Town Water Supply and Fire Protection," by Mr. F. M. Griswold; and papers on testing principles.

It is a matter worth considering whether a gathering of the same character could be so organized on this side the Atlantic as to be of great service in exciting greater interest in fire protection, and be effective in diffusing amongst municipal officers and the public generally clearer ideas as to the needs of a fire brigade for efficiency and as to the value of the services such brigades can render when properly equipped.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACTUARIES.

The fourth International Congress of Actuaries will convene in New York on August 31, 1903, and its sessions will continue to September 5, 1903. Papers will be read on the following subjects:—

1. On the improvement in longevity during the nineteenth century.

2. On the growth of life insurance, assessment insurance, friendly societies, accident insurance, employers' liability insurance, health insurance, pure endowment business, annuity business, old age pensions, workmen's pensions, and other operations requiring actuarial advice.

3. On the instructions given in universities on actuarial subjects.

4. On the question of health insurance from the practical point of view, including tables (question proposed by third congress).

5. War mortality.

6. Mortality among non-Caucasian races.

7. On existing legislation for the protection of wives and children, as life insurance beneficiaries, against the claims of creditors.

8. The probable future course of the interest rate.

9. The question of life probabilities proposed at the third congress, June 26, 1900.

10. Studies of the new British experience, in any of its branches.

11. On different systems for insuring impaired lives.

12. On the best plan for preparing and publishing Government statistics concerning dangerous occupations and the mortality therein (subject proposed by third congress).

13. On the province of State supervision of life insurance companies, whether (1) confined to securing publicity; or (2) securing publicity and solvency; or (3) securing publicity and solvency, and suppressing practices which violate the general principles of equity; or (4) securing publicity or solvency, and taking part in the determination of methods before their adoption by companies.

14. On the technical principles which should be observed in State supervision (question proposed by third congress).

In addition to the above, reports of a historical and statistical nature on assigned subjects will be presented.

ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES IN CANADA.

The following table shows the progress made in Canada, since 1898, in the use of electricity for lighting purposes:—

	1898.			1902.	
Provinces.	No. of Co.'s	No. of lamps. Arcs.	Incand't.	No. of Co.'s	No. of lamps Arcs.	Incand't.
Ontario.....	165	6,185	238,191	198	7,230	457,295
Quebec.....	40	2,609	131,101	52	3,605	340,120
Nova Scotia...	20	450	28,697	24	409	46,475
N. Brunswick.	9	411	13,500	11	699	21,685
Manitoba	6	162	13,800	6	43	26,635
Brit. Columbia	11	457	28,866	16	770	85,438
P. E. Island...	3	90	4,780	3	87	11,330
The Territories	5	25	4,680	5	31	6,081
Totals.....	259	10,389	463,615	315	12,874	995,056
Total lamps...		474,004			1,007,930	

This province has made greater progress than Ontario in the application of electricity to illumination since 1898, but the other provinces have made greater proportionate progress in this respect. There is now, as it were, an electric lamp in this country for every adult inhabitant.

The above information is compiled from the report of the Committee of the Canadian Electrical Association, as published in the "Electrical News." The Committee remarks, "Of the large Canadian cities in which electric lighting is used Montreal stands first as to number of lights.

Montreal having	2,474	Arclights	and	184,978	Incands't.
Toronto "	1,672	"	and	100,000	"
Ottawa "	650	"	and	93,207	"
Hamilton "	600	"	and	32,400	"
Quebec "	500	"	and	40,000	"

The following places in Ontario have municipally managed electrical plants:

Almonte.	Ft. William.	Oakville.
Acton.	St. Francis.	Parry Sound.
Alexandria.	Goderich.	Paris.
Aylmer.	Guelph.	Picton.
Barrie.	Hespeler.	Prescott.
Brockville.	Huntsville.	Port Arthur.
Beeton.	Iroquois.	Palmerston.
Bracebridge.	Kincardine.	St. Mary's.
Blenheim.	Mitchell.	Sudbury.
Bothwell.	Markham.	Toronto J'n.
Campbellford.	Morrisburg.	Trenton.
Chatham.	Niagara.	Thorold.
Collingwood.	Niagara Falls.	Weston.
Dundalk.	Newmarket.	Woodstock.
Dresden.	Orillia.	

Besides these 44 places, Perth, Listowel, Ingersoll, Wiarton and Renfrew are arranging to purchase the electric plants in their respective localities. The above exhibit is a remarkable one and significent of a great change having come over life in Canada. The larger part of the above places were most miserably lighted before electric lamps came into use, but now their streets, stores, houses and churches are as bright as any in this metropolis. Rural life is fast losing some of its more disagreeable conditions, of which darkness after nightfall was not the least oppressive. The wider distribution of cheap power is also another factor which is effecting great changes in this country. Industrial enterprises are being more and more drawn to localities where electrical power is cheaper than steam elsewhere. The electrical age is at hand.