

the assets of a company which is being wound up claims for compensation under this Act to the amount not exceeding \$500 in any individual case will have priority to other debts. Provisions with respect to priority, however, shall not apply where the assignor or the company being wound up has entered into a contract with insurers as above mentioned, or where the company is wound up voluntarily merely for the purposes of reconstruction or amalgamation with another company. Action must be taken under the Act within six months of the time of death. In the case of any injury, the plaintiff may at his option proceed either under this Act or independently of the Act, but shall not be at liberty to proceed both under and independently of the Act.

It is specifically declared that the Act does not apply to agriculture or to any work performed on a farm or homestead for farm purposes, and for the purposes of making improvements on such farm or homestead. But any person undertaking the construction, repair, or demolition of any building upon any farm under contract with the occupant or owner shall be liable under the Act. The amount of compensation recoverable under the Act shall not exceed either the estimated earnings during the three years preceding the injury of the person in the same grade or the sum of \$1,800, or not exceed in any case the sum of \$2,000. All actions brought under this Act shall be tried by a judge without a jury; an appeal may with the consent of the judge be taken to the Supreme Court *en banc* upon any question of law or mixed question of law and fact; but save as provided in this section no appeal shall lie from any judgment or order of the trial judge.

#### CANADIAN TRADE DURING TWENTY YEARS.

One of the points made by Sir Edmund Walker in his interesting address last week at the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Bank of Commerce had reference to the increasing "one-sidedness" of our trade. While necessarily we must continue for many years to add to our foreign liabilities, in Sir Edmund Walker's view, "we must enlarge the volume of products we have to export and either lessen our imports by curtailment of expenditure or by manufacturing at home many of

the articles we buy abroad." Obviously, a large increase in our exports is the only method by which our debts to other countries may be made as little burdensome as possible. In this connection, and with regard to the official statistical figures which are subjoined, it may be pointed out that during the last fiscal year, the total of our imports and exports, including coin and bullion, was 219 per cent. in excess of the same total twenty years ago. But our merchandise imports were 268 per cent. in excess of the total of 20 years ago and our exports only 158 p.c. in excess. That is to say, our imports of merchandise have grown during the last twenty years, two-thirds as fast again as our exports of merchandise.

#### THE HOME LIFE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

The financial statement as at December 31, 1911, of the Home Life Association of Canada shows that during last year, this company continued to make steady progress. Cash premiums received were \$216,822, and cash interest and rents \$70,302, claims annuities and expenses absorbing \$155,273. The balance of net invested assets was accordingly raised from \$1,196,485 to \$1,330,549. Of these invested assets, \$612,000 are represented by first mortgages on real estate; \$302,668 by debentures and bonds; \$178,484 by policy loans and \$161,619 by holdings of real estate. Comparing with last year, these figure show an increase of \$114,000 in mortgages, \$15,500 in bonds and nearly \$0,000 in loans on policies. The total security to policyholders is further increased to \$2,141,363, against \$2,027,739 last year. This security comprises reserves on basis of government standard, \$1,157,024, net surplus on policyholders' account, \$210,945, and capital subscribed, subject to call, \$780,000. Mr. H. Pollman Evans is the president of this company, and Mr. J. K. McCutcheon, managing director.

#### TRADE OF CANADA WITH THE WORLD DURING 20 YEARS.

Fiscal Years.	IMPORTS (MERCHANDISE).			EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE)			COIN AND BULLION.		Totals, Imports and Exports
	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.	Canadian Produce.	Foreign Produce.	Total.	Imports	Exports	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1892.....	81,190,441	44,396,694	125,587,538	99,032,466	13,121,791	112,154,257	1,818,530	1,809,118	741,369,443
1893.....	77,378,091	45,161,977	122,540,068	105,488,798	8,941,556	114,430,354	6,534,200	4,133,698	217,634,620
1894.....	74,341,506	46,110,367	120,451,868	103,851,764	11,833,805	115,685,569	4,023,072	1,831,380	210,999,889
1895.....	64,064,587	42,140,475	106,205,062	102,829,441	6,485,443	109,313,484	4,576,620	4,323,319	224,420,485
1896.....	74,259,910	38,525,219	112,785,189	109,767,845	6,606,738	116,314,543	5,226,319	4,699,369	239,025,360
1897.....	74,108,590	40,433,825	114,542,415	123,632,510	10,825,163	134,457,763	4,676,194	3,492,550	257,168,862
1898.....	84,141,104	51,791,115	135,932,209	141,518,662	14,980,883	156,529,545	4,390,844	4,623,138	304,475,736
1899.....	98,349,633	59,709,541	158,059,174	137,360,732	17,520,038	154,880,880	4,795,134	4,016,025	321,661,213
1900.....	112,943,896	68,381,179	181,325,075	164,972,391	14,265,254	179,237,645	5,274,488	8,657,168	381,517,236
1901.....	115,574,658	71,301,573	186,876,231	177,431,386	17,077,757	194,509,143	5,547,294	1,978,489	386,903,157
1902.....	127,975,281	78,003,472	205,978,753	196,019,763	13,951,161	209,970,924	6,311,405	1,669,422	423,964,441
1903.....	143,839,632	88,398,532	232,238,164	214,401,674	10,828,077	225,229,751	8,976,797	619,763	467,064,885
1904.....	156,108,453	95,229,037	251,337,490	198,414,939	12,641,239	211,056,178	7,744,313	2,455,557	422,733,638
1905.....	157,164,975	99,361,097	256,526,072	190,544,946	10,617,115	201,162,061	1,308,435	1,844,811	450,511,289
1906.....	176,790,332	110,417,080	287,207,412	235,483,936	11,173,836	246,657,802	7,078,603	9,928,828	559,872,645
1907 (9 mos.)	154,856,659	97,412,340	252,268,999	180,545,366	11,541,927	192,087,293	7,517,068	13,189,964	465,063,204
1908.....	230,917,914	133,319,950	364,237,864	246,969,968	16,407,980	263,368,952	6,548,661	16,637,654	650,793,131
1909.....	185,329,094	114,439,072	299,768,166	212,603,584	17,318,782	229,922,366	9,298,442	15,879,793	571,268,767
1910.....	214,641,556	143,835,547	358,477,103	279,247,551	19,516,442	298,763,993	6,017,569	2,554,536	629,211,221
1911.....	291,818,801	170,222,529	462,041,330	274,316,553	15,683,657	290,000,210	10,206,210	7,196,155	769,443,905