

informs us that the list of these shows an unusual number at Cincinnati. "That city is making a very bad record for itself with the underwriting fraternity, and some fire insurance rates there have already been raised. It is evident that the fire protection should be increased, incendiarism guarded against, and more care taken in mercantile and manufacturing establishments to remove unnecessary causes of fire." Among the fires of the month, each of which occasioned loss of such sums as \$200,000 to \$350,000, were the burning of the Academy of Music in Buffalo, railroad warehouses in East Boston, a tobacco warehouse in Cincinnati, lumber yards in Fond du Lac, a wool warehouse in Philadelphia, factories in Oshkosh, Wis., and several business blocks in Indianapolis. These seven fires destroyed almost two million dollars' worth of property.

TORONTO TRADE FIGURES.

Both inwards and outwards, foreign trade for September this year was much larger than last at Toronto. Dutiable goods were imported, valued at \$1,285,016; free goods, \$681,477; coin and bullion, \$12,731; total, \$1,979,224, which added to \$375,596, value of exports makes the aggregate trade \$2,354,820. In the previous September, dutiable imports were \$1,063,624; free goods, \$354,691; coin and bullion, \$19,066; total, \$1,437,381. Add value of exports, \$286,972, makes the aggregate \$1,724,353.

All descriptions of textile goods show a larger import this year than last; so do metal goods. The items of leather, paper, earthenware and fruit show an increase; those of wooden goods, glass and glassware, books, musical instruments and coal a decrease. We append a list of principal items of dutiable imports:

	Sept., 1895.	Sept., 1894.
Cotton, and manufactures of.....	\$91,923	\$62,836
Fancy goods.....	62,625	43,178
Hats, caps and bonnets.....	49,752	38,129
Silk, and manufactures of.....	94,374	51,174
Woolen manufactures.....	289,982	209,566
Total dry goods.....	\$588,656	\$404,883
Brass and manufactures of.....	\$ 8,233	\$ 5,756
Copper.....	365	438
Iron and steel.....	99,176	80,747
Lead.....	5,136	1,826
Metal comp., n.e.s.....	10,097	6,894
Total metal goods.....	\$122,969	\$95,661
Books and pamphlets.....	38,179	44,084
Coal, bituminous.....	22,825	29,744
" anthracite (free).....	132,728	90,972
Drugs and medicines.....	18,359	14,816
Earthen, stone and chinaware.....	23,605	17,714
Fruits, green and dried.....	28,916	13,114
Glass and glassware.....	20,326	32,538
Jewellery and watches.....	38,699	33,443
Leather and m'frs of.....	32,985	13,509
Musical instruments.....	726	10,412
Paints and colors.....	9,923	6,373
Paper and manufactures of.....	31,427	26,783
Spirits, wines and cordials.....	7,622	5,744
Wood and manufactures of.....	13,240	16,525

The free imports in which there are pronounced increases are hard coal, hides and skins, metals and settlers' effects. As to exports of Canadian produce, lumber and manufactures exhibit an increase; the other departments the reverse. We append our customary comparison. For all these figures we are indebted to the Board of Trade monthly bulletin:

EXPORTS OF CANADIAN PRODUCE.

Produce of	Sept., 1895.	Sept., 1894.
The Mine.....	\$ 259	\$ 126
" Fisheries.....		
" Forest.....	31,602	24,934
" Field.....	27,660	41,030
Animals, and their produce.....	134,428	142,029
Manufactures.....	80,632	50,708
Miscellaneous.....		104
Total.....	\$274,581	\$258,931

LIFE INSURANCE AS AFFECTED BY TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

A serviceable contribution to the literature of the subject of total abstinents as life risks is the paper read before the Actuarial Society of America some months ago by the actuary of the Mutual Life, Emory McClintock. His paper was entitled "On the Rates of Death Losses among Total Abstainers and Others." Mr. McClintock has, it seems, been devoting part of his time to special observations upon the death losses of the company for the past five or six years. He has taken special note of the company's losses upon the lives of men who had described their habits as to using or abstaining from alcoholic beverages.

The period over which his observation extends covers some fourteen years, namely, from 1875 to 1889, which last is a policy anniversary date. The results he discovers are generally such as to confirm the conclusions previously reached with respect to abstainers and non-abstainers. For example, the investigation does not show that those who drink only occasionally and not to intoxication, or those who drink habitually but lightly, are in any way injured. Nor does it show that all who drink heavily must therefore die prematurely. It does show, however, that there is enough injury done to a sufficient number of individuals to make the death loss distinctly higher on the average.

We quote *in extenso* the results as described by Mr. McClintock:—

Upon those who on entering stated that they abstained from alcoholic beverages the maximum expected loss was \$5,455,669, and the actual loss was \$4,251,050. Upon those who stated otherwise the maximum expected loss was \$9,829,462, and the actual loss was \$9,469,407. The abstainers show, therefore, a death loss of 78 per cent. of the maximum, and the non-abstainers 96 per cent. Analysing these figures according to the years of insurance, the abstainers present an actual loss in the first year of \$568,900, against a maximum expectation of \$716,388, or 79 per cent.; the non-abstainers an actual loss of \$1,040,300, against a maximum expectation of \$978,213, or 106 per cent. From the second to the fourth years, inclusive, the abstainers exhibit an actual loss of \$1,550,100, against \$2,067,391, or 75 per cent.; the non-abstainers, \$3,576,650, against \$3,540,940, or 101 per cent. After the fourth year the actual loss among the abstainers was \$2,132,050, against a maximum expectation of \$2,671,890, or 80 per cent.; among the non-abstainers, \$4,852,457, against a maximum expectation of \$5,310,309, or 90 per cent.

As compared with the maximum, the abstainers show about equally well at all periods, the loss ranging from 75 to 80 per cent. of the maximum expectation. Among the non-abstainers, however, there is a progressive improvement. During the first year the loss was 106 per cent. of the maximum; from the second to the fourth years, 101 per cent., and after the fourth year only 90 per cent. In the first year of insurance, between the abstainer and non-abstainer there is a difference of 27 per cent.; from the second to the fourth years a difference of 26 per cent.; after the fourth year only 10 per cent. Again, we shall see further on that taking persons born in the United States by themselves, the maximum expected loss on abstainers after the fourth year of insurance was \$2,219,207, and on non-abstainers \$3,542,671, and that the actual losses respectively were \$1,869,350 and \$3,256,307, the percentages being 84 for abstainers and 92 for non-abstainers, a difference of 8 per cent. only.

The non-abstainers heretofore discussed include a certain proportion of men who stated on entering that they drank "beer only." The total maximum expected loss upon this class was \$344,124, and the actual \$795,100, or 94 per cent., against the 96 per cent. first found for non-abstainers generally, and the 78 per cent. found for the abstainers. Separating those who stated that they drank some sort of alcoholic beverage, but did not say "beer only," the percentage is 97. It is scarcely correct to base minute conclusions upon a small difference of 3 per cent., when a single loss of \$8,000 more or less among the beer drinkers would have made a difference of 1 per cent. one way or the other. Yet the difference between those who drink beer and those who drink water is unmistakable, while the loss on beer drinkers has been almost the same as upon wine and spirit drinkers. Among wine and spirit drinkers a large part of the extra loss is upon actual drunkards, while the remainder must be ascribed to the injurious effects upon the constitution of supposedly moderate, though really immoderate, indulgence. Among beer drinkers pretty much the whole of