

steamers are British. The total for the year to date is now 1637, as compared with 1507 last year, the "black list" for this year exceeding 1886 by 128. The destruction to vessels and tonnage in October (excepting those ships lost in the recent gale) was: destroyed, 57; tonnage lost, 16,209; and the number of lives lost, 88.

The New York Board of Fire Underwriters adopted last week the important recommendations of a special committee, as follows: A protective committee of 12 has been appointed consisting of Messrs. L. Broughton, George M. Colt, H. W. Eaton, Charles Sewall, James A. Silvey, W. M. St. John, E. A. Walton, Jno. H. Washburn, and James Yereance. Its duty is to prescribe requirements for the proper construction or improvement and effectual pro-

tection of any mercantile or manufacturing risk, including provisions for automatic sprinklers and like approved appliances. When a property has complied with the requirements of the committee in the construction and protection of any building it will be classed as "protected," and the committee is authorized to fix a reduced rate of insurance. The committee is also empowered to modify or cancel all such contracts if deemed necessary or advisable. In the event of a claim for loss or damage to a protected risk issued under this plan, the committee will adjust the claim and apportion the amount for which each company is liable. The amount of insurance to be placed on any risk is to be distributed among all the insurance companies entering the agreement.

The lumber firm of McCraney & McCool, of this city, has admitted Mr. Robt. S. Wilson as partner, and opened a branch at Ottawa, where Mr. Wilson will be resident manager. The firm has mills at Oakville,

Burlington, Bronte, and Huntsville and makes a specialty of long bill stuff and dressing and the higher grades of pine. The style of the firm is now McCraney, McCool & Wilson.

A FISHERIES QUESTION.—ANOTHER PHASE.

A matter connected with the Canadian fisheries, and one which deserves attention and rectification at the hands of competent authorities is referred to by a well informed correspondent of a Maritime Province newspaper. He directs attention to the ruinous effect of the use of the purse seine. It is stated as the opinion of old fishermen that unless the use of the "death dealing purse seines" is prohibited there will soon be no fisheries to protect or fight over. Of course, out to sea, outside the limits, there can be no control, but it is suggested that if the outcome of the convention shall be a joint use of British waters, the purse seine can be prohibited in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and wherever Canadian laws can be enforced. The subject is one of vital importance to the fisheries of the Dominion, for, contends the writer mentioned, the Americans having killed their own fishery by the use of illegal methods will do the same for ours unless prevented by the strong arm of the law.

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