

Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

THE CANADIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION meets at Ottawa on 27th instant.

FIRE LOSSES IN NEW SOUTH WALES last year exceeded the receipts for premiums.

THE PREMISES OF MESSRS. TODD, BURNS & CO., Dublin, with contents of dry goods and furniture, were injured by fire last month to extent of \$625,000.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending 13th Feb., 1902.—Clearings, \$1,500,073; balances, \$426,880.

THE COMMERCIAL UNION is reported to have acquired the business of the Trade Acceptances Guarantee Syndicate, London, Eng.

THE MOST VALUABLE POLICY in existence is said to be that held by the owners of the Elder, Dempster line of steamers, whose ships are insured for £3,000,000 at an annual premium of £150,000.

THE EXPORTS FROM NEW YORK for seven months ending 31st January last were \$345,115,947 as compared with \$376,799,266 in same period 1900-1900.

THE LIVERPOOL LONDON & GLOBE increased the assets of its United States branch last year from \$9,804,702 to \$10,316,391. Its net surplus amounts to \$4,600,116.

NEW ZEALAND, according to the N. Z. "Trade Review," contains 20,233,099 sheep; it exported butter last year valued at \$3,950,000, cheese, \$1,244,400; its wheat crop was 6,527,154 bushels, oats, 19,085,837 bushels, barley, 1,027,651 bushels.

A COSTLY ADVERTISEMENT.—An English fire company, unknown in Canada, recently paid the amount of a policy that was being applied for by the officials of a church. No legal obligation to do so existed, but it was thought such generosity would pay as an advertisement. A very doubtful kind of business.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND will be Mr. George L. Shepley, who at 18 years of age was in the insurance business, and is now member of a firm which is said to control one of the largest insurance businesses in the world. Mr. Shepley is very prominent in Club life.

THE STATE OF MISSOURI is reported by the Insurance Department to have had a fire loss in 1901 of 82 per cent. of premiums. Foreign companies had \$1,266,524 premiums, and \$1,111,371 losses, a ratio of 87.75 per cent. The expenses average about 35 per cent. to 40 per cent., the least of which would make their outgo \$1,554,654 for premium income of \$1,266,524.

THE U. S. CENSUS BUREAU has issued a preliminary report on the manufacturing industries of

Pennsylvania in 1900, compared with the returns of the census ten years ago. The figures for the State, with the increase for the decade, follow:

		Inc. since 1900. p.c.
No. of establishments.....	52,185	33
Capital.....	\$1,551,548,712	57
Wage-earners, ave. number.....	733,834	29
Total wages.....	\$332,072,570	26
Miscellaneous expenses.....	134,344,269	80
Cost of materials used.....	1,042,561,628	35
Value of products, including custom work and repairing.....	1,835,104,431	38

BANKS OF IRELAND.—The last report states that after meeting all the expenditure incurred in carrying on the business of the Bank of Ireland, providing for bad and doubtful debts, interests due on deposits, rebate on bills not at maturity, the balance remaining at credit of the profit and loss account (including a sum of £14,431 brought forward from last half-year) amounts to £175,836, out of which the Board recommend that a dividend of 6 per cent., free of income tax, be now declared for the half-year, payable on the 1st proximo (being at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum), which will absorb a sum of £166,153 and leave a sum of £9,683, to be carried forward to next half-year.

The Provincial Bank of Ireland has declared a dividend at rate of 10 per cent. and bonus of 1 per cent.

MESSRS. FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO., Canada Life building, furnish us with the weekly list of patents granted to Canadians in the following countries. Any further information may be obtained from them direct. *Canadian Patents.*—J. St. Leger McGinn, gas apparatus; E. A. LeSueur, process and apparatus for separating fluids rich in oxygen from air; E. A. LeSueur, processes and apparatus for treating air to obtain from it fluids rich in oxygen; O. N. Evans, rock drills; J. White, bolt machine; J. R. Mascecar and T. Revington and D. Brown, feeding mechanism for presses for soap or other plastic material; J. R. Mascecar and D. Brown, presses for soap or other plastic material; W. Thompson, solderless side seams for tin cans and other metallic vessels; S. Ern, fog carriage off set, for saws; D. A. Stewart and J. F. Stewart, straw cutters; D. McLeod, wheel plows; E. H. Thomas, brushes; P. Bureau, saw mills; J. Frechette, holders for spittoons and the like; J. Tuefle, adjustable cases for making cheeses; F. H. Sleeper, engines; H. T. Arnold and W. Arnold, gorges for gloves and mittens; J. D. Caldwell, shingle edging machines; C. T. Melvin, devices for securing corks; J. Kneen, window sash hangers; A. E. Gives, vegetable loaders; E. F. Comber, lock bolts; A. Chanal, mowing cutters; V. L. Emerson, temporary binders; V. G. Clements, saw oilers; T. Aaggoner, automatic locking extension ladders; J. J. Kirk, railway rail joints; J. E. Lea, means for automatically operating the doors of locomotives; T. Mousseau, combined rubber and cotton horse shoes; E. W. Smith, telephone cabinets; T. G. Wilson, bandoleer martingales. *American Patents.*—L. A. Desy, machine for unravelling knit goods; J. Flesher, door for grain cars; J. S. Hughes, wood pulp press; J. S. Hughes, forming wood pulp into sheets; W. L. Lambkin, newspaper file; G. A. Smith, lamp burner;