

Canadian Insurance (other than Life) in 1915

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Last Year the Business of the Companies Was Only Exceeded by 1914—Increase in Canadian and British Companies, with Decrease in United States Companies.

Vol. 1 of the Report of the Superintendent of Insurance of the Dominion of Canada for 1915 is a book of 615 pages, with an introductory essay of 183 pages, therefore we refrain from publishing a complete copy of it in this issue. The comments and abstracts by the Superintendent are, however, so well considered and expressed as to be capable of being digested, so we present a summary of them.

It must be remembered that there are a number of companies operating under Provincial charter who do not make report to the Dominion Superintendent, and some risks are carried by companies who have no licenses in Canada; and also that several nominally Canadian companies are really operated by British companies.

In 1915, 88 companies transacted fire insurance business under Dominion licenses, of which 25 were classed as Canadian, 27 British, 32 United States, and four French. These companies received on premiums \$26,474,833, and paid for losses \$14,161,949.

These amounts are larger than in any previous year except 1914, and about 15 times as large as in 1869. During this period of 47 years the rates of losses varied greatly, running from 42 per cent. to 225.58 per cent.; the rate for 1915 being 53.49 per cent. Owing to fires occurring towards the ends of the years, the amounts of losses paid differ slightly from the losses incurred. The average rate of losses paid, from 1869 to 1915, inclusive, was 60.79 per cent.; the average for 1915 was 53.49 per cent., being 2.32 per cent. less than in 1914.

The rates of premiums decreased year by year from 1910 forward, the rate in 1915 being 1.16 per cent.

The fire insurance in Canada in 1915 was:—

	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.
By Canadian Companies	\$ 4,559,076	\$ 2,625,869
" British Companies	13,609,360	6,889,360
" U. S. and French Companies.....	8,306,397	4,646,720
Totals	\$26,474,833	\$14,161,949

The gross amount of policies, new and renewed, in 1915 was:—

	Risks.	Premiums.
By Canadian Companies.....	\$ 673,244,131.00	\$ 8,427,965.28
" British Companies.....	1,438,037,721.00	16,807,401.14
" U. S. and French Co's.....	1,000,271,051.00	10,812,978.97
Totals	\$3,111,552,903.00	\$36,048,345.39

The increase from 1914 to 1915 by Canadian companies was \$9,704,754.00; by British companies, \$39,837,227.00; and the decrease by U. S. and other companies was \$42,090,646.00. The Western and the Commercial Union show large increases by reason of reinsuring risks of other companies, the largest decrease being by the German American from this cause.

The losses in 1915 were distributed very unevenly among the different companies, but it is somewhat unfair to compare these records because of the fluctuations of companies—new comers vs. retirers—some of them inspected and revised their risks, and it is quite probable that the loss ratio did not wholly depend upon the ability of the management. The Canadian companies experienced more favorable results from home business than from foreign, almost every year from 1878.

The average losses per \$1000 in 1915 were: Canadian companies, 3.56 per cent.; British companies, 3.78 per cent.; U. S. and other companies, 4.40 per cent.

In 1915 insurances other than fire or life were by 28 Canadian, 14 British and 35 U. S. companies. In addition to these were five fraternal associations carrying sickness and life insurance. Of the Canadian companies 13 transacted accident insurance, with eight U. S. and eight British companies.

Nine Canadian, eight British and four U. S. companies transacted employers' liability insurance, the total premiums being \$1,952,250, with losses paid \$1,175,989 and unsettled claims \$655,902, of which \$23,200 were resisted.

Accident other than employers' liability was transacted by 25 companies, whose premiums for 1915 were \$1,684,010, their losses incurred during the year amounting to \$867,277, of which only \$8,700 were resisted.

Combined accident and sickness in 1915 was by five companies, whose premiums were \$402,753; their losses incurred being \$206,054, of which only \$500 was resisted.

Automobile insurance (including fire risks) was carried on by four British and 10 U. S. companies, whose premiums were \$312,427, with losses incurred of \$158,650, of which only \$250 was resisted.

Automobile insurance (excluding fire risk) in 1915 was transacted by 10 Canadian, six British and four U. S. companies, with premiums of \$323,658; losses incurred \$131,336, of which \$7,654 were resisted.

Burglary insurance was by 10 companies, whose premiums were \$91,885, and losses incurred \$24,007, of which one claim of \$800 was resisted.

Explosion insurance was by one Canadian and one U.S. company; the premiums for 1915 were \$5,949, no losses being incurred.

Guaranty insurance in 1915 was by nine Canadian, four British and five U. S. companies, whose combined premiums were \$730,138, with incurred losses of \$172,231, of which \$42,250, or nearly one-fourth, were resisted.

Hail insurance is of comparatively recent development and the companies transacting it are rapidly increasing. During 1915, nine companies received premiums of \$744,332 and paid losses of \$402,738, with only \$125 outstanding at the end of the year. The business of the Canada Weather Insurance Company consisted largely of hail insurance.

Inland transportation insurance was by one Canadian, four British and six U. S. companies. The premiums received were \$165,450 and claims paid \$81,918, with claims outstanding of \$28,877.

Live stock insurance was by one Canadian and one British Company. The premiums amounted to \$79,971, with losses incurred \$44,553 and unsettled claims \$7,555.

Plate glass insurance is conducted by a system of replacement, so returns do not show the amounts of insurance effected. The premiums were, however, \$269,263, the losses paid \$105,164, and the outstanding claims \$8,917.

Sickness insurance was by 12 Canadian, eight British and four U. S. companies. The premiums received were \$686,708, losses paid \$376,619; the unpaid claims at the end of the year amounted to \$80,244, of which only \$100 was resisted. But the premiums received by the fraternal societies were \$398,090, and the claims paid by them \$325,545.

There is apparent discrepancy between the summary on page 32 and the abstract on page 166.

Sprinkler leakage insurance was by two British and five U. S. companies. The premiums were \$38,780, with losses incurred \$18,014, none being resisted.

Steam boiler insurance was by two Canadian and five U. S. companies. The premiums were \$150,377 and the