

were made before the Council of this city to a proposal to close public resorts at, or before midnight.

Why should taverns and bars be compelled to close at 11 p.m., and rooms where gambling is carried on should be privileged to remain open until 2 a.m.? It is notorious that liquors are dispensed at such resorts whenever they are open, a "dry" gambling resort being unknown to the sporting fraternity.

Mr. King, the superintendent of the National Surety Company, has contributed to the "Evening Post," Charleston, an article dealing with the **gambling evil** from the standing of a bonding company. Managers of this class of institution know only too well the ruinous consequences of young men betting, card playing for money, and risking their funds on other games of chance. Goals and lunatic asylums have numerous inmates who owe their disastrous fate to these habits.

"Many a young men really not having the gambler's instinct has played games of chance, matched coins, bet on elections, races, etc., and thereby gotten into the atmosphere, and when some sudden emergency has arisen has bethought himself of the possibility of tiding over the trouble by "trying his luck" and not possessing sufficient funds to make this trial he has "borrowed" it from his employer, honestly intending to repay the amount thus "borrowed" from his winnings. Young men persist in this pernicious habit, hoping against hope, in spite of thousands of cases of such, so-called, "borrowers" become branded as a defaulter. To borrow money without express authority is theft, however plausible the excuse. Surety, guarantee companies, keep experienced inspectors whose business it is to keep posted on the personal habits of young men who are bonded and holding responsible positions. Hundreds of young men with the best reputations, brightest prospects and best family connections have had their bonds peremptorily cancelled, or declined because of information regarding these matters.

The superintendent gives the particulars of a number of persons of the "borrowing" class showing the terrible results of gambling upon men of supposedly high reputation who are now serving terms in a United States penitentiary, and several he refers to as now on their way to prison. The records of the penitentiaries of Canada could supplement this list.

To a young man of well ordered mind and healthy, manly, moral constitution it is a revolting humiliation to be the subject of the attentions of a guarantee company's inspector, as he is sure to be if noticed in the company of gamblers.

The Bank of Toronto has opened a branch at Wolseley, Sask.

## THE ANNUITY COMPANY OF CANADA.

We understand that the above company has been incorporated by Act of Parliament, and purposes opening for business in several of the Provinces this month.

The prospectus issued by the company states that the institution has been organized to supply annuity or old age pension insurance. The capital is \$1,000,000, of which it is intended that only ten per cent. shall be paid up.

The President is Mr. Robert Muir, Winnipeg; Vice-President, J. V. Griffin, Winnipeg, and Secretary, G. J. Lovell.

The head office is at Winnipeg, Man.

## PROMINENT TOPICS.

**THE DOG-DAYS.**—The season known as "Dog-Days" comprises the term in which the heat of summer is greatest. It was formerly superstitiously held that the rising and setting of Sirius or the dog star with the sun was the cause of excessive heat and its consequent disasters, for the time is very fatal to the weak and to infants especially.

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The following statement was issued yesterday from the Parliament buildings:

"The execution by the Government has been completed of the guarantee of principal and interest of debenture stock of the Canadian Northern Ontario Railway Company (formerly the James Bay Railway Company), at a rate not exceeding \$20,000 per mile of the company's line between Toronto and Sudbury, a distance of 268 miles, the total amount of the guarantee being \$5,360,000. This debenture stock is payable on July 10, 1936, and bears interest at the rate of 3½ p.c. per annum. The company's line is almost completed between Toronto and Parry Sound, and 70 p.c. of the grading on the balance has been completed, in addition to bridge work, etc., etc. The guarantee was given under the authority of chapter 20, Ontario Statutes, 1904.

"One of the sections of the act provides that the purchasers of the securities shall pay the money directly into a bank approved of by the government, to a special account in the name of the treasurer of the province. The treasurer has the authority to pay out the money from time to time to the Railway Company, on the certificate of a government engineer, due regard being had to the work done and materials or equipment provided, and to that remaining to be done or provided. It is only upon completion and equipment of the line of railway that any balances are to be paid to the Railway Company."

Another \$150,000 of the new provincial 3½ p.c.