

and general manager. These extensions include the following:—

During the past year 120 bye-product coke ovens of the latest and most approved type, with a capacity of 720 tons per day at an expenditure of \$1,300,000 have been completed.

The following are under construction and nearing completion: Two 500-ton open hearth furnaces, one Bessemer converter, No. 8 blast furnace.

A contract has been let for the super-structure of No. 7 blast furnace, and the work of excavation is now under way.

A new power house is completed and the machinery is now being installed.

New pumps are being installed at Sydney River and a new power line is being built along the right of way of the Intercolonial Railway, from the power house to the pumping station.

A merchant mill for the manufacture of bars, rods, etc., is being erected.

In addition to these, a new building for the repair of ladles, etc., the new office building, a plate mill and other mills are being proceeded with.

The total expenditure will aggregate about \$4,000,000.

The Bank of France.

The solicitude of the Bank of France for the welfare and advancement of French industry and commerce is well-known. The Bank has lately received a striking testimonial to the success of its policy in this direction. The existing legal privilege of the Bank of France is for a period which terminates in 1920, but may be terminated by Parliament next year, if Parliament considers it desirable. The Socialists in the Chamber recently brought this matter up, and the Minister of Commerce considered it advisable to consult the official Chambers of Commerce of the country with regard to the matter. The opinions the Chambers of Commerce expressed were all but unanimously in favor of this continuance of the present legal privilege. The Chambers point out the advantages to trade and commerce of a fixed bank rate, year in and year out, as well as the low rate of the official discount, which is, of course, to the great advantage of French industry and commerce and general credit. In support of their argument, the Chambers quoted the following list of discount rates as they then were:—France, 3 per cent., as in 1909 and 1910; England, Holland, Switzerland, 3½ per cent.; Austria, Belgium, Germany, 4 per cent.; Spain, 4½ per cent.; Italy, Russia, Sweden, 5 per cent.; Portugal, United States, 6 per cent.

February's Industrial Accidents.

Industrial accidents occurring to 264 individual work people in Canada, during the month of February, 1911, were reported to the Department of Labour. Of these, eighty-four were fatal and 180 resulted in serious injuries. In addition, four fatal accidents were reported as having taken place prior to the beginning of the month, information not having been received by the Department before February, 1911. In the preceding month there were eighty-two fatal and 201 non-fatal accidents reported, a total

of 283, and in February, 1910, there were forty-one fatal and 196 non-fatal accidents, a total of 237.

STATEMENT OF ACCIDENTS DURING FEBRUARY, 1911, BY INDUSTRIES AND TRADES.

Trade or Industry.	Killed.	Injured.	Total.
Agriculture	14	12	26
Fishing and hunting	2	..	2
Lumbering	15	12	27
Mining	8	12	20
Building trades	3	7	10
Metal trades	7	42	49
Woodworking trades	3	18	21
Printing trades	..	1	1
Clothing trades	..	2	2
Food and tobacco preparation	1	5	6
Railway service	24	26	50
Navigation	..	2	2
General transport	..	14	14
Civic employes	2	13	15
Miscellaneous	1	8	9
Unskilled labour	4	6	10

Total 84 180 264

Wet Weather Insurance.

The scheme initiated by a number of Lloyd's underwriters last year for insurance against wet weather at English summer resorts is apparently to be extended this year. The scheme goes beyond anything of the kind previously attempted in connection with particular outdoor events or with the insurance requirements of those who cater for the outdoor entertainment and needs of the public. The insurance is being undertaken by the Excess Insurance Company, Ltd., but policies are being arranged through Lloyd's brokers. The main points of the present proposals are:—

From May to September rain falling within each twenty-four hours at over sixty seaside resorts in England will be measured, and the daily readings transmitted to the insurance company. The returns will be supplied either by town clerks or the local meteorological office. At the expiration of each policy, all claims will be paid direct to the assured without demand. The four "Pluvius Policies" which will be issued are as follows:

Policy A—Premium one-eighth of the compensation to be paid per week. Thus, a premium of 15s per week secures £6 per week in which more than 0.20 of an inch of rain falls on two days or more.

Policy B—Premium per week one and a half times the amount of compensation payable for each day on which the rainfall amounts to 0.20 of an inch.

Policy C—Premium per week equal to the amount of compensation payable for each day, excepting the first, on which the rainfall amounts to 0.15 of an inch.

Policy D—Premium for four days a sum equal to the amount of compensation payable for each day on which the rainfall is over 0.20 of an inch.

One-fifth of an inch of rain, which must fall on two days in a week before the holiday-maker can recover under Policy A, is a fairly severe rainfall, but by no means uncommon, for in a very wet year a third of an inch of rain has fallen in two minutes. The majority of the popular seaside resorts of England are included in the sixty towns to which the scheme already applies. Resorts in Scotland, Ireland and Wales are not yet accepted in the risks taken owing to the uncertainty of "Scotch mists" and the notorious unreliability of Irish and Welsh weather, which at present cannot be estimated at any reasonable premium.