

Further, the proposed 15 per cent. federal tax upon premiums paid to unlicensed companies may give rise to instances of apparently conflicting authority in provinces which already have their own permissive arrangements regarding "outside" insurance.

At any rate, it will be well to have some heart-to-heart talking among the premiers regarding the whole insurance situation. That such is purposed seems evident from a statement made by Hon. Mr. Fielding in the House this week. Replying to a plea for a standard fire policy, he pointed out that, aside from the merits or demerits of the proposal, it might involve conflict between the Dominion and the provinces—so that the question would have to be taken up later in conference with the provinces.

The American Invasion.

The Canadian Government Land Office at Omaha reports that during the first three months of this year 1,227 American immigrants from that district alone left Omaha for Western Canada—more than half as many as passed through the Omaha office all last year. They brought with them into Canada 325 car loads of settlers' effects valued at \$1,250,000. It is estimated that this year immigrants from Iowa and Nebraska will bring in effects worth \$8,000,000 besides cash. Few American settlers being in less than \$1,000 in cash and many bring from \$3,000 to \$10,000. So far the American invasion is an unmixed good for the Canadian West. They become the very best of settlers, after they have been in Canada a few years; and having learned what freedom means under the British flag have got rid of some old prejudices and misconceptions.

Adana Massacres.

The new Turkish Government has assured a deputation of American clergy and laity that it will thoroughly enquire into the Adana massacres and severely punish the instigators; also that practical relief measures for the surviving sufferers will be at once put into operation. That these proceedings will be entirely satisfactory to those who sympathize with the victims is not to be expected; but there is no reason to question the good faith of the Government, which has troubles of its own, a difficult mission to fulfil, and the most fanatical and uncertain population in the whole world upon which to rely for moral and material support.

Cuban Lottery. The leopard cannot change his spots; Cuba free and independent is Cuba still and its House of Representatives by a vote of 52 to 20 has authorized the establishment of a national lottery. The Government expects to derive an annual revenue of from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 from three drawings to be held every month. This will be the most popular, most costly, and most demoralising of all the taxes in the island.

The Horse Show. It is gratifying to see such eminently qualified people as the Vanderbilts competing in the Montreal Horse Show. The show this year promises to be one of the best ever held in this city and the presence of distinguished American horse-owners, not only adds to the interest and importance of the events, but tends to promote international social relations.

Newfoundland Elections.

The ways of the sovereign people are beyond comprehension. A few weeks ago the people of Newfoundland elected a Legislature so evenly divided that the King's government could not be carried. It sat but one day and was then dissolved. Another election has been held and resulted in giving Sir Edward Morris 26 supporters, and Sir Robert Bond only 6. Between the elections nothing particular has happened to change public opinion. Yet Sir Robert is thrown into the sea, and his party is overwhelmed by a tidal wave.

The Montreal Technical School.

The Quebec opposition is not likely to gain much popularity by attacking Sir Lomer Gouin's education policy; a subject of such vital importance that it might well be left outside the pale of party politics. The objection to the Technical School on the ground that it does not teach religion would sound like a joke in any country under heaven except Quebec. If this province needs anything it is more practical education.

Kidnapping.

Pennsylvania is to be congratulated upon the swift and stern administration of justice in the Whitla Kidnapping case. Murder itself is not a crime more repugnant to human feeling than kidnapping. Boyle has been sentenced to imprisonment for life, and his wife to imprisonment for twenty-five years. The probabilities are that it will be a long time before any more children are stolen and held for ransom in Pennsylvania.

The Weekly Day of Rest.

The crews of several of the Messageries Maritimes now in port at Marseilles have struck for the immediate granting of a promised weekly day of rest. The Sabbath law in some form of application or other is the Magna Charta of toiling humanity; and the working-men who go too far in their efforts to lessen the legal restrictions of the Sunday are their own worst enemies.

The French Strike.

The strike of government employees in France continues to be serious and even alarming. The attitude of the government is we are glad to see uncompromising. There is scarcely more room for discussion between a government and the servants of the public in such a situation than there would be between the officers of a man-o-war and the crew in a state of mutiny. The strike comes dangerously near to treason.

Notwithstanding that Mr. Lloyd-**British National Debt Reductions.** George has had to confess to a considerable deficit and to impose a considerable burden of new taxation, the British Government will carry out its policy of debt reduction. Usually £28,000,000 a year has been voted for this purpose. This year the amount will be £25,000,000.

Ottawa's New Hotel. Ottawa is to have a new hotel, at the corner of Bank and Spark Streets, which will cost \$250,000. Ottawa would have had a new hotel worthy of the capital of the Dominion long ago, if so many obstacles had not been put in the way of the Grand Trunk. There is room for both hotels.