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References: The Canadian Bank of Commerce.
The Union Bank of Canada.

TORRENS LAND TITLE.

The Supreme Court of Illinois has recently declared the Torrens land title transfer law of the State unconstitutional, upon the ground that the law conferred judicial powers on the recorders of deeds. The court held that it would be difficult to more clearly and positively confer judicial powers upon a person unqualified under the constitution to exercise those powers than is done by the law, a circumstance which doubtless resulted from an attempt to adopt the provisions of a similar law in force in Australia, Canada, England, and perhaps other countries, by which the certificate of title issued becomes conclusive as to the ownership of the property, and in which countries no constitutional or other restriction exists against the legislative grant of such powers to non-judicial officers. It is understood that the advocates of the law will ask for a rehearing of the case, and that if they can get no relief in this way, they will endeavor to have an amended act passed which shall obviate the constitutional objections raised by the court.—*Bradstreets.*

ACCIDENT ASSURANCE CLAIM.

A case was decided some weeks ago by an Indiana Appeal Court wherein a citizen of that State held an accident policy which entitled him to a weekly allowance during total disability, arising from an accident, for a period of not more than fifty-two weeks. The man died from the results of an accident, and his representatives claimed to be entitled to draw the fifty-two weeks' allowance from the company on account of the total disability which ensued from death. The Appeal Court of the State held that the right to payment expired with death of the insured person.

—A bill to regulate the sale of manures has been introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, N.S.W. The bill requires that whenever any artificial manure is sold, a certificate shall be given as to its percentage contents of the principal manurial compounds, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash; that any purchaser may have the manure analyzed by an official analyst on payment of one guinea; and that when the manure is found to contain less of these ingredients than certified, to the extent of 2 per cent. of the whole sample as to nitrogen or potash, and 4 per cent. as to phosphoric acid, the vendor shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding £10 for the first offence and £50 for the second offence.

—In the matter of the estate of Kelly and Murphy, Sheriff Sturdee, of St. John, N.B., was allowed \$300 for his costs by vote of creditors, but demanded \$500, to which creditors demurred, and took the matter before Judge Forbes. After a lengthy hearing the Judge decided that the sheriff must submit an itemized bill of his costs, upon which he would adjudicate.

THE shareholders of the Windsor Hotel Montreal, met on Tuesday last, and to the number of twenty, and adopted the annual report, which they considered very satisfactory. The old board of directors was re-elected, consisting of Charles Garth, president; J. P. Dawes, vice-president; John Cassels, H. Joseph, W. C. McIntyre, S. Cross, F. L. Wauklyn. The executive committee is composed of Messrs. Dawes, McIntyre and Joseph.

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