

Mr. JOSEPH HENDERSON, Inspector of the Bank of Toronto, is staying in Montreal during the absence of Mr. How, who, in company with Mrs. How, is enjoying a holiday in the South.

Mr. D. M. STEWART has resigned from the service of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Montreal, to join that of the Merchants Bank of Halifax. It is stated he will occupy the position of secretary to Mr. Pease, General Manager of the enterprising Halifax institution, several of whose leading officials were recruited from the bank Mr. Stewart is now leaving. Much as the Canadian Bank of Commerce may regret the losses they incur by being regarded as a good training school in the routine work of the banking profession, the promotion offered to members of their staff by other banks is highly complimentary to the Commerce system.

Mr. F. STANCLIFFE, Managing Director of the British Empire Mutual Life, arrived in Montreal on Wednesday, after four months stay in England. Mr. Stancliffe confirms the opinions expressed in London insurance journals, and to which reference has been made in THE CHRONICLE, that the rates to cover Employers' Liability in connection with the much discussed Workmen's Compensation Act will have to be remodelled. Mr. Stancliffe incidentally remarked upon the disgraceful state of the streets of Montreal, and added that the public health is the first consideration in London and other cities, and ought to be in the metropolis of Canada.

Obituary

MRS. W. TATLEY.

Mrs. Tatley, who has been in poor health for some time past, died on Saturday last. The sincere sympathy of his confreres in insurance circles in Canada will be extended to Mr. Tatley, whose energy and application to business has contributed so largely to the success of the Royal Insurance Company for the number of years during which he was the manager of that Company. THE CHRONICLE joins in the many expressions of regret at the sad bereavement Mr. Tatley has now to suffer.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by Correspondents

TORONTO LETTER.

The Insurance Institute of Toronto takes Shape.—Some Reflections Thereupon.—The Discharge of the Hunter Case.—The Langmuir Manufacturing Company Fire.

Dear Editor:—As an outcome of the appointment of a Library Committee, whose preliminary meeting I referred to in THE CHRONICLE of 17th March, sufficient interest has been aroused to bring together lately a very well-attended and fairly representative

meeting of the employees and others interested in the Fire, Life and other Insurance business. This meeting was convened by special invitation of Mr. Laidlaw, Manager of the Norwich Union, to discuss the forming of an Institute, and the response made to it must have been gratifying to that gentleman, especially as he is taking a very active interest in the establishing of this Insurance Institute. It is the intention to follow very largely the plans and methods of the Insurance Institutes as now existing in England. Modifications to suit the business and social circumstances of this democratic country have, of course, to be considered, but the general scope and work of the British like-institutes will be followed. A committee with power to add to its numbers was entrusted with the task of drawing up a Constitution, Rules and By-laws, and to take special steps to have all employees of the different offices interviewed, and, if possible, their co-operation secured in the building up of the proposed Institute. Mr. W. H. Hall, of the American Surety Co., was unanimously elected Secretary of the meeting and Committee. The Committee held its initial meeting at Mr. Hall's office last week, and a division was made of the necessary work required to be done in the pioneering way. It was felt that nothing short of an energetic and thorough canvass of the Insurance officials and their staff in all branches of insurance work would be satisfactory. The more because an institution of the kind proposed would require to have the support of as many members as possible to insure its efficient working and give some chance of attaining its objects. Chiefest among these would be the encouragement of the junior employees to better inform themselves generally, and each of them severally, with special reference to such branch, or division of Insurance, as he may be specially interested in. The Library for reference and reading matter would supply its part, and the occasional meetings for the reading of papers prepared by members, with open debate on the subject matter thereof, would supply further educational needs, all tending to the increase of desirable and requisite knowledge. The social advantages accruing, though subsidiary in importance, should nevertheless be of great value and help. The friendly intermingling of the coming men of the Insurance world in their earlier career, whereby they would come to know and understand one another, would be no small advantage. I understand that several of the older Managers of our Companies, both Fire and Life, have expressed their intention to give encouragement as far as possible to place an institute of this kind on a durable foundation. This is an important feature, because the favor of the seniors will impress and influence the juniors to take hold and support the Institute. Unless everything be done in a whole-hearted and thorough way, and the insurance community, especially the young men, act as a unit in the matter, the pioneers of the movement will feel their efforts to be only half successful.

I see the Courts have just dismissed the charge against Mr. Thomas Hunter, the Toronto Agent of the London Assurance Company, of illegally and fraudulently placing business with Insurance Companies in the United States, and, of course, unlicensed by the Dominion of Canada. Considerable attention was given to this case in the public press some weeks ago. The friends of Mr. Hunter will rejoice in this full discharge from an unpleasant position. It is worthy of note, and must certainly be very pleasing to Mr. Hunter to remember, that the management of his Company, the London Assurance Corporation, and