, the liabilities of the Bank had risen from 26 millions of dollars in 1884 to 59 millions in 1900. The number of Agencies or Branches had risen from 31 to 52. The number of the staff had increased from 299 to 562. The deposits had increased from \$22,588,000, to \$63,445,000, and the loans in Canada had increased from 30 millions to 53½ millions. So that to earn approximately equal profits, double the business must be done and the cost of doing it proportionately increased. The public, therefore, is getting its banking business done for about half the prices ruling in 1884. No doubt this is a substantial benefit to all commercial and manufacturing business.

The melancholy collapse of La Banque Ville Marie in this city does not reflect on our banking system, which could not provide for a series of gross frauds, revealed in the trials of the unhappy officers; its failure had no commercial effect, but caused much distress among its depositors, many of whom could ill bear their losses, and whose case rightly excited much public sympathy.

The Board has had occasion during the year to lament the sudden and unexpected death of two of its members, Mr. Hugh McLennan and Mr. W. W. Ogilvie, and has recorded its deep sense of the loss which the Bank has experienced in being deprived of their prudent counsels. The Board considers itself fortunate in having been enabled to fill these vacancies by the election of Mr. James Ross and Mr. R. G. Reid.

In the general trade and commerce of the country we find evidences of the period of prosperity into which we have entered. Good harvests and good prices, especially for dairy produce, have caused prosperity throughout the country. Immigration has been less rapid than can be wished, but with the activity in all branches of trade and manufacture in the Mother Country, nothing else could be anticipated. The lumber industry has been prosperous and prices much above the average; the great destruction of sawed stuff at Ottawa has, no doubt, temporarily affected prices. The consumption of a special class of timber for the manufacture of paper pulp promises to have important effects on some districts. It appears to me that enormous waste is going on in this matter, and that some process of recovery whereby this indispensable material can be used more than once is looming in the future. Enormous strides are being taken in this country towards the production of iron and steel, and when the developments now in progress reach completion, we may hope that Canada will not only supply her own wants, but become a factor in the supply of foreign markets.

Fuel has advanced materially in price, though to a smaller extent in this country than in Great Britain. This is due to a considerable rise in wages and materials and supplies of all kinds, and like the other advances already noted, has an important influence in checking expansion of business. It appears to me, that the fact that steam coal of similar quality to Nova Scotian is costing more in Glasgow, Scotland, than in Montreal, may very well be recorded to the credit of our protective duty on the article, the Montreal coal having been carried nearly one thousand miles. At the pit head, Canadian coal is very much cheaper than at any point in Great Britain.

No better evidence of business activity can be had than the work done by our great carrying companies. Taking the returns of the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railways together, we get these figures:

The gross earnings for the years 1895 and 1899, under the following heads, compare as follows:—Passenger traffic, 1895, \$10,133,000; 1899, \$12,826,000; an advance of 26 per cent. Freight, 1895, \$23,129,000; 1899, \$32,809,000; an advance of 42 per cent. Mail and express, 1895, \$1,804,000; 1899, \$2,268,000; an advance of 25 per cent. Miscellaneous, 1895, \$1,570,000; 1899, \$2,764,000; an advance of 70 per cent. The totals of the foregoing in these years are \$36,636,000, and \$50,677,000 respectively; or an advance of 38 per cent.

The North American steamship companies have had a fairly prosperous year; many of their vessels have found profitable employment in the various transport services connected with the South African war, and the decreased tonnage thus available for their regular trade has tended to enhance freight rates, more especially on export cargoes. The volume of imports carried by the Canadian lines was somewhat less than during the previous twelve months, the freight rates were somewhat dearer and the number of vessels fewer. The volume of exports was smaller, and the average of freight rates more especially on grain and provisions was higher. The current season has opened favorably and the volume of export traffic is likely to be fully equal to the available tonnage during the next two or three months. The passenger traffic was moderately satisfactory and the companies anticipate a free movement both east-bound and west-bound during the year. They complain of the large advance in the price of coal and of the enhanced wages, but their profits are, nevertheless, said to be adequate.

As regards the port of Montreal, the last two years compare as follows: The total value of merchandise entered for consumption in the year ending 30th April, 1899, was \$54,282,140; and for the year ending 30th April, 1900, \$59,997,767; an increase of 10½ per cent. On the other hand, the value of goods produced and otherwise exported in the former year was \$62,170,354; and last year, \$65,107,222, or an increase of 4.7 per cent.

The aggregate trade of Canada by years is as follows:—

	Entered for Consumption.	Exported.
1895	\$105,252,500	\$113,638,800
1898	130,698,000	164,152,700
1899	154,051,000	158,896,000

In the last five years, therefore, the excess in value of total exports over total imports has been \$44,153,300, and this excess of exports over imports has happened only once before in the history of Canada, i. e., in 1880.

One important evidence of better times is to be found in the comparative immunity from losses by business failures which in the respective years are as follows:—1896, \$17,300,000; 1898, \$10,000,000; 1899, \$10,727,000. If we except the reigning stagnation on the Stock Exchange due to a general pause in speculation and dearer money, the indications are of a continuation of good times. It is probable that some revival will be consequent on a decline in the cost of staple raw materials which appears probable. It is impossible to follow the progress of all branches of trade, but the general result, with some special exceptions, is the same, full employment, press of business, good prices, advanced wages. In the middle of all this we are apt to forget that bad times will recur; there are evidences already, however slight, of a reaction. The high prices of lumber and labor, are causing a cessation of building and iron and steel are getting cheaper.

One important factor, which may affect our manufacturing industries, is the evidence of a spirit of aggression in outside markets by the great American combinations and trusts; this may develop into proportions which will produce consequences now unforeseen.

Nothing in recent times has excited so intense an interest in this country as the war in South Africa, now happily drawing to an end. Its progress day by day, indeed, hour by hour, has been watched with feverish anxiety. The successive relief of the heroic beleaguered garrisons of Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking, and the capture of the Boer centres have given occasion for general rejoicings. That a considerable body of Canadian volunteer soldiers sent out by the Dominion, have, for the first time in our history, been fighting on another continent, side by side with the best soldiers of the Empire, and proving themselves by courage and soldierly qualities equal to the honor, has intensified our interest. To ourselves it is a source of pride that among them is a corps of mounted infantry, consisting of 559 men, equipped, armed and carried to the seat of war through the princely liberality of the President of this Bank. Heavy as is the price exacted in war for any benefits—not in treasure alone, for that is secondary—but in blood, Canadians now occupy a place among the nations not hitherto accorded them, and can realize as never before that their country is part and parcel of the Empire, while the most distant shore where our flag flies is but a portion of our heritage.

No one who has made himself acquainted with the facts can doubt that the war was not only a just and most righteous, but also an unavoidable one, or only to be escaped by Great Britain confessing herself unable to protect her citizens, and abandoning all pretensions to Imperial power. I hail the resolve that the territories now conquered at such a heavy price shall be held under the British flag, with the security to life, liberty and property which it everywhere guarantees.

This bank, departing in some measure from precedent, has contributed liberally to Imperial and home organizations having the care of our soldiers and their dependents for their object; for this I do not doubt you will give your approval. Our duty would not be done if we fail to recognize to the full how much this little force has accomplished for the credit and best interests of Canada, and prove our gratitude by deeds.

I will 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.

THE DISCUSSION.

After a few remarks by Mr. John Morrison, Mr. John Crawford touched on the question of parallel columns in the annual financial statement, so that the business of each year could be compared with its immediate predecessor, and he likewise expressed the opinion that a Rest Fund of 59 per cent. was sufficient, and that when that had been reached, the Shareholders should benefit from the profits in the shape of a bonus. In connection with the Banking Act, he asked that the Vice-President, when attending to his senatorial duties at Ottawa, would, if he saw eye to eye with him (Mr. Crawford), use his efforts to have the words, "gross proceeds and gross expenses," substituted for the words, "net proceeds." This would be in accordance with what was the constitutional practice of every bank in England and Scotland. The financial statements of these banks showed the gross proceeds and expenses, and gave the Shareholders some data on which to form an opinion as to the management of the bank. The Vice-President had referred to the South African war, and he (Mr. Crawford) would like to say that there was not a Shareholder of the Bank who would not hold up both hands in congratulating the Directors on having subscribed to the Patriotic Fund. He trusted that they might long live to act upon the same principle. They also subscribed towards the relief of the sufferers by the great conflagration at Ottawa. They did not wait to convene a meeting of the Shareholders, but responded not only for the Bank by liberal donations, but also very generously for themselves. At the same time, he did not wish any banking institution to consider itself a benevolent institution, and though under similar circumstances to those which had occurred, he would have done the same thing. He thought it would be well to have some indemnity clause inserted in the Banking Act. As to the proxy system, he urged that an effort be made to get it to conform to the English system—one year. Reverting to the question of the Rest, he said that several of the best banks in England were satisfied with less than 50 per cent., although one had 60. If the Directors of the Bank of Montreal did not think that 50 per cent. was sufficient, they had only to improve the character of their assets. He thought that the Shareholders were perfectly satisfied with the magnificent financial statement that had been presented.

The Chairman, in replying to Mr. Crawford, said: No one has a greater respect for Mr. Crawford than I have, and we should miss him very much

if he forbore, even for one year, his criticisms of our administration. I devoted a portion of the few remarks I made to dealing with the question of Rest, and showed that the Bank had more than doubled its responsibilities since the date at which \$6,000,000 was considered a sufficient Rest. It appears to me to be a perfectly obvious proposition either that \$6,000,000 were too much in 1884, when the responsibilities were about \$25,000,000, or they are too little now, when the responsibilities are more than doubled. Consequently, I do not agree with him about the rest; and if he will cast his memory back to the last meeting, he will remember he asked my opinion about the Rest, whether it should exceed 50 per cent. or not, and I, carefully guarding myself against committing the Board, which I could not do, expressed my own opinion that it was insufficient, and ought to be added to. I am still of that opinion, and I think the addition to the Rest is a wise and conservative measure which will increase the public confidence in the bank. With regard to the publication of the gross profits, an item Mr. Crawford referred to, it is an old story comparatively. Some ten years ago, when the Banking Act was being revised, Mr. Crawford brought up the question, and as the incident is likely to be forgotten now, I may say that he persuaded the House of Commons to pass, unanimously, a clause calling for a declaration of the gross profits. I had the honor of opposing it in the Senate, and I also was the only speaker on that occasion, and the Senate unanimously threw it out; so that it was carried unanimously in the Commons and was discarded unanimously in the Senate. I am still of the opinion that for a Bank to disclose its gross profits is an improper disclosure to the public, and likely to do a good deal of harm. I need not take up your time with a lengthy argument on that point. While it is true railways and other institutions disclose their gross profits, in many cases, there is a special feature about credit, which is a very delicate thing, and which makes it improper in a bank to have to declare how much is written off for bad debts or anticipated bad debts in any one year. If, for example, a very considerable sum were written off by this Bank for bad debts or anticipated bad debts, the first effect produced on the mind of every critic would be, "Who is likely to fail? What in the world are they expecting? What is going to happen?" The whole fabric of credit would be shaken from the very foundation. That is my view of the result which would legitimately and logically follow the stating of how much we wrote off each year for bad and doubtful debts, and providing for them. As for yearly proxies, I don't object to them at all. Referring to the percentage of Rest, Mr. Crawford, expressed the opinion that 50 per cent. was above the average. There is nothing in the nature of finality about the percentage of a Rest for a bank; it is what the Shareholders and Directors think right in their own eyes. The Bank of Toronto has a Rest of 90 per cent.; Molsons Bank, 89 per cent.; Standard Bank, 60 per cent.; Imperial Bank, 65 per cent.; Merchants Bank of Halifax, 55 per cent.; Bank of Nova Scotia, 102½ per

cent.; Bank of Montreal, (with this addition of \$1,000,000), 58½ per cent. In England and Scotland things come out pretty much the same. The Commercial Bank of Scotland, has a Rest of 82½ per cent.; the London City & Midland, 100 per cent.; and so on to the Manchester and County Bank, which has 103 and a fraction per cent. Carefully guarding my late brother directors from any responsibility in this matter, for they have never expressed an opinion on the subject. I have once more to record my opinion that the addition to the Rest is not excessive; in fact, I would rather see it increased than diminished. Mr. Crawford and others who think with him get, in the additional price of their stock, a certain equivalent for the bonus they desire.

Mr. John Crawford explained that he had not alluded to gross losses at all; only gross profits and gross expenses. He could quite understand that if a bank published a large amount of loss, it might affect credit.

The Chairman then put the motion for the adoption of the report, and it was carried unanimously.

NOTES OF THANKS, &c.

Mr. Donald Macmaster moved:—

"That the thanks of the meeting be presented to the President, Vice-Pre-

sident and Directors for their attention to the interests of the Bank."

This was seconded by Mr. F. T. Judah, Q.C., and adopted, and was briefly acknowledged by the Chairman.

Mr. John Crawford moved:—

"That by-law No. 9 be amended by striking out the word 'fifteen' in the second line of the by-law, as printed, and inserting in its place the words 'twenty-five.'"

He explained that it was simply adding \$10,000 to the remuneration given to the Directors, under the by-law. He made the motion with a great deal of pleasure, and spoke a few kindly words of the President of the Bank.

The motion was seconded by Mr. B. A. Boas, and was carried.

Mr. James Ross moved:—

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

The motion was seconded by Mr. R. G. Reid, and having been unanimously concurred in, was acknowledged by the General Manager.

Mr. E. Rawlings moved:—

"That the ballot now open for the election of Directors be kept open

until 3 o'clock, unless fifteen 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 seconded by Mr. Angus W. Hooper, and unanimously agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. John Morrison, seconded by Mr. John Crawford, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman for his conduct of the business of the meeting, and he acknowledged the same.

THE DIRECTORS.

The ballot resulted in the election of the following Directors:—

R. B. ANGUS, ESQ.
HON. G. A. DRUMMOND.
A. F. GAULT, ESQ.
E. B. GREENSHIELDS, ESQ.
SIR WILLIAM C. MACDONALD.
A. T. PATERSON, ESQ.
R. G. REID, ESQ.
JAMES ROSS, ESQ.
RT. HON. LORD STRATHCONA
AND MOUNT ROYAL, G. C. M. G.

At a meeting of the new Board on Tuesday, the 5th inst., The Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., was re-elected President, and Hon. Geo. A. Drummond, Vice-President.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

(ESTABLISHED 1817.)

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

CAPITAL (<i>all paid up</i>)	- - - - -	\$12,000,000.00
RESERVED FUND,	- - - - -	7,000,000.00
UNDIVIDED PROFITS,	- - - - -	427,180.80

HEAD OFFICE—MONTREAL.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

RT. HON. LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G.		HON. G. A. DRUMMOND.
	<i>President.</i>	<i>Vice-President.</i>
A. T. PATERSON, Esq.	EDWARD B. GREENSHIELDS, Esq.	Sir Wm. C. MACDONALD,
R. B. ANGUS, Esq.	A. F. GAULT, Esq.	JAMES ROSS, Esq.
	R. G. REID, Esq.	

E. S. CLOUSTON, *General Manager.*

A. MACNIDER, *Chief Inspector and Superintendent of Branches.*

W. S. CLOUSTON, *Inspector of Branch Returns.* F. W. TAYLOR, *Assistant Inspector.*

JAMES AIRD, *Secretary.*

BRANCHES: IN CANADA:

MONTREAL			H. V. MEREDITH, <i>Manager.</i>
PROV. OF ONTARIO.	PROV. OF ONTARIO.	PROV. OF QUEBEC.	Province of Manitoba and North West Territories.
ALMONTE,	LINDSAY,	MONTREAL,	WINNIPEG, MAN.,
BELLEVILLE,	LONDON,	" West End Br.	CALGARY, ALBERTA,
BRANTFORD,	OTTAWA,	" Seigneurs St. Br.	LETHBRIDGE, "
BROCKVILLE,	PERTH,	Point St. Charles.	REGINA, ASSINIBOIA.
CHATHAM,	PETERHORO,	QUEBEC.	Prov. of British Columbia.
CORN WALL,	PICTON,		GREENWOOD,
DESERONTO,	SARNIA,	LOWER PROVINCES.	NELSON,
FORT WILLIAM,	STRATFORD,	CHATHAM, N. B.	NEW DENVER,
GODERICH,	ST. MARYS,	FREDERICTON, "	N. WESTMINSTER,
GUELPH,	TORONTO,	MONCTON, "	ROSSLAND,
HAMILTON,	" (Yonge St. Branch)	ST. JOHN, "	VANCOUVER,
KINGSTON,	WALLACEBURG,	AMHERST, N. S.	VERNON,
		HALIFAX, "	VICTORIA.
		SYDNEY, "	

IN NEWFOUNDLAND:

ST. JOHNS, NFLD. BANK OF MONTREAL.

IN GREAT BRITAIN:

LONDON, BANK OF MONTREAL, 22 Abchurch Lane, E. C., ALEXANDER LANG, *Manager.*

IN THE UNITED STATES:

NEW YORK, R. Y. HEDDEN, and J. M. GREATA, *Agents*, 59 Wall Street.
CHICAGO, BANK OF MONTREAL.

BANKERS IN GREAT BRITAIN:

LONDON, THE BANK OF ENGLAND.	LIVERPOOL,	THE BANK OF LIVERPOOL, LTD.
" THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.	SCOTLAND,	THE BRITISH LINEN COMPANY
" THE LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK.		BANK, AND BRANCHES.
" THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND.		

BANKERS IN THE UNITED STATES:

NEW YORK, THE NATIONAL CITY BANK.	SAN FRANCISCO,	THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.
" THE BANK OF NEW YORK, N. B. A.	"	THE BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.
BOSTON, THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK.	"	THE ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN BANK.
" J. B. MOORS & Co.	PORTLAND OREGON,	THE BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.
BUFFALO, THE MARINE BANK BUFFALO.		

1900.

31ST OCTOBER.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

*Statement of the result of the business of the Bank for the half year ended
31st October, 1900.*

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th April, 1900.....	\$ 427,180.80	\$1,102,792.72
Profits for the half-year ended 31st October, 1900, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts.	682,903.24	658,161.47
	\$1,110,084.04	\$ 1,760,954.19
Dividend 5 per cent., payable 1st December, 1900.....	600,000.00	600,000.00
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward.....	\$ 510,084.04	\$1,160,954.19

NOTE—*Market price of Bank of Montreal stock, 31st October, 1900 259%*

(equal to \$518 per share.)

(same date last year, 265%.)

GENERAL STATEMENT.

31st October 1900.

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock		\$12,000,000.00
Rest	\$ 7,000,000.00	
Balance of Profits carried forward	510,084.04	
	\$ 7,510,084.04	
Unclaimed Dividends	2,102.01	
Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st December, 1900	600,000.00	
		8,112,186.05
		\$20,112,186.05
Notes of the Bank in circulation	\$ 7,384,408.00	
Deposits not bearing interest	18,104,058.62	
Deposits bearing interest	49,127,812.28	
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	37,930.74	
		71,654,209.64
		\$94,766,395.69

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver coin current	\$ 2,090,885.26	
Government demand notes	2,422,130.50	
Deposit with Dominion Government required by act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation	310,000.00	
Due by agencies of this bank and other banks in Great Britain	\$ 2,337,697.61	
Due by agencies of this bank and other banks in Foreign countries	2,084,482.52	
Call and short Loans in Great Britain and United States	20,691,750.00	
	25,113,930.13	
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities	825,850.36	
Railway and other Bonds, debentures and stocks	2,988,962.80	
Notes and cheques of other Banks	1,591,267.51	
		\$35,343,026.56
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches		600,000.00
Current Loans and discounts in Canada and elsewhere (rebate interest reserved) and other assets	\$58,621,304.10	
Debts Secured by mortgage or otherwise	138,826.74	
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for)	63,238.29	
		58,823,369.13
		\$94,766,395.69

BANK OF MONTREAL,)
MONTREAL, 31st October, 1900. }

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

31st October, 1899.

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock		\$ 12,000,000.00
Rest.....	\$ 6,000,000.00	
Balance of Profits carried forward.....	1,160,954.19	
	\$ 7,160,954.19	
Unclaimed Dividends	1,822.01	
Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st December, 1899	600,000.00	
	7,762,776.20	
		\$ 19,762,776.20
Notes of the Bank in circulation	\$ 7,153,857.00	
Deposits not bearing interest	12,628,385.80	
Deposits bearing interest	43,851,578.61	
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	786.66	
	63,634,608.07	
		\$ 83,397,384.27

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver coin current		\$2,150,851.46
Government Demand Notes	2,969,583.00	
Deposit with Dominion Government required by Act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation,	300,000.00	
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Foreign Countries	\$16,209,882.93	
Due by agencies of this Bank and other Banks in Great Britain	10,851,054.10	
	27,060,937.03	
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities	522,504.44	
United States Railway Bonds	1,686,462.35	
Notes and cheques of other Banks	1,833,800.23	
	\$ 36,524,138.51	
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches.....		600,000.00
Current Loans and Discounts, (rebate interest reserved) and other Securities and Assets	\$46,198,959.93	
Debts Secured by mortgage or otherwise	39,447.14	
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for) ..	34,838.69	
	46,273,245.76	
		\$ 83,397,384.27

BANK OF MONTREAL, }
MONTREAL, 31st October, 1899. }

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.