

CANADIAN INSURANCE REPORT.

Insurance Superintendent Fitzgerald's Report upon the various branches of insurance by companies transacting business in Canada during the year 1898 is out, and we present in this issue the more important portion of the explanatory text found in the Introduction. In addition to publishing the tabulated results of the fire and life business by companies, we intend to produce any additional features of interest found in Mr. Fitzgerald's excellent report:—

FIRE AND INLAND MARINE INSURANCE, 1898.

During the year 1898 the business of fire insurance in Canada was carried on by 33 companies; of these 6 were Canadian, 20 British and 7 American. Inland marine insurance was also transacted by 4 of them (2 Canadian, 1 British and 1 American), and

ocean marine by 2 of them (both Canadian). One British company (the British and Foreign Marine) carried on in addition to the business of inland marine insurance the business of insuring registered mailmatter in transit from place to place in Canada. Since the close of the year 1898, 3 Fire Insurance Companies have received licenses, 1 American (the American Fire Insurance Company), 1 British (the Law Union & Crown), and one Canadian (the Victoria-Montreal).

FIRE PREMIUMS AND LOSSES IN CANADA IN 1898.

The cash received for premiums during the year in Canada has amounted to \$7,350,131, being greater than that received in 1897 by \$192,470; and the amount paid for losses has been \$4,784,487, which is greater than that paid in 1897 by \$82,654. The ratio of losses paid to premiums received is shown in the following table:—

FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA IN 1898.

	Paid for Losses.	Received for Premiums.	Rate of Losses Paid per cent. of Premiums Received.	The same for 1897.
Canadian Companies	\$ 587,705	\$ 1,121,927	52.38	70.40
British "	3,357,122	5,223,345	68.10	64.56
American "	639,660	1,004,859	63.66	66.75
Total	4,784,487	7,350,131	65.09	65.69

The corresponding results for the thirty years over which our records extend are given below:—

Fire Insurance in Canada.

	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.	Rate of Losses Paid per cent. of Premiums Received.
—	\$	\$	
1869	1,785,539	1,027,720	57.56
1870	1,916,779	1,624,837	84.77
1871	2,321,716	1,549,199	66.73
1872	2,628,710	1,909,975	72.66
1873	2,968,416	1,682,184	56.67
1874	3,522,303	1,926,169	54.68
1875	3,594,764	2,563,531	71.31
1876	3,708,006	2,867,295	77.33
1877	3,764,005	4,490,914	225.58
1878	3,368,430	1,822,674	54.11
1879	3,227,488	2,145,198	66.47
1880	3,479,577	1,666,578	47.90
1881	3,827,116	3,169,824	82.83
1882	4,229,706	2,674,986	63.01
1883	4,624,741	2,920,228	63.14
1884	4,900,128	3,245,323	65.16
1885	4,852,460	2,679,287	55.22
1886	4,932,335	3,301,388	66.93
1887	5,244,502	3,404,514	64.90
1888	5,437,263	3,073,822	56.53
1889	5,888,016	2,876,211	51.47
1890	5,836,071	3,266,567	55.97
1891	6,168,716	3,905,697	63.31
1892	6,512,327	4,377,270	67.22
1893	6,793,595	5,052,690	74.37
1894	6,711,369	4,589,363	68.38
1895	6,943,382	4,993,750	71.92
1896	7,075,850	4,173,501	58.98
1897	7,157,661	4,701,833	65.69
1898	7,350,131	4,784,487	65.09
Totals	140,551,102	96,456,010	68.63

Taking the totals for the same thirty years, according to the nationalities of the companies, the following are the results:—

Fire Insurance in Canada for the thirty years—

1869-1898.

	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.	Rate of Losses Paid per cent. of Premiums Received.
—	\$	\$	
Canadian Companies	33,742,872	23,908,009	70.85
British do	92,167,069	62,692,519	68.02
American do	14,641,161	9,855,482	67.31
Totals	140,551,102	96,456,010	68.63

If we had excluded from these tables the year of the disastrous fire in St. John (1877), the average loss rate would have come out 64.31.

Obtaining an approximation to the losses incurred during the year, by excluding the payments for losses outstanding at the beginning of the year, and including the amounts estimated for those of the year still unsettled, the ratio of the losses incurred to premiums received comes out 74.37 per cent., which is 9.96 per cent. greater than the 64.41 of the previous year, and is 10.06 per cent. greater than the average for the last fifteen years (64.31). The following are the rates of incurred losses from 1884:—