## Reviews.

The Canadian Annual Review, edited by J. Castell Hopkins (Toronto: The Annual Review Publishing Co., Ltd.).

The Canadian Annual Review of Public Affairs has developed in the course of its ten years of publication, under the editorship of Mr. J. Castell Hopkins, F.S.S., into an important record of the progress, history, institutions, political changes and opinions, material and general growth of the Dominion, and the latest volume now published will be found an excellent précis in this respect of Canadian activities in 1910. The new issue contains 125 divisions, 740 pages of reading matter, and 40 illustrations of the men of Canadian prominence during the year. To detail the subjects dealt with within its covers would be merely to enumerate all the varied developments, political, commercial, financial, and other for which 1910 in Canada was notable. Suffice it to say that the field appears to have been covered with remarkable thoroughness and that the volume is one, to which the busy man of affairs, to whom easy reference is a matter of importance, will pay the compliment of putting on a shelf within easy reach, in company with its predecessors.

A new feature which suggests itself as being apropos is a series of historical sketches of notable Canadian financial institutions. Several of the more prominent banks and insurance companies are thus described in the new volume, and the fact that the materials for these sketches are drawn from original sources and documentary data makes them exceedingly useful.

The Montreal Directory, 1911-12.

Messrs. John Lovell & Son, Ltd., St. Nicholas Street, Montreal, have now published the 1911-12 edition of their Montreal directory. The growth of the city is reflected in the directory, which contains 81 more pages than last year, and reaches 1,984 pages—a size which renders it necessary to give the information in as condensed a form as possible.

The Directory contains about 158,000 names, and these represent a population of 554,000 for the city and outskirts; or, deducting for the outskirts Westmount (17,000), Maisonneuve (30,000), Outremont (5,000), Verdun (14,000), a population for the city proper of 488,000. Messrs. Lovell also report that their returns for the city and suburbs give 4,284 houses, tenements and flats, 362 stores, 220 offices as being unoccupied, under repair, or new buildings not ready for occupation erected during the past year. In 95 office buildings, 2,420 offices are rented and 96 are not rented. In many of the large buildings nearly all of the offices are rented. The streets now number 1,161.

A cable states that permission has been given the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company to appeal to the Privy Council in the Gribble case. The point at issue, it will be in recollection, is as to the method by which complaints may be laid before the Public Utilities Commission.

## Insurance: Fire, Life and Miscellaneous.

The Sovereign Fire of Canada has been licensed in California.

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The Railway Passengers Assurance Company has been licensed by the Dominion Superintendent of Insurance to transact plate glass insurance.

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The assurance companies solely among financial institutions are impregnable, as their funds are not subject to call at the caprice of the public, but are payable only in accordance with practicably unalterable natural laws, which determine what shall be paid out this year, next year, and so on, and which war, famine or pestilence could alone disturb.—Commercial World, London.

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The North-Western Mutual Life of Milwaukee has paid in state taxes this year $450,704, or more than 49 p.c. of its income on all its assets, except real estate. In 1910 the same company paid taxes under the retaliatory laws of New York, Illinois, Connecticut and New Jersey of more than $50,000.

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In the Manchester Courts a man complained of damages to his arm. "Show the jury how high you can lift your arm," said the barrister. With apparent difficulty the arm was raised to the level of the shoulder. "Now show how high you could put it before the accident" was the next request, and up went the arm far higher than the head!—The Policyholder.

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Official figures on the loss and the insurance in the fire of April 30, at Bangor, Me., are now at hand. The total loss on buildings and contents is $3,280,482 against which there is insurance of $1,563,372. The value of buildings destroyed and damaged amounts to $1,967,182 with insurance of $975,585. The loss on contents reaches $1,313,-300.18 and the insurance $587,787.61.

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Thomas J. Ahearn, who has been appointed and confirmed as State Fire Marshal of New York, was identified with the New York city fire department from 1873 to July 7, 1911, when he voluntarily retired. His name has frequently appeared on the roll of merit for heroism, and in 1891 he received the Bennett medal for bravery. He is regarded as one of the best men available for his new office.

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The first woman supervisor of agents appointed by any American life company is Miss Sarah F. Jones, who has been appointed to this position by the Equitable in its Women's Department at Chicago.

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Mr. Archibald Hewat, F.F.A., F.I.A., Manager and Actuary of the Edinburgh Life Assurance Company, acting on the advice of his medical attendant, has, after nearly thirty-nine years spent in the service of the office, tendered his resignation to the directors, who have accepted it with much regret. To succeed him, as manager, the directors