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Street Cars as Fuel. Immediately following our reference to the desirability of using fire-proofed wood in the structure of street cars, there came a striking illustration of the danger of continuing to use ordinary timber in building these vehicles. A street car is reported to have taken fire in Ottawa and been totally destroyed, the woodwork was turned into fuel for flames. Happily, the car was not overcrowded so the passengers alighted without any more injury than was caused by fright, which is liable, however, to inflict even a fatal injury. Had that car been constructed of electrically fire-proofed wood it would not have burned, there would have been no flame, almost its entire cost would have been saved, and there would have been no alarm given to passengers.

Matches. There is a saying "matches are made in Heaven." This, however, refers to a different class to those used for obtaining a light, the making of which, judging by the mischief they do and their characteristic odours, may be attributed to another place. The underwriters of New York have opened a crusade against these incendiary appliances, so that matches may be compelled to "mind their own business," which is quite an innocent one. We fear the effort to suppress the manufacture and sale of such matches as those which, by careless use, are liable to start a fire, will prove a failure. The dangers of fire from this cause would be materially reduced were merchants and others to prohibit the use of a certain class of matches on their premises, especially in the basements of warehouses, in factories and wherever flammable goods are stored. Efforts to secure what can be obtained, though much below what is desirable, are more fruitful in good results than those spent over endeavours to achieve what is needed but impracticable. The need of

some action is shown by the New York fire department reporting 1,300 fires caused last year by matches in which 8 lives were lost.

Yukon Gold. The output of gold in the Yukon, on which royalties were paid, amounted to the following sums:

1902.....	\$12,000,000	1899.....	\$10,000,000
1901.....	15,000,000	1898.....	2,000,000
1900.....	20,000,000		

The addition of \$59,000,000 to the output of gold in Canada since 1898 has been a considerable factor amongst the causes of the country's increase in prosperity since 1897. With so large an outlook of gold in the extreme West a great output of iron and coal in the extreme East, and harvests in the centre of the Dominion that are expanding by leaps and bounds, Canada is blessed with most promising conditions for future development and increase of wealth.

British Empire and Pelican. An arrangement has been effected for the amalgamation of the British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company with the Pelican Life Office. The name of the new organization will be, "Pelican and British Empire Life Office." The Pelican is the oldest life company upon the joint stock principle; it was founded in 1797. The British Empire dates from 1847. The circular issued by Mr. G. H. Ryan, general manager of the British Empire, who will have charge of the new office, states that, "When the two companies are combined they will have funds of more than four and a half millions sterling (\$22,500,000), and revenues from premium and interest of £560,000 (\$2,800,000)." An act of Parliament will be sought to give effect to this scheme after it has been formally approved by the shareholders and members severally of the two companies.