A FIELD FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS.

The *British Medical Journal* waxes sarcastic over a report that there is an accident insurance company in New York which employs a Christian Scientist as what is expressively called an "adjuster." He is said, remarks the *Journal*, to be a very valuable official by reason of his ability to make people insured in the company look at their accidents from a Christian Science point of view. We can well believe that an "adjuster" who can persuade victims of an accident who want their insurance money that they are not really hurt must be worth a great deal to the company which employs him. Evidently there is an immense field open to Christian Science practitioners if they can convince the world of the truth of their doctrines. Not only insurance offices, but railway, tramway and motor bus companies would find the risks of their business vastly diminished if they could find an adequate number of sufficiently persuasive "adjusters." The medical problems of the workmen's compensation act would cease to vex the souls of doctors and to exercise the minds of judges. Again, there is the insurance act. There are many different opinions as to that legislative creation, but on one point there is general agreement, and that is its costliness. If the principles of Christian Science were applied to the working of the act, the country would forthwith be relieved of a vast number of officials, malingering would be abolished, and the darkness of disease, that delusion of the "mortal mind," would be dissipated by the light of the gospel according to Mrs. Eddy. Only one condition need be fulfilled for this glorious dream to be realized. It is delightfully simple. All that has to be done is that a staff of Christian Science "healers" should be appointed to go about telling people who fancy they are sick that there is nothing the matter with them. Organic lesions, fractures, growths, and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to would then fade away into the nothingness from which they sprang. The very foundation on which insurance rests would crumble away. But, continues the *Journal*, the Chancellor of the Exchequer need have no fear about his revenue from insurance stamps, nor are the panel doctors likely to find their occupation gone. The day of deliverance from disease is not yet, and if ever it is conquered by man it may safely be foretold that Christian Science will do nothing to bring about that consummation.

BIG BRITISH BANK AMALGAMATION.

Another important British bank consolidation is announced. The London City & Midland absorbs the Metropolitan Bank of England and Wales, which is a large country institution, through an exchange of shares.

There is another step in the rivalry to become the biggest English bank. The combined deposits of the two institutions will amount to $525,000,000, against $460,000,000 at Lloyds Bank, which is now London's biggest financial institution.

MR. E. W. COX.

We are glad to hear that the sensational cables from London, regarding the supposed serious illness of Mr. E. W. Cox, president of the Canada Life Assurance Company, are incorrect. Mr. Cox is now staying at Eastbourne for a few weeks.

A WARNING AGAINST POLICY SPECULATORS.

We would again call the attention of policyholders to the continued efforts of certain cunning and unscrupulous schemers, generally posing as "bankers" or brokers, to buy deferred dividend policies at much less than their true value. To this end policies nearing the completion of their dividend periods are chosen, and the insured is asked to obtain from his company a statement of what it will pay in cash for the surrender of the policy, well knowing that the company cannot lawfully pay more than the reserve until the end of the dividend period. That is, the company cannot legally allow anything at all on account of the deferred dividend soon to accrue. The speculator at once offers considerably more than the company can lawfully pay at that time, but a good deal less than the combined cash value and probable dividend which the company will be able to pay at the end of the distribution period.

If the schemer's proposition is accepted and the insured lives until the end of the distribution period —a year, or perhaps three or four years later—the purchaser will then surrender the policy and reap a tremendous profit on his investment. If the policyholder dies before the end of the period, the purchaser will receive the full face amount of the insurance, which should have gone to the family of the insured, and will thereby realize a much larger profit than in the first case. If the insured is in failing health—likely soon to die—at the end of the dividend period, the purchaser will draw only the dividend in cash and a little later, on the death of the insured, will receive the face amount of the insurance also, all of which should have gone to the family of the insured. Policyholders who may receive seductive offers of this kind, are urged to consult the company, and have the benefit of its disinterested but expert advice. If in dire need of money at the time, or if unable to continue payment of premiums, the company will lend the policyholder a large part of the amount for which he could sell his policy to the speculator. This will meet present needs and enable him to maintain his policy in force until the end of the dividend period, when he will receive for himself the accruing dividend, and, if need be, the surrender value of the policy,—the latter less the outstanding loan.—*Mutual Interests*.

T. J. S. SKINNER CO., LIMITED, CALGARY.

Mr. C. C. Paul (T. J. S. Skinner Co.), Calgary, representing the Guardian Fire Assurance Co. and Guardian Accident & Guarantee Company, spent a couple of days in Montreal this week. Mr. Paul appears very optimistic about the future, and informs us that there is already a marked improvement in business generally this year in the West.

The firm of T. J. S. Skinner Company, Limited, is one of the best known in the Province of Alberta. Mr. T. J. S. Skinner, head of the firm, is one of the pioneers of the West and has accumulated considerable wealth.

The oil wells which were discovered about thirty miles south of Calgary early in May caused considerable excitement in Calgary. Mr. Paul informs us that the wells are panning out favourably, and Calgary business men have invested very freely.