not long past, each head office had a "waiting list" of officers anticipating promotion there is not a single bank in Canada to-day with any list of this nature. The appointment of so many new managers who are placed in charge of branches where, in so many cases they are entire strangers, must have imposed very onerous additional burdens upon general managers. The wisdom of the measures taken some years ago by the Bankers' Association to stimulate and encourage the study of banking methods and principles amongst the officials, is being shown by so large a number of young men being found capable of assuming managerial duties at new branches.

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TORONTO'S ASSESSMENT.—The assessors, Toronto, have just completed their work and given the total assessment for this year as considerably in excess of 1904. In 1904 the total, including real and personal property and income, was $142,328,397. The average annual increase in the six years, 1899 to 1904 was under 3 millions.

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THE HOME LIFE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA is reported to have taken over the business of the People's Life Insurance Company. The Hon. J. R. Stratton, ex provincial secretary of Ontario, has become president of the Home Life, Mr. J. S. King, Vice-President and Mr. J. K. McCutcheon, Managing Director.

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THE HURON AND ERIE LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY, of London, Ont., is stated to have arranged for the assumption of a local company of the same class.

The Huron and Erie was incorporated in 1864, a slight change of name took place in 1876. The company has always enjoyed a large measure of public confidence. At the close of last year its paid-up capital was $1,400,000, the reserve fund being $1,-000,000, which is exceptionally large for a loan and savings company. The deposits were $1,659,163. The company's debentures payable in Canada were, $2,588,763, and those payable elsewhere than in Canada" $1,499,295. These resources amount to $5,747,221. The mortgages on real estate were $7,-301,744, and the company owned bonds and debentures and stock to extent of $560927, with cash on hand and in banks amounting to $389,068. The debts secured by land held for sale only made a total of $2,800, which is a remarkably small sum for a company with over 7 millions invested in mortgages.

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STREET CAR FENDERS.—An accident similar to the one on Park Avenue in this city took place a few days ago at Vancouver, by which a child was run over by a street car. The Mayor of Vancouver has written the local railway company urging the adoption of the Jenkins street car fender which, he declares, has stood severe tests. Bags the size of a 5 year old child, when placed in a number of positions on the roadway and across the rails, were picked up clean by this fender when the car was running at 10 miles an hour. The Vancouver jury strongly recommended the cars being equipped with better, with automatic fenders. Another accident in this city this week shows the need of the best fenders procurable being adopted. In Oakland, Cal., an attachment to the cars makes it almost impossible to run over a cat.

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HOSPITAL SUNDAY.—In view of the urgent need of more income by the General Hospital and others it is worth considering whether the example set by Birmingham, London, and other British cities and by Vancouver, B.C., might not be followed here by one day in each year being specially devoted to collecting donations to our hospitals.

QUERIES' COLUMN.

In order to furnish our readers with information we propose to devote this column to replies to correspondents. Letters should be addressed to "THE CHRONICLE, Enquiry Department, Montreal."

Answers will only be given to such communications as bear the writer's name, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and only to questions referring to matters of general interest in regard to which the Editor of Queries' Column will exercise his own discretion.

1490.—W. H. G., Belleville, O.—We have no recent information on the company you mention. When it was formed shareholders in the old company got 6 o/o preferred stock, 85 o/o paid up, and paid the balance of 15 o/o in three calls of 5 o/o each. The new shares were allotted as follows: two shares for each preferred share held in the old company and one share for each five common shares held in the old company. We will endeavour to get you later information.

1491.—A. H., Toronto.—No, and we do not see what would be gained by such a course, although what is done practically amounts to the same thing. When a company secures a line in excess of its own limit, it reinsures the excess, the reinsuring company or companies agreeing to indemnify the original company in the event of loss, to the extent of their underwriting.

1492.—Enquirer, Ontario.—The dividends paid on Dominion Coal Common and Nova Scotia Steel Common since December, 1903, are as follows: Dominion Coal Common, 3 o/o, 2nd January, 1904—none since. Nova Scotia steel common, 3 o/o 15th April, 1904, 3 o/o 1st November, 1904 none since.